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Fire, Police, and Sheriff personnel gather for the First Responders' Mass.

# Mass for First Responders <sup>Honoring those who "put</sup> their lives on the line."

ather Maximilian Kolbe was killed by Nazis on Aug. 14, 1941. While in Auschwitz, another man was chosen at random to be sent to the bunker to be starved to death. As the man protested, pleading to see his wife and children, Kolbe stepped forward and voluntarily took the man's place. It was an act of self-sacrifice that would eventually lead to his canonization. During the mass celebrating Alexandria's first responders on that same day, 76 years later at the St. Rita of Cascia Catholic Church in Arlandria, Father Karol Nedza said it was a rather timely connection.

"Your role, it's not only a job, it's a calling," said Nedza. "Today, we pray for the families of those that serve. God bless all those who serve and the families of those who fell in the line of duty."

The ceremony was attended by a few dozen police officers, firefighters, and deputies from the sheriff's department. "In light of everything going on, specifically in Alexandria, it's good to be in a place where it feels as though peace is with us," said Sheriff Dana Lawhorne. "It's a sense of good over evil." Police Chief Michael Brown thanked the church, saying it sent a positive message to the local law enforcement community and gave them an opportunity to come together in quiet prayer and reflection. The ceremony was hosted by the Knights of Columbus St. Rita of Cascia. Robert Szerszynski, state treasurer for the Virginia State Council of the Knights of Columbus, said the Knights of Columbus were honored to host Alexandria's first responders.

"It's like Saint Max Kolbe," Szersynski echoed the message of Nedza, "There are people willing to die in the place of another. They put their lives on the line, so we honor their service."

— Vernon Miles



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By Vernon Miles GAZETTE PACKET

arking in Alexandria isn't what it once was. Demands and accessibility of transit have changed since Alexandria's parking standards for new development were first put together in the 1960s. As City Council gets ready to return in the fall, a year-long process reviewing parking standards for commercial development is inching closer to a set of new recommendations.

Throughout the spring and early summer, a task force has been meeting to reevaluate Alexandria's parking standards for new developments. Part of the task force's goal is to study the changing demand of parking and transit. According to the U.S. census, between 2000 and 2015 the nationwide trend has seen less commuters driving alone and more taking public transit or finding other ways to commute. According to staff, the city's zoning ordinances regarding parking are outdated, citing parking needs from the 1960s before the rise of public transit, Uber, and other transit options.

Phase One of the study focused on mutlifamily residential units and was completed in 2015. Now, the task force is examining the parking needs for commercial properties like office, hotel, retail, restaurants, and child care.

The current parking standards have different parking standards for each of those categories. For offices, one parking space is required for 450-600 square feet of office space; one space per 330 square feet of retail space. Other commercial uses have dif-

See Task Force, Page 8

## Alexandria, Post-Charlottesville Violence in Charlottesville reignites questions about local Confederate icons.

By Vernon Miles Gazette Packet

harlottesville's confederate iconography drew international attention this weekend after a white supremacists and neo-nazis clashed with left wing groups, then a driver struck several protesters and killed 32-year-old paralegal Heather Heyer. Later, protesters in Durham, N.C., pulled down a confederate statue outside the courthouse there. In the wake of these events,

some attention has again been shifted back to Alexandria's own confederate legacy. In the wake of the Charlottesville attack, a meeting planned for the renaming of Jefferson Davis Highway was cancelled and local politicians sparred on social media over the fate of the Confederate statue.

"It is an unbelievable tragedy occurred that has in Charlottesville," said Mayor Allison Silberberg. "Hate speech and action by white supremacists and neo-nazis have no place in Virginia or America. Hearts go out to the loved ones of those who lost their lives; [Heather Heyer and State Police Lt. H. Jay Cullen and Trooper Berke M. M. Bates, who died in a helicopter crash] ... Far more than tolerant, we're an embracing and accepting city. We're a city of kindness and compassion. That's what we are about. That's what we will continue to be about in this beloved historic city."

Throughout 2016, an advisory group met to form recommendations on what to do about objects group discussed flag policy, potential street name changes, and the Appomattox statue at the intersection of Prince and S. Washington

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celebrating the confederacy. The streets. The statue is owned by the Daughters of the Confederacy and any removal or relocation of the statue would require approval See Violence, Page 8

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# News

# Seeing for Themselves <sup>Joint city-schools capital planning task</sup> force tours proposed city project sites.

toured several of the city capital projects under its purview on Thursday, Aug. 10. City Council charged the task force to find a way to sequence and streamline 33 city and public school system capital projects dur-

he Ad Hoc Joint City- ing FY19-27. These are forecasted Schools Facility Invest- to cost \$645 million, leaving a ment Task Force funding gap of \$106 million. The photos show the variety of the city's reported needs. The task force also toured the schools' projects under its purview on Monday, for which photos will appear in next week's edition.

— Dan Brendel



**Concrete deterioration** exemplifies numerous problems, not least structural, with City Hall's underground parking garage. Expansive drainage, waterproofing and other repairs will cost an estimated \$6.5 million over FY19-27.



The city's current vehicle wash site is insufficient to ensure that pollutant-tainted wash water stays out of the storm sewers and waterways. This means that the city is not currently complying with relevant environmental permits. A new indoor wash facility that "captures and cleans, and not just discharge[s]" wash water would enable the city to "catch up to those requirements," said Jeremy McPike, the city's director of general services.



The city wants to replace the current West End firing range, which allow local firearms training for police and sheriff's deputies, with a new indoor facility. The project will cost an estimated \$25 million over FY19-27 — the second most expensive city facility project under the task force's consideration. Main project impetuses include the safety hazards of lead dust exposure and the risk of escaping bullets or ricochets. As of Aug. 15, the city manager announced that the range's closure pending a safety review. The cost for officers to train elsewhere will be "substantial," he said in a memo. www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



A bowing ceiling beam in City Hall's council work room, recently discovered during the course of other work, exemplifies myriad problems with the historic government building. City Hall renovations will cost a total estimated \$34.8 million over FY19-27 — the most expensive city facility project under the Task Force's consideration.



**City Hall's iconic tower** leans 7 degrees eastward.



A cramped utility room underneath Gadsby's Tavern. A dual equipment failure caused the room to flood the day prior to the task force's tour. Gadsby's Tavern renovations will cost an estimated \$6.8 million over FY19-27.



A new 50 meter pool at the Chinquapin Aquatics Center would cost an estimated \$16.4 million over FY19-27 — the fourth most expensive city facility project under the task force's consideration. Main project impetuses include increasing program capacity and enabling home high school swim meets. Including Old Town Pool renovations, pools would cost an estimated \$21.9 million over FY19-27.



A new 50 meter pool at the Chinquapin Aquatics Center would replace an existing tennis court and parking lot.



A truck backing off a Duke Street intersection into Fire Station 207 exemplifies difficulties the fire department faces in several of its facilities. The city wants to relocate station 207, the city's busiest, farther west. The city says the station also needs additional vehicles and parking bays, as well as space for additional personnel. The project will cost an estimated \$18.2 million over FY19-27 — the third most expensive city facility project under the Task Force's consideration. Including three others, new fire department facilities will cost an estimated \$43.1 million over FY19-27.

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A list of activities at the Lee Center's cityoperated senior day care facility. The Lee Center, also home to a variety of other city programs, is the

city's second busiest recreation complex. It is also a possible site for a temporary school - "swing space" - while permanent schools undergo renovation or construction. The center's conversion to accommodate students — the school system's top priority project — would cost an estimated \$22 million in FY19. The trade-off would be the reduction or elimination of current city programs and the revenues they produce.

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# News



Members of the Departmental Progressive Club pose in an undated photo. One of Alexandria's oldest organizations, the DPC will celebrate its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary at a gala Sept. 30.

# DPC Turns 90 Gala to be held Sept. 30.

he Departmental Progressive Club, one of Alexandria's oldest organizations, will celebrate its 90th Anniversary at a gala on Sept. 30 at the Waterford in

Springfield. The theme of the celebration is "We Come This Far by Faith," which captures

the DPC's historic journey. The DPC was established in September of 1927 by seven young African Americans in response to the Virginia Public Assemblage Act of 1926, which barred African Americans from all public facilities including the library.

The DPC has been committed to serving as a beacon of inspiration, community engagement and advocacy in the City of Alexandria.

For 90 years, the DPC and its members have been an integral part of the community, actively engaging in civil rights, education, housing and other civic activities to help improve the general welfare of Alexandria and the quality of life for all of its citizens.

Sponsorships for the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary gala are available. For more information, email DPC president Nelson E. Greene Jr. or gala committee chair Merrick T. Malone at dpc@dpc1927.org

— Jeanne Theismann



Photo by Jeanne Theismann/Gazette Packet Del Ray barber Gary Bailey gives Tim Wiggins a haircut at a previous Community Kids Day. This year's back-to-school event will take place Aug. 27 at the Charles Houston Recreation Center and Brent Place Apartments.

# Back to School Community Day

City organizations are partnering Aug. 27 at two locations for a Community Day to provide free backpacks and school supplies for boys and girls to prepare them for the upcoming school year.

The first event will be held at the Charles Houston Recreation Center from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at 901 Wythe St. Free haircuts will be available as well as clowns, face painting, a DJ, popcorn and treats, public safety vehicles on display and Caring Angels Therapy Dogs.

In the West End, a Community Day will be held at Brent Place Apartments, 375 S. Reynolds St., from 2-4 p.m. In addition to backpacks and school supplies, a cookout will be held at this location.

Both events have been made possible by the following partners: Firefighters and Friends to the Rescue; City of Alexandria Parks & Recreation; Alexandria Fire Department; Alexandria Police Department; Alexandria Sheriff's Office; Apple Federal Credit Union; Community Praise Church; and Whole Foods.

"We will be providing backpacks and school supplies, haircuts, clowns, face painting and other fun activities for the kids," said City Councilman Will Bailey, a founder of the event. "A lot of these kids have not done much over the summer so not only are we preparing them for school but also giving them a day of fun."

— Jeanne Theismann

# APD, ASO Receive Awards GW Birthday Parade units honored.

embers of the specialized units of the Alexandria Police Department and Alexandria Sheriff's Office were recognized for their participation in this year's George Washington Birth-



Officer Jeff Burney (left) and Sergeant Chuck Seckler (center) accept an award from George Washington Birthday Parade Committee chair Joe Shumard Aug. 2 at Alexandria Sheriff's Department Headquarters. Burney and Seckler are members of the Alexandria Police Department Motor Unit, which took first place in the Honor Guards and Color Guards category in this year's parade.

day Celebration Parade.

In a ceremony taking place Aug. 2 at the Sheriff's Department headquarters, George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee chair Joe Shumard presented commendations to members of the police and sheriff's offices. Their specialized units were recognized as outstanding marching elements in the annual George Washington Birthday Parade.

The APD Motor Unit received first place in the Honor Guards and Color Guards category and the United ASO-APD Honor Guard received the third place award in the same category.

Shumard presented Honor Guard members Officer Binh Vu, Lieutenant Robert Gilmore, Deputy Juan Guzman, Deputy Ernesto Arroyo and Officer Joshua Leach with their certificates. Accepting the award for the Motor Unit were Officer Jeff Burney and Sergeant Chuck Seckler.

Both agencies plan to participate again in next year's parade.

— Jeanne Theismann

Photos contributed



George Washington Birthday Parade Committee chair Joe Shumard (far left) presents certificates to United Honor Guard members (from left) Officer Binh Vu, Lieutenant Robert Gilmore, Deputy Juan Guzman, Deputy Ernesto Arroyo and Officer Joshua Leach Aug. 2 at the Alexandria Sheriff's Department Headquarters. The United ASO-APD Honor Guard received third place in the Honor Guards and Color Guards category at the GW Parade earlier this year.

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# LIVING LEGENDS

# 'The Quintessential Community Volunteer and Activist'

## Mary Anne Weber committed to her city

By Nina Tisara

etired editor Mary Anne Weber has focused 50 years of editorial experience with local news papers in New York and Alexandria, her talent for writing interesting and compelling stories and her passion for helping people, particularly those with mental health issues, is how she continues making significant differences in Alexandria.

Weber moved to Alexandria in 1995 from Long Island, N.Y., where she worked for several newspapers and as press secretary to a congressman. After her husband died in 1992, Weber continued living on Long Island until the congressman she worked for lost his election bid and she lost her job.

That and an economic downturn inspired her to return to school for retraining and move to a less costly location. Among several possibilities from New England to Florida, she settled on Alexandria. She liked the area when she visited, her son was in grad school in D.C. and she had two brothers in the area. Soon, while walking down King Street she saw a copy of the Gazette Packet and learned there was an opening for a managing editor. Although warned that a permanent job wasn't likely at her age of 54, she wound up working for the Connection Newspapers for 13 years becoming acting editor before finally becoming editor for the newspaper.

Connection Newspapers is a locallyowned media company founded in 1784, that publishes 15 weekly community newspapers reaching more than 100,000 households in select suburban communities in the Washington metropolitan area in print and online.

Jerry Vernon, Alexandria Gazette Packet publisher, said, "Mary Anne Weber's work in journalism as the Alexandria Gazette Packet editor for many years still shows her vision and effort today as the life of the city continues to improve. Mary Anne's work as a journalist mirrors her continuing dedication and service to improving community through both her work and her volunteer contributions from which organizations like Living Legends were born and continue to enhance our community today."

Weber served on the team that created the original framework for Living Legends of Alexandria (LLA) in 2006. LLA is a nonprofit photo-documentary project to identify, honor and chronicle the people making current history in Alexandria. Once LLA achieved nonprofit status in 2007 Weber served on its newly formed board of directors and continued to serve on its board as recording secretary until June 2016. During this time, in addition to crafting editorial copy for its annual catalog, Weber interviewed nominees and wrote feature stories about their history for publication in the Gazette Packet and LLA's other media partners. She facilitated publication of Fam-6 ♦ Alexandria Gazette Packet ♦ August 17-23, 2017

ten by children in the December "kids edition" of the Alexandria Gazette Packet. Family Legends is an activity of LLA where children learn to interview family members and write and illustrate stories about them. Although now retired from the board, Weber is continuing to serve Living Legends by overseeing the 2017 Living Legends catalog.

ily Legends stories writ-

Weber served for 10 years, 2006-2016, on the Alexandria Community Services Board (CSB), four as chair. The CSB is a group of 16 volunteers appointed by Alexandria City Council that oversees the use of public funds to provide mental health, intellectual disability and substance abuse services through the Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS).

As her term was ending, Friends of the Alexandria Mental Health Center asked if she would help set up a series of educational programs on mental health issues, their response to the Newtown, Conn. massacre. She agreed, joining the Anti-Stigma HOPE Campaign of the Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria, a group of representatives from various health organizations including Friends.

As chair, along with Friends co-chairs Susan Drachsler and Tiffany Sanchez, she created a monthly series of programs.

Weber expanded the scope of Art Uniting People, an art therapy program and exhibition, which began as a subcommittee of the Anti-Stigma HOPE campaign. In 2014 with Cindy Savery as chair of the exhibition program, she led a small team that secured three exhibition sites - Convergence, the Lee Center and the Durant Center. In 2015, with Cindy's help, the number of sites was increased to include City Hall, St. Elmo's Coffee Café, the Beatley Library and the George Washington University Graduate Center as well as the Durant Center. The number of receptions was increased which translated into more opportunities for interaction between the artists and the public.

At the invitation of the Beatley Library, Weber helped organize a mental health week beginning in October 2013, the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Community Mental Health Act by President John F. Kennedy. The program continued in 2014 and 2015. During this time she wrote a regular column on mental health issues in the Gazette Packet. Weber was named by then-Mayor Bill Euille to serve on a 13member panel to examine the potential 23, 2017



health consequences of Virginia's refusal to expand Medicaid in compliance with the Affordable Care Act and to offer recommendations to improve access to health care.

Weber volunteered to work on the first city wide health fair (one of the panel's recommendations) and volunteered to work on the second fair in 2016. Over 350 adults and children, mostly uninsured residents of the City of Alexandria, attended the second fair on Nov. 5 at the George Washington Middle School. The event was hosted by more than 60 community based, faith-based and health care partners.

2013 Living Legend Richard Merritt, cochair of the Health Fair's Planning Committee with Dan Hawkins, said, "I have known Mary Anne Weber for about 10 years through various mutual boards and commissions on which we served and more re-



Living Legends of Alexandria is an ongoing 501(c)(3) photo-documentary project to identify, honor and chronicle the people making current history in Alexandria. The project was conceived in 2006 to create an enduring artistic record of the people whose vision and dedication make a positive, tangible difference to the quality of life in Alexandria. For information, to volunteer, become a sponsor or nominate a future Legend, visit www.Alex andriaLegends.org or contact Alexandria Legends@outlook.com

cently as part of the planning committees that produced the last two community health fairs for the low-income uninsured in Alexandria. Mary Anne is a friend and a mentor. I think of her as the quintessential community volunteer and activist. She is reliable, committed, compassionate, extremely well-informed, very well-networked, and never fails to add something important and fresh to any discussion or issue with which she is involved."

Weber's other volunteer affiliations include serving as liaison for the CSB on the Alexandria Public Health Advisory Commission, 2009-2013; representing the mentally disabled on the Affordable Housing Panel, 2010; Advisory Council for the Department of Therapeutic Recreation, 2010-2016; and committees on suicide prevention and mental health education.



#### **395 Express Lanes**

Mayor Allison Silberberg congratulates Gov. Terry McAuliffe (D) at the 395 Express Lanes groundbreaking ceremony, Wednesday, Aug. 9. The new express lanes will go through part of Alexandria and Arlington before ending at the Potomac River. The lanes are expected to be open in fall 2019.

# Obituary

## Jane Maynard Reppa

J ane Maynard Reppa, a resident of Alexandria for over 60 years, died at her home on Aug. 7, 2017. She was 97 and was born in 1920, the year that women got the vote.

Born and raised in the mill town of Wauregan, Conn., Mrs. Reppa majored in French at Mount Holyoke College and continued her education with graduate courses at Bucknell University. She

was a high school English teacher prior to joining the American Red Cross during World War II.

It was during her job with the Red Cross that a fellow worker smiled and said, "I want you to meet my nephew Bob." The rest was history, with a happy and fulfilling marriage of 57 years.

After marrying Robert Reppa, an Army officer, in 1946, she accompanied him for 20 years and lived in numerous places in Germany and the United States. An excellent cook and entertainer, Mrs. Reppa was hostess to numerous military gatherings, especially at Fort Hood, Texas, where Col. Reppa was battalion commander.

In the 1960s, Mrs. Reppa was employed



at Lansburgh's Shirlington store where she put her formidable organizational skills to work in the Boy Scout and boys' departments. After her husband retired from the military and became an administrator at the University of Maryland, Mrs. Reppa continued with her outstanding hostess skills and entertained hundreds of students at their lovely home in Alexandria.

Mrs. Reppa's home was filled with beautiful antiques, especially French porcelain, avidly collected over many years. One source of pride was her extensive cookbook collection which numbered over 1,600 volumes.

She was a member of the American Association of University Women, the Former Prisoner of War group of Northern Virginia, the Connecticut State Society of Washington and the Panama Canal Society.

Preceding her in death were husband Robert and son Robert, Jr. Survivors are daughter Katherine Reppa of Colorado; grandsons Christopher and Jonathan Gold; and niece Deborah Burns of Massachusetts. Mrs. Reppa will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery.



Services Set

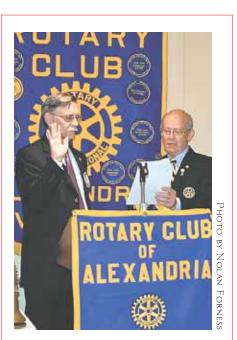
# For Patsy Ticer

Funeral arrangements for former Mayor and state Sen. Patsy Ticer include:

Visitation with the Ticer family will be at St. Paul's Episcopal Church on Thursday, Aug. 17, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The church is located at 228 S. Pitt Street in Old Town Alexandria.

The funeral service will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church on Friday, Aug. 18, at 11 a.m. Immediately following the service, a reception will be held at The Lyceum, Alexandria's History Museum, at 201 S. Washington St. in Old Town Alexandria.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Sweet Briar College, and the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust.



#### Sworn In

Mike Wicks, left, is sworn in July 11 as president of the Rotary Club of Alexandria by Sergeant at Arms Peter Knetemann. The ceremony was held at Belle Haven Country Club and included the installation of 2017 officers, including: Paul Anderson, president-elect; Sharon Meisel, vice president; Donna Wilson, secretary; Leon Duncan, treasurer; and Peter Knetemann, sergeant at arms.





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# News

# Task Force Reviewing New Parking Standards

From Page 1

ferent types of measurement. Hotels are required to provide one space per guest room with an additional space for every 15 rooms. Restaurants are required to have one parking space for every four seats, and two spaces per classroom for any child care facility.

So far, the potential recommendations for discussion have suggested reducing the requirement of office spaces to a minimum of .75 spaces per 1,000 square feet and a maximum of 1.75. For office space

within what is considered an area with high levels of public transit accessibility, that is lowered to a .25 space minimum and a 1.25 space maximum.

Hotels would only be required to provide a minimum .25 spaces per room and a maximum of .7 spaces per room, with that number reduced to .2 and .4 inside enhanced transit.

Citing study results that showed 90 percent of Alexandria had too much parking, with average on-site occupancy at only 58 percent, the task force recommendation will likely include reductions to retail parking requirements as well.

At a meeting on Aug. 15, the task force fine tuned some of the new parking standard issues, looking at exceptions like dense-use spaces and whether or not parking standards applying to mixed used developments considered those uses separately or together.

Much of the discussion about new park-

Use	Parking Standard	
Office	1 space per 450-600 sf	
Hotel	1 space per each guest room, plus 1 space for every 15 guest rooms	
Retail	1 space per 330 sf to 1.2 spaces per 200	
Restaurant	1 space per four seats	
Child Care	2 spaces per classrooms	
Current norting stand	anda	

Current parking standards.



Task Force to review the commercial parking standards.

ing has emphasized the need to put less Cathy Puskar, an at-large representative on demand on developers for parking space. the task force representing Alexandria resi-

# Violence in Charlottesville Reignites Local Debates

From Page 1

from the Virginia legislature. The Appomattox statue was erected in 1889, based on a painting by John Elder, an artist from Fredericksburg. According to an Alexandria Gazette report at the unveiling ceremony, the statue meant to honor the Seventeenth Virginia regiment. The statue was erected as part of a wave of post-Reconstruction "Lost Cause" nostalgia by the children and grandchildren of Confederate veterans, who comprised much of the crowd in attendance at the statue's unveiling.

The City Council voted unanimously to begin the process to rename Jefferson Davis Highway and to petition the state legislature to allow the statue to be moved.

"We voted to move Appomatox to lawn of Lyceum and to add context to it," said Silberberg. "In order to move it, must have permission from state legislature. That is state law, and they have not agreed with our position. That is where we stand on that."

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But not only did the state legisla- The Appomattox statue at the intersection of ture not endorse Alexandria's plans, Prince and Washington streets.

none of Alexandria's five representatives agreed to carry a bill to move the statue. This provoked a spat on Facebook earlier this week between City Councilman John Chapman and Del. Mark Levine. In a series of posts, Chapman called out Levine for boasting about helping to push forward the renaming of Jefferson Davis Highway while refusing to carry a bill allowing the city to move the Appomattox statue. Levine responded, saying he believed the statue was not celebratory the way other confederate statues were and that he believed Alexandria should not try bury its history.

A hearing scheduled for the renaming of Jefferson Davis Highway, scheduled for Aug. 17, was cancelled after the controversy in Charlottesville. The next meeting will be held Sept. 25. The final meeting is expected to be held on Oct. 5 at which point the group will make its recommendation for a new name to City Manager Mark Jinks. Citizens can also give their input on new name choices online at survey.alexandriava.gov/s3/ Jefferson-Davis-Highway-Renaming.

dents, also a local attorney who regularly represents developers and businesses before the City Council, said that there is plenty of parking on street in Alexandria's neighborhoods, and that part of the task force's goal is to develop a new parking policy that sets up a situation where small businesses can thrive without neighborhoods being overburdened. As part of a study on local parking habits, staff noted that of those who drive to a commercial location, half prefer to park on the street regardless of whether there is free and available parking

at the commercial property. There were some concerns from members of the audience, notably Yvonne Weight Callahan, president of the Old Town Civic Association, that the membership of the task force on commercial parking standards was stacked against residents. Four of the task force members are from various other Alexandria boards and commissions. Three appointees are developers or from developer associations. Three are at-large Alex-

at-large member with expertise. The proposed standards for parking at new commercial developments is expected to be revealed at the Sept. 19 meeting to discuss the draft recommendations. On Oct. 24, the City Council will be updated about the task force's progress, with a Planning Commission meeting on the task force's recommendations expected on Dec. 5 for City Council review on Dec. 16.

andria residents, and Puskar serves as the

#### Bulletin Board

#### SUPPORT GROUPS

The Caregiver Support Group is facilitated by the Alexandria Department of Community and Human Services Division of Aging and Adult Services Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at the Adult Day Services Center, 1108 Jefferson St., 4-5:30 p.m. Participants are full- or part-time caregivers providing care locally or long distance to a family member or friend. Participants share their experiences, provide support for each other and receive resources to assist them with caregiving. For more information or to register, contact Jennifer Sarisky at 703-

746-9999 or email DAAS@alexandriava.gov.

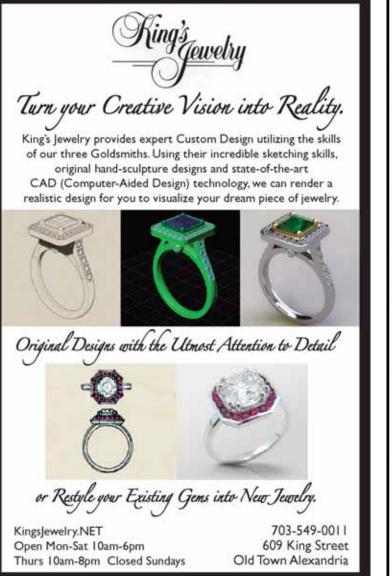
- FACE Center Support Groups provide parents with a space to share their daily parenting frustrations and triumphs while offering new strategies for helping parents to cope, build positive parentchild relationships and best support their
- children's learning.
  Support Group in English, every Monday, 6-7:30 p.m. at ARHA Main Building, 401 Wythe St
- Support Group in Spanish, every Wednesday, 6-7:30 p.m. at Community Lodgings Brookside Center, 614 Four Mile Road
- Registration not necessary. A light dinner and childcare services provided free. Contact Krishna Leyva at 703-619-8055 or krishna.leyva@acps.k12.va.us for

# News



#### **Play Ball**

Mayor Allison Silberberg congratulated the Recreation Department staff from the Youth Activities Section and Mt. Vernon Recreation Center for working to arrange having the children involved with Major League Baseball's "Play Ball" Initiative. On Aug. 15, more than 150 children from the Mt. Vernon Recreation Center's Summer Power On Program participated with the mayor in various games of baseball and baseball-related activities.



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-thetop 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@connection newspapers.com or call 703-778-9431

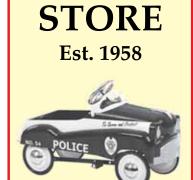
Gazette Packet

# Police Investigate Fatal Crash

The Alexandria Police Department is investigating a fatal traffic crash that occurred on Friday, Aug. 11, at Stevenson Avenue and Yoakum Parkway.

At approximately 7:10 p.m., police responded to the area for a vehicle crash involving two pedestrians. Initial investigation indicates a 50-year-old man was driving westbound on Stevenson Avenue when he struck two pedestrians crossing the street in the crosswalk. The driver stayed onscene and was interviewed by police. The two pedestrians were transported to a local hospital with serious injuries. One pedestrian, Habibollah Behzadi, an 80-yearold city resident, died of his injuries on Aug. 13. The second pedestrian, a 76-year-old female city resident, remains in serious but stable condition at a hospital.

Members of the Criminal Investigations Section and Crash Reconstruction Team are investigating the collision. The investigation is ongoing. Police ask that witnesses or people with information regarding this incident contact Det. Loren King at 703-746-6689.



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# **OPINION**

# **On Events in Charlottesville**

What some representatives had to say about hate, one of America's most treasured centers of learning. The work of creating a more just and bigotry and the deaths and damage that resulted.

#### **Gov. Terry McAuliffe:**

"I convened an emergency cabinet meeting to discuss the next steps we, as a commonwealth, must take in order to begin the arduous process of healing our community and confronting the racism that stubbornly remains in our nation. The events of this weekend have only strengthened our resolve to combat hatred and bigotry, and I want Virginia to be a leader in the national conversation about how we move forward. I have directed my team to impanel a commission with representatives from community organizations, faith leaders, and law enforcement to make actionable recommendations for executive and legislative solutions to advance our mission of reconciliation, unity, and public safety."

#### Sharon Bulova, chairman, Fairfax **County Board of Supervisors:**

"The tragedy that took place in Charlottesville does not represent who we are as Virginians. I am incredibly saddened by the hatred and bigotry that was displayed and my heart goes out to the family and friends of the three individuals who tragically lost their lives. We must all do our part to set the tone in our own communities by exemplifying values of acceptance and kindness. As it is often said, 'Be the change you want to see in the world.' That is where we all have incredible power and influence every day in our communities."

"Virginians mourn the life taken in this

morning's events and reject this hateful vio-

lence in Charlottesville. We condemn the in-

U.S. Sen. Mark Warner:

tolerance behind it and those who would pass it off as a legitimate political movement. Those who traveled to Virginia to incite unrest don't understand the Virginia-born values that make our country great."

#### U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine

"Virginia has come so far in recent decades to put division behind us. ... It's sickening to see the displays of violence and bigotry that were brought to Charlottesville by white nationalists, which tragically led to injuries and at least one death today. This is not who we are. Charlottesville is a vibrant community that recognizes the deep scars from our past and has rejected hatred in favor of inclusion.

"The fact that people like David Duke cited the President to justify their views is a disturbing reminder that divisive rhetoric has sadly contributed to a climate where individuals who espouse hate feel emboldened. As they seek publicity through their hateful tactics, let's pull together - regardless of party, race or religion - to reject hatred in no uncertain terms and stand together."

#### **U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly:**

"We banished hate a long time ago in Virginia. We must condemn this bigotry and not turn a blind eye to racism."

#### U.S. Rep. Don Beyer:

"I join the great and passionate majority of Virginians who hold these values dear: abhorrence for racism and hatred, respect for law, and respect for one another. It is especially sad that this ugly incident occurred in the home of

learning. The work of creating a more just and equal society will never end and we will rededicate ourselves to that in the days and weeks ahead."

#### U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock:

"The Attorney General has done the right thing in opening a federal investigation that will have the full support of the Department of Justice. AG Sessions: 'The violence and deaths in Charlottesville strike at the heart of American law and justice. When such actions arise from racial bigotry and hatred, they betray our core values and cannot be tolerated.'

"The neo-Nazi march and the hate and racism on display in Charlottesville are vile, have no place in Virginia, and are denounced by Republicans and Democrats alike in our great Commonwealth."

#### **Del. Marcus Simon:**

"The scenes of white supremacist, racist neonazis marching proudly in Charlottesville along with heavily armed self-proclaimed militiamen chanting racist slogans and obscenely taunting counter-demonstrators are beyond disturbing. Virginia is better than this.

"Virginia's political leaders have the power to raise the level of discourse. To educate, inform, and enlighten with thoughtful discussion and debate. What's happened over the last 24 hours in Charlottesville is not happening in a vacuum and it's not an aberration. It's what happens when we demonize the other among us. "What makes Virginia great is our growing diversity. Our openness to new and better ideas. Our willingness to accept everyone who comes here looking to build a better life, a stronger commonwealth and better world.

"We are better than the image that's being broadcast to the world today."

# Bishop Addresses Violence in Charlottesville

After sending tweets over the weekend in response to the violence in Charlottesville, the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, the Bishop of the Diocese of Arlington, released this statement.

eeing the violence in Charlottesville was saddening and disheartening. The more we read about the demonstration of racism, bigotry and self-proclaimed superiority made it seem as though we were living in a different time. So much progress has been made since the Civil Rights Movement. And yet, there are some who

markable.

cling to misguided and evil **COMMENTARY** beliefs about what makes America unique and re-

Any discussion of this sensitive topic must begin by condemning all forms of bigotry and hatred. For Christians, any form of hatred, no matter who it is against, is an offense — a sin - against the Body of Christ. Each person is created by God and bestowed with His unvielding love. Anyone who treats one of those cre-

10 🏼 Alexandria Gazette Packet 🔹 August 17-23, 2017

ations with disrespect, disdain or violence, has wise, the freedom to express differing views offended not just that person, but also the creator of that individual. When we witness destructive behavior, such as racism or hatred, we might naturally respond with righteous anger, but we must not respond with our own form of hatred. Hating those who hate us offers no possibility of authentic conversion or growth as sons and daughters of God.

We should be grateful to live in a country where freedom of speech and assembly is cherished and protected in a constitution. This right protects religious expression, for example. At the same time, these rights also open the opportunity for those with evil intent and backthey believe as well. The question we must ask, especially after seeing our rights misused to the point that violence erupts leaving many injured and a young woman dead, is: what do we do now?

We must find unity as a country. Unity does not mean we all believe the same things. Like-

or opinions does not mean we reject our unity as God's family. The Catholic Church is rooted in fundamental principles that make us authentically Catholic — but apart from them, there are issues that allow for debate and discussion, which is normal within any family. Our country is the same in many ways. We must be united by a shared interest in freedom, liberty, and love for our neighbor. Beyond those unifying principles, there will be disagreements and differing beliefs. But our unity is in our shared values and, perhaps more importantly, the respect we show to one another. Without respect for each other, even when we adaward thinking to demonstrate and share what mantly disagree, we will see more violence and discord in this great nation.

> At this time, I call upon all Catholics in the Diocese or Arlington to turn to the patroness of our nation, Mary under the title of the Immaculate Conception, and Saint Michael the Archangel, and pray for unity, respect, and peace in our communities.

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# OPINION

# 'Peaceable Assembly'

By Harry M. Covert

here are plenty of words in the English language to express and condemn the odious events of the past weekend in Charlottesville. All are appropriate for the unpeaceable assembly where haters had their day.

The ghastly would-be protestors placed scars that will be difficult to erase for years to come. People of good will have their work cutout for them.

Officials estimate 5,000 people invaded Charlottesville on Saturday. They

were identified as

alt-righters, white

supremacists, Ku

#### Covert Matters

Klux Klanners and other misfits. On the other side were Black Lives Matter subscribers and a few other watchers.

It was unbelievable to see the fighting explode with fisticuffs, tear gas, then become more horrible when a 20-year-old Ohio man apparently drove his car into the downtown crowd killing an innocent local paralegal and injuring 39 others.

This is no excuse. The knot heads, including out-of-town haters of the highest sort, amounted to 0.00001548 percent of the 323.1 million American population. This is an insignificant number but invidiousness at its worst.

There is no way to condone the horror. When officials granted permits for the day they never expected such devastation from hate. Already permits in Richmond and other cities have been issued or are awaiting approval. Another explosion is about to happen. Under the guise of legal "peaceable assembly," police will have to be prepared again. Sadly, two Virginia State Troopers died when their patrolling helicopter crashed in Albemarle County. What price was paid to protect the protestors, the haters and the watchers?

There is no way to avoid calling the alt-right crowd cowards; or the KKK yellow bellies; or the white supremacists as evil without redemption; the Nazi flaggers are abhorrers beyond description. They are and I'm saying it.

The alleged car-driving killer is charged with second degree murder in Virginia. The justice department in all probability and correctly will level domestic terrorism charges. The Ohioan likely will get a state life prison sentence. If the federal courts take over he'll get life in Colorado's Super Max or the "needle" in Indiana.

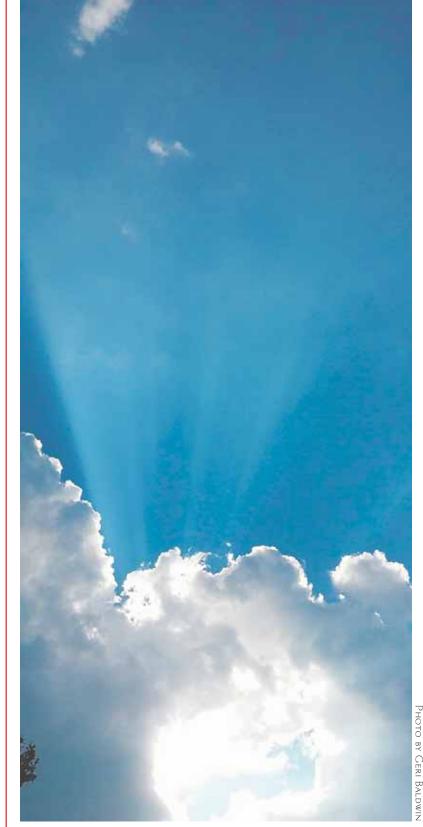
How many times can the C-Ville situation be reviled? I've counted at least 742 synonyms and 942 antonyms for the word "hate." All appropriate.

The hatefulness being spewed against the president has surpassed all courtesy and respect for the man and the office. He was firm in decrying the terror.

I've watched and read the reporting. Yes, hate has gotten out of hand and in reportage. Because we are guaranteed freedom of speech and freedom of the press we are not given carte blanche to pick the hate we like or approve merely to fit our positions, which seem mostly political in these days.

Hate has no place in our lives. It's there unfortunately. It takes more than talk and nice slogans.

Gabbing hate talk on one side, then expecting other hate proliferators to quiet down is folly, flummery.



## Love and Humanity

The hidden mirror and its sight of the mind of mankind.

For love shines brighter And pierces the darkness of hatred And the ugliness that hides

Within one own's inner self

Through a fake mirror Which fades through time As the soul waits There's no room for hate

And acts of vehemence Which is obnoxious, offensive Intense hatred towards another Regardless of creed is impetuous And there's no room for it.

For Charlottesville — Activist Geri Baldwin Alexandria

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# Opinion

# Spending Time with Nonprofits in the City

By Betsy Micklem DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT ACT OR ALEXANDRIA

eople say the summer is a slow time in Alexandria, but there are people working tirelessly every day to improve the lives of others in our community. We may not know it, but we are blessed by the amazing work they do and the people they serve. Being new to my role at ACT, I wanted to learn more

#### COMMENTARY

ganizations that serve our community on a daily basis so I'm starting a tour and invite

about the incredible or-

you to join me. I recently had the pleasure of visiting the Center for Alexandria's Children. The CAC is located on the West End of Alexandria and the organization has been serving children and their families for more than 10 years. They organize playgroups for those communities in Alexandria where preschool is not the norm, engaging parents and their children in a curriculum that helps prepare these little ones to be ready for school. The CAC also works with families in cases of child abuse. There is incredible coordination among city social workers, law enforcement, counselors, and others to identify abuse, prevent it, and help those who are affected. This child advocacy center is a best

practice model doing amazing things for our city. I was humbled by the work they do and the collaboration that makes it all happen.

The next stop on my tour was Casa Chirilagua, located in the Arlandria neighborhood of Alexandria. I was struck by the intentionality of the organization and how it began informally 10 years ago when three young women moved to the neighborhood with the goal of listening to the stories and

wisdom of their Latino

neighbors. These women decided to respond to their neighbors' concerns about their children's academic progress by starting a reading club in their own apartment. The organization soon grew to include Kids Club, Teens Club, a mentoring program, and much more. Casa Chirilagua also partners with parents to help equip them with the tools and resources they need to help their families succeed. They recently moved into a new building on Mount Vernon Avenue and it is quickly becoming the go-to community center for the neighborhood.



**CAC Executive Director Giselle L. Pelaez** 

Alexandria led initiatives like the Alexandria Council of Human Service Organizations and Spring2ACTion - Alexandria's Giving Day.

Want to learn more? I will be continuing my nonprofit tour and I encourage you to join me and meet those who are doing lifechanging work in Alexandria.

Betsy Micklem is the director of development at ACT for Alexandria, the community foundation for Alexandria. ACT works with local nonprofits and the donors who support them to keep charitable dollars at work in Alexandria. To join Micklem on her nonprofit tour, contact her betsy.micklem@actforalexandria.org.

You may be wondering how I decided which organizations to visit. Each of these groups received a Spring 2017 Capacity Building Grant from ACT

for Alexandria. They, like so many others, are doing amazing things right here in our community.

In both of these cases, I was impressed at the public-private partnership and community support that happens to make it all work. Both groups actively participate in ACT and City of

LETTERS

#### Dealing With Hate To the Editor:

Statues are not wellsprings of hate. They are mute reflections of our history. Move the offending statues from positions of prominence if you must but don't destroy them. And while I like former President Obama's observation that we were not born with hate; it's an acquired emotion, it's what we do after we succumb to it that worries

me. The list of atrocities we inflict on each other day in and day out, past and present, bespeaks a special quality of our species that our religions and our community and elected leaders have not been able to abate. Purging history and the hapless statues that teach it won't make us more tolerant and accepting. More likely, just the opposite.

Keep this in mind too: There were no statues in Rwanda that excited the black-onblack tribal slaughter of millions; or in Cambodia that propelled Pol Pot and his murderous minions to create vast killing fields on which they tortured to death millions of their countrymen: or in what was once Yugoslavia where neighbors murdered neighbors for years largely because of religious differences.

If this purification of history doesn't stop,

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 13



# Opinion

# **Celebrating National Health Center Week**

By Keith Hearle Board President Neighborhood Health

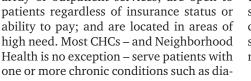
his is National Health Center Week and, to celebrate, I would like to share with you the benefits that Neighborhood Health - Alexandria's community health center offers to residents.

Community Health Centers (CHCs) were developed in the 1960s to provide to

healthcare underserved popula-

#### COMMENTARY

tions and they have evolved to serve more than 25 million people through 9,200 sites nationwide. CHCs offer a comprehensive array of outpatient services; are open to



betes, hypertension, obesity, asthma, and heart disease. Neighborhood Health's providers work closely with patients to encourage lifestyle changes, help them apply for health insurance, and help them access other ser-

vices, such as free or low-cost medications, lab services, and cancer screenings.

Alexandria's average household income is high, but there are pockets of poverty and people who have challenges with access to care. That's where Neighborhood Health comes in. For 20 years, we have served many thousands of low-income uninsured/ underinsured residents. Our work has been supported by many individual donors, local foundations, city government, and in

#### Our strategic plan calls for helping even strong partnership with other Alexandria more Alexandrians access the highest qualnon-profits. ity of care. Thank you for being our part-We offer pediatric and adult medical and ner in this journey.

Senior DOT Para-Transit Program

## **Providing eligible** seniors independence.

By Rosie Borders DOT Para-Transit Supervisor Senior Services of Alexandria

n Thursday morning, Sheila A. Lee, a recently registered DOT Para-Transit client, spoke with me about available transportation services in Alexandria. I gave her an overview of the

#### Senior SERVICES OF Alexandria

DOT program and how it works, providing reducedcost transportation for Alexandria city residents with physical or mental

Mrs. Lee was elated to qualify for the program. Finding the right kind of transportation has been an issue and she wasn't able to participate in social events or even go to church for the past six months. "To know

disabilities.



that I now can get out of the house to go for a doctor's appointment without having to bother anyone in the family, is wonderful," said Mrs. Lee. "It is also most important for me to even be able to ask

for and get a non-smoking; perfume-free taxi for any trip I make."

Senior Services of Alexandria (SSA) receives a number of calls each week where new registrants are expressing their satisfaction with and the freedom they are experiencing as a result of being a DOT Para-Transit rider.

Reports such as these lead one to believe and know that being home bound, in most cases, is not an issue in the City of Alexandria.

The DOT Program is easy to use, providing taxi-based services for residents of the City of Alexandria seven days a week, except public holidays. It is regulated by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, providing curb-to-curb service. DOT's one-way fare for trips up to five miles outside the city limits is \$3. Trips to Arlington and Fairfax counties which are over five miles outside the city are \$5 for a one-way trip.

behavioral health services at our site on East

Glebe Road in Arlandria and at the Casey

Health Center in the West End. We send a

physician team to the Alexandria Commu-

nity Services Board twice each week to pro-

vide medical care to CSB mental health cli-

Department's building on King Street and

on the "WOW Bus" that visits seven ACPS

Elementary Schools. Soon, we will be pro-

viding a new portable dental program so

During this National Health Center Week,

Neighborhood Health wants to thank all of

our partners who have made it possible to

serve so many in need of a medical home.

Thank you for your long-standing commit-

ments to assuring access to health care for

we can serve more people in need.

We provide dental services at the Health

ents.

everyone.

SSA manages the call center for the DOT Para-Transit Program seven days a week, and every day the team schedules trips for city residents who are unable to take public transportation easily due to a disability. There is no income threshold for the program nor is it age prohibited. Transportation is provided seven days a week to any destination in Alexandria, Arlington and Fairfax counties.

If you think that the DOT Para-Transit might be a good transportation option, you may call Senior Services of Alexandria's DOT Para-Transit office at 703-836-4414, ext. 116 and request an application or go to SSA's website at seniorservicesalex.org and click on programs/transportation.

#### LETTERS

From Page 12

then there's nothing to keep those who wish to rewrite it from removing all references and recognition to George Washington, a slave owner; to Thomas Jefferson, another slave owner or Andrew Jackson, who was responsible for the deaths of tens of thousands of American Indians, or the American flag which was among those carried by the Charlottesville hate mongers.

**Jimm Roberts** Alexandria

## What's Happening To This City?

#### To the Editor:

So what is happening to the city I live in? Just in a 30-day plus period we experience a politically motivated shooting at Simpson Stadium; a road rage killing; multiple people being shot during one incident; two pedestrians being severely hit while in a crosswalk, a race-based protest/rally just 90 minutes south of us of which we too could become a similar focal point over the push to "relocate" the Confederate soldier monument. For a city that "doesn't have a gang problem," over the last two years we certainly have had a lot of interesting events related to that from homicides, a stabbing incident, graffiti, drugs in park trash receptacles - some of this of course never made the news. Even over the last same 30-plus days, has anyone else noticed the growing number of vehicles in the right lane making an illegal left turn — often as many as five vehicles per light cycle. As for Henry Street at Prince, it is a curiosity why that intersection, more than any other, always has traffic blocking the intersection.

In the end, as to the first part of this letter, what is happening to our once wonderful city?

> Ruben "Bill" Duran Alexandria

## Need 'Committee Of Committees'

To the Editor:

The City Council has created 73 boards, See Letters, Page 20



# Education Learning Fun

# Solar Eclipse 2017 Local experts offer instruction in safe viewing.

#### By Marilyn Campbell

ome local science teachers went back to school recently for a lesson on the upcoming solar eclipse on Aug. 21 when a total solar eclipse cuts a path across the U.S. Instructors from Fairfax, Arlington, and other Northern Virginia counties attended a halfday workshop led by professor Harold Geller, Ph.D., of the Department of Physics and Astronomy at George Mason University.

During the event, which was sponsored by the Virginia Space Grant Consortium, teachers received ideas on teaching their students about the eclipse. "We tested the teachers' knowledge," said Geller. "They also worked in small groups to develop a lesson plan on the eclipse."

Teachers also got a hands-on outdoor session on safe viewing of the sun and solar eclipse as well as a hands-on lesson on the moon's phases. Geller said the lesson and safety precautions can be applicable to anyone with an interest in the event. "Everyone seems to know the date ... but many are not aware of the times," said Geller. "They vary by location. In Washington, D.C. on 21 August 2017 the partial solar eclipse will begin at 1:18 p.m. The peak or maximum will be at 2:43 p.m. The partial solar eclipse will end here at 4:02 p.m."

Details For more information, see https://

eclipse2017.nasa.gov/.

For those who may be unaware of the specifics. Geller underscored the importance of understanding what a solar eclipse is. "Most simply, it's the phenomena which occur when the moon gets in direct line of sight between the Earth and the sun," he said. "In the D.C. metropolitan area, between 81 and 85-percent of the sun's disk will be blocked by the moon."

For those in the Washington, D.C. region who are wondering what will be visible, Geller said, "At the start of the eclipse, it will appear that a dark disk is blocking out the light from the sun. As we proceed to maximum, more and more of the sun's disk will be blocked by the moon. Then, after the peak, less and less of the sun's disk will be blocked by the moon."

For those wishing to see the eclipse without leaving the Washington, D.C. region, "The best place to view the eclipse is in the path of totality, that is, wherever the shadow of the moon will totally block all the light from the sun," said Geller. "Another very important factor is the weather. You should have a direct line of sight to the sun, no interfering clouds. So an open field, with no interference along the line of sight to

the sun between 1 and 4 p.m. in this area, would be best."

Safety is a factor that Eric Bubar, Ph.D., associate professor of biology and physical sciences at Marymount University underscores.

"Never look directly at the sun, unless you can approved solar viewing glasses," he said. "These might be hard to find at the moment. Most online vendors are sold out."

For those considering using their sunglasses instead of eclipse glasses, Bubar offers a warning. "Your sunglasses are not suitable for viewing the sun," he said. "No matter how dark, expensive or polarized they are, don't use them. Polarization and UV blocking are great for decreasing the ambient brightness outside, but direct sunlight light can pierce right through and cause damage to your eyes. The only safe way to see the sun with your own eyes is through eclipse glasses or appropriate solar filters."

"No one should ever look directly at the sun without proper protection," added Geller. "Only special equipment should be used, whether looking directly at the sun or indirectly at the sun. Only a limited number of manufacturers' products have been tested for safety. Make sure you are using one of these or that you use an indirect



Photo courtesy of Harold Geller **George Mason professor Harold** Geller led a workshop for science teachers that included an outdoor session on viewing the Sun and the upcoming solar eclipse safety.

method for observing the sun."

Bubar recommends using the list of vendors certified by the American Astronomical Society. "Also, look at the glasses and make sure there are no holes or punctures in the viewing material," he said. "Even a small crease or puncture can make them unsafe."

Eclipse enthusiasts should not be fooled by glasses that appear similar to eclipse glasses that have been certified for safe viewing, says Bubar. "The material in solar filters can look a lot like aluminum foil but is completely different," he said. "If you can't find solar viewing glasses ... you can see it indirectly with a pinhole viewer."

Instructions for using this method can be found by visiting: (https://eclipse.aas.org/ eye- safety/projection) for how to do this.



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# Education Learning Fun



Girl Scout Ambassador Troop 3833, from left, Amanda Dorris, Anna Wolz, Kayla Shelley, Emily Kiernan, Kathleen Lovain, Sierra Arnold, Troop Leader Gordon Shelley, Lucy Brinkman, and Maeve Naughton-Rockwell.

# 100 Years of Scouting Experience

## Ambassador Girl Scout Troop members graduate from TC.

embers of Girl Scout Ambassador Troop 3833 graduated along with the rest of their class from T.C. Williams High School on June 17 at George Mason University's EagleBank Arena. The members of the troop graduated with more than 100 collective years of Girl Scouting experience.

The eight members who graduated that day were Sierra Arnold, Lucy Brinkman, Amanda Dorris, Emily Kiernan (T.C. Williams Class of 2017 valedictorian), Kathleen Lovain, Maeve Naughton-Rockwell, Kayla Shelley, and Anna Wolz. A ninth member of the troop, Olivia Anthony, graduated from her high school in Ecuador in May as she had moved with her family for her senior year. Four members, Arnold, Dorris, Shelley, and Wolz all joined the troop while in kindergarten at George Mason Elementary School in the fall of 2004 and remained together through all 13 years of Girl Scouting. Brinkman, Kiernan, Lovain, and Naughton-Rockwell joined as Brownies in 2006 also at George Mason Elementary, while Anthony Joined as a Cadet Girl Scout in 2012 while at George Washington Middle School after serving for a number of years as a Girl Scout in other localities her family had lived in

During their tenure as Girl Scouts, the girls earned two Gold Awards (Anthony and Shelley — the highest award in Girl Scouts), nine Silver Awards, and three Bronze Awards. n addition they completed numerous Girl Scout theme-based Journeys along the way.

They volunteered over the years totaling hundreds of hours within the Girl Scout community, at the local level, the national level, and at the global/inter-

See Girls Scouts, Page 22



George Mason Elementary School Daisy Troop in 2004: Members include Sierra Arnold, far left; Anna Wolz, fourth from left; Kayla Shelley second from right; and Amanda Dorris. far right.



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# ENTERTAINMENT



Ingredients for shrimp and grits at Live Oak.

# Seasonal vegetables and Andouille

added to pan of mixed oil.

# Meet Chef Justus Frank

## Live Oak specializes in Charleston inspired Southern cuisine.

By Shirley Ruhe

ustus Frank tips up the aluminum sauté pan to swirl around the mixed oil. "It's 75 percent olive oil and 25 percent vegetable oil because the oils have different smoking points and the shrimp I am sautéing today would burn at high heat." Frank is making a seasonal shrimp and grits, a customer favorite. "I use corn and red peppers

#### IN THE KITCHEN

in this version." Six Port of Gulf Coast shrimp, heads off, tails on, are lined up

ready for a sprinkle of fine sea salt and a grind of white peppercorns. Frank

slips the shrimp into the pan for a few seconds, then quickly flips them over. "See they are still translucent. If you cook them too long they get tough." He removes the shrimp from the skillet to be added back later in the final step.

Next he adds about 1.5 ounces of chopped Andouille sausage to the skillet. He says he buys the sausage from Logan's in Alexandria. "Not too crazy hot." It cooks for a

minute to add a little bit of color for the sauce. Next the vegetables are added in sequence beginning with 2 Tbl. of roasted corn with 1 Tbl. roasted, chopped red pepper and 1 Tbl. finely chopped shallots. "I've still got a hot pan going.

"Now I deglaze it with ginger juice which is freshly grated ginger and white wine with the ginger solids strained out. Finally the garlic slivers are added to the pan for 30 seconds. You don't want them to burn." Frank has made red fish stock from rockfish bones and

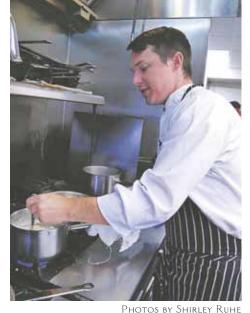
shrimp shells. He dips out four ounces of fish stock and adds it to the pan along with 1 Tbl. unsalted butter. He turns the burner to low.

In goes 1 tsp. each of fresh chopped tarragon and parsley, and the shrimp go back into the pan to fin-

ish off. "In a minute it will be done." He takes a large spoon and scoops up a taste of the sauce. "To me it's good."

go.

Frank turns to a pan of grits, which have been cooking slowly on low for 40 minutes.



Slow cooking grits need occasional stirring.

"I use 2 cups of whole milk to 1/2 cup of grits plus 2 Tlbs. butter for one serving. At the end I add 2 Tbl. of fresh Parmesan cheese and salt and pepper. Of course we make this in big batches with 2 gallons of milk, 8 cups of grits, 1 pound of butter and

> one quart of grated Parmesan." He says he buys the grits from a farm in Kentucky. He also buys his vegetables from local farmers. "The most important is the quality of the ingredients. They will shine through."

The customer favorites include fried green tomatoes and roasted peach-stuffed pork loin. "And right

now we have the blueberry buckle with burnt honey ice cream." He says they listen to the customers and incorporate their feedback.His own favorite is probably the venison Carpaccio with the green tomato



Deglazed with ginger juice, red fish stock added and shrimp arranged on Kentucky grits.

chow chow and sunflower sprouts. "Its a shareable appetizer and perfect for summer." He says his wife's favorite is the buffalo pork cheeks or New Orleans style gumbo, a vegetarian option.

Frank met his wife when he was cooking at Eventide Restaurant nine years ago where he also met his current business partners, Tim Irwin and Jeremy Barber. Since then he has been executive chef at Fiola in D.C. and most recently at Copperwood Tavern in Shirlington. But "I wanted the chance to become the owner-operator who could dictate the aspects and decide what food is best for the neighborhood, to choose the staff." Frank is celebrating the one year plus two day anniversary of opening Live Oak at 1603 Commonwealth St. He says, "One of the biggest challenges is learning all of the administrative stuff."

One final stir of the grits and Frank spoons them out into a large white bowl. Six shrimp are artfully arranged in a circle with the sauce poured around. "Always extra sauce is good." Topped with local microgreens and another Southern specialty goes out the door.

#### Calendar

Submit entertainment announcements at www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged

#### ONGOING

- **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
- **Oil Paintings by Patricia Uchello**. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. through Aug. 31 at the 7031 Fast B vd Call 703-768- 6983 or visit www.patriciauchello.com.
- 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.

♦ Alexandria Gazette Packet ♦ August 17-23, 2017

- Ceramics Exhibition. Various times through Sept. 3 at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Exhibit called "Flexibility in Clay: Gymnastics and Gyrations." Call Scope Gallery at 703-548-6288, visit
- www.scopegallery.org. 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 gadsbystavern.org. Alexandrians Fight The Great War. Various times through Nov. 11 at The
- Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. This exhibit shares some of the stories of Alexandrians during the war and their more active participation in the American war effort after April 1917. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Lyceum or call 703-838-4994.
- Mount Vernon Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-12 p.m., Wednesdays, through Dec. 14. Fresh local food, artisan crafts. Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Visit

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ farmersmarkets/mtvernonmkt.htm Student Art Exhibit. Various times through Sept. 15 at the National Art Education Association (NAEA) gallery, 901 Prince St. NAEA is exhibiting artwork from across the country created by students who are members of the National Art Honor Society (NAHS/high school students) and the National Junior Art Honor Society (NJAHS/middle school students). Call 800-299-8321 or 703-860-8000 or email info@arteducators.org.

Always extra sauce and ready to

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

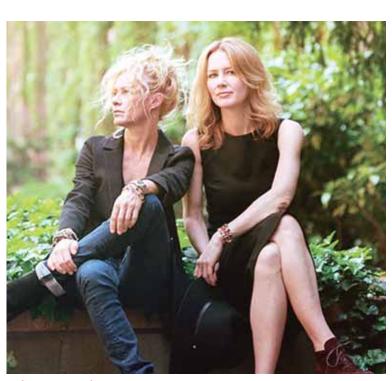
Shield of Earth: Defending the Heart of the Union exhibit. Ongoing, museum hours Tuesday www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

# ENTERTAINMENT

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

Who These Wounded Are: The Extraordinary Stories of the Mansion House Hospital exhibit. Ongoing, Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sundays, noon-4 p.m. at the Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. Come see the site that inspired "Mercy Street," the new PBS' series inspired by real events that took place at Carlyle House. www.carlylehouse.org or call 703-

- 549-2997 **Color Disorder Exhibit.** Ongoing, Thursday through Sunday, noon-4 p.m., Sundays, noon-4 p.m. at the The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. A joint exhibition of artists Katie Baines and Amy Chan who use diverse painting materials such as acrylic, gouache, airbrush and screen print to build energized abstract paintings. www.nfaa.org or 703-548-0035.
- Flamenco Show. Wednesdays and Thursdays, 7:30-8:30 p.m. at La Tasca, 607 King St. Watch dancers and guitarists perform traditional flamenco. Free to attend. Call 703-299-9810 or visit www.latascausa.com.
- French Movie Night. Every Thursday, 7 p.m. in the back room of Fontaine Caffe and Creperie, 119 S. Royal St. View a French film. Free, no reservation necessary. Call 703-535-8151 or visit fontainecaffe.com/ reviews.html.
- Their Fates Intertwined: The Lees of Alexandria in the War of 1812. Wednesday- Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, 1-4 p.m. Lee-Fendall House and Gardens, 614 Oronoco St. A new exhibit on the experiences of the Lee family in Alexandria during the War of 1812 examines the contributions of Alexandria's citizens during the conflict that led to the writing of our national anthem through the lives of this iconic Virginia family. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org or call 703-548-1789.
- Alexandria Cars and Coffee invites car enthusiasts to meet for coffee at Hollin Hall Shopping Center in front of Roseina's, 1307 Shenandoah Road. Owners of classic cars, hot rods, exotic cars, motorcycles and more meet to share car stories and drink coffee. Group meets the first Sunday of every month. 8:30-11 a.m.
- Fifty Years of Collecting. Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sundays 12-5 p.m. Fort Ward Museum, 4301 W. Braddock Road. An anniversary exhibit of objects from the Fort Ward collection. Free. Visit www.fortward.org or call 703-746-4848.
- 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.
- 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



#### Live Music

On Sunday, Aug. 27, artists and sisters Shelby Lynne and Allison Moorer will perform in support of their upcoming release "Not Dark Yet," 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave.Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

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.alexandriaarchaeology.org.
- **Doggy Happy Hour.** 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.
- 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 St. 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**

- Summer Theatre Camps. Through Aug. 25, 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.
- **Community Dance.** 7:30-9:30 p.m. every third Friday at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Live music. Tickets are \$4. Call 703-765-4573.
- Life Drawing. Del Ray Artisans offers a range of open life drawing sessions for anyone to develop life-drawing skills further. Drop-in for the session and bring supplies to draw or paint live models. Fee ranges from \$8-\$12. All skill levels are welcome. Del Ray Artisans is located at 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for a
- schedule. **The Harmony Heritage Singers** (Mount Vernon Chapter of Barbershop Harmony Society), a daytime, a cappella, Chorus, rehearses on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>

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.

#### THURSDAY/AUG. 17

- Garden Tour and Tea. 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Tour the glorious gardens with a Master Gardener docent who will lecture about Green Spring past and present. Afterwards, enjoy a traditional English afternoon tea. \$32. Call 703-941-7987 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ greenspring.
- Meet the Poet and Author. 7-9 p.m., at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Award winning poet and author, KaNikki Jakarta reads from her work. Call 703-548-0035 or visit nvfaa.org. Sierra Hull in Concert. 7:30 p.m. at
- The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. Visit www.birchmere.com.

#### AUG. 17-SEPT. 17

Wizard of Hip. Various times at MetroStage, 1201 North Royal St. Featuring Thomas W Jones II as he journeys from adolescence to adulthood as Afro Jo with original music by William Knowles and two back-up singers. Call 703-548-9044 or visit www.metrostage.org.

#### AUG. 18-27

Alexandria Summer Restaurant Week. Area restaurants offer \$35 for a three-course dinner or \$35 dinner for two; select locations offering lunch from \$10-20/person. Visit www.AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com or call 703-746-3301.

#### SATURDAY/AUG. 19

Casting Leaves in Concrete Workshop. 9:30-11 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Green Spring staff demonstrates casting and painting techniques and assists participants in making one to take home. \$40 for the program plus \$25 supply fee. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/



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# ENTERTAINMENT

greenspring. Sketch Hike. 10 a.m.-noon, at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Join park naturalist and artist Margaret Wohler at the park's Norma Hoffman Visitor Center and hike up to Historic Huntley to sketch some of the Mason family villa's historic architecture and landscaping. \$8. Call 703-768-2525 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ huntley-meadows-park/

Gardening Author Talk. 3-4:30 p.m. at the Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Nancy Lawson, a naturalist and columnist for All Animals magazine, will talk about her recent book, "The Humane Gardener: Nurturing a Backyard Habitat for Wildlife." Visit alexlibraryva.org.

#### SUNDAY/AUG. 20

- Tea and Princess Diana Lecture. 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Explore the many faces of Diana: fairytale princess, style icon, humanitarian and mother. Afterwards, enjoy a traditional English afternoon tea. \$32. Call 703-941-7987 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/
- greenspring. Chamber Music Concert. 3-5 p.m., at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Cellist Randy Ward and pianist Chloe Sunyang Choi will play music by Beethoven, Brahms, and Vaughn Williams.Visit www.wmpamusic.org

#### **DEADLINE AUG. 20**

**Open Invitation for Chorus.** Rehearsals begin at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays at the Northern Virginia Community College Alexandria campus, 5000 Dawes Ave. Email leckstein@nvcc.edu or call 703-845 6252

#### MONDAY/AUG. 21

- Alexandria Chamber Golf Tournament. 1 p.m. at the Mount Vernon Country Club, 5111 Old Mill Road. Hot dogs and brats, beverages, reception, dinner, prizes. Sponsorships available, contact Maria Ciarrocchi at
- micarrocchi@alexchamber.com. Great American Eclipse. All day at Historic Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Learn the science behind eclipses and how to view them safely, solar eclipse glasses will be provided to attendees at all the programs. \$7 to \$12 per person. Visit go.usa.gov/xNvvb.
- Solar Eclipse Watching Party. 2-4 p.m. at the Potomac Conference Center, 66 Canal Center Plaza, Suite 600. Protective Glasses, sips, and refreshments will be provided. Email maurisa@spottedmp.com.

#### TUESDAY/AUG. 22

Fall Sports Pep Rally. 6 p.m. at West Potomac High School Stadium, 6500 Quander Road. Wolverine Athletic Booster Club will introduce coaches and players. Visit www.westpotomacsports.org.

#### WEDNESDAY/AUG. 23

Wake Up Wednesday. 7-9:30 a.m. at the Duke Street Tunnel Connecting Carlyle to King Street Metro. Free coffee with a purchase of a donut, entertainment from local performers. Every Wednesday through September. www.alexandriava.gov/ CarlyleFun.

#### THURSDAY/AUG. 24

18

Historian Lecture. 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Meredith Barber is a local historian and student at William and Marv. Through research at the National

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# 4 Menus to Try for Restaurant Week

By Hope Nelson

efore the summer turns to hectic fall when kids go back to school, work kicks into overdrive, and football dominates the television once more — Alexandria takes a week to celebrate its culinary diversity. Its Summer Restaurant Week kicks off Friday and extends through Aug. 27, spawning special menus and deals citywide. Here are a few of this season's most promising.

#### Hummingbird, 220 S. Union St.

Perhaps the most eagerly anticipated entrant into this summer's Restaurant Week festivities is the newly opened Hummingbird, which resides in the new Hotel Indigo down by the waterfront. Owned by culinary power couple Chef Cathal

Armstrong and Meshelle Armstrong, the restaurant comes with some big APPETITE expectations — but does it deliver?

Take the tasting menu for a spin and see for yourself.

Though the dinner menu is compelling, the farand-away best value is within the \$20-per-person three-course lunch menu. Choose among such options as an endive salad with citrus and a lemonhoney vinaigrette to start; then move along to a main course of a Andouille sausage sandwich, a "Beastly Burger," or a lentil sandwich, just to name a few; and, finally, finish off the meal with a chocolate chip cookie before heading back to work (or to an early happy hour if you're so moved).

#### Captain Gregory's, 804 N. Henry St.

The upscale speakeasy within the confines of the casual Sugar Shack doughnut dispensary is hopping back into the Restaurant Week game, as well. More easily known for its cocktails, Captain Gregory's is offering up a \$35-per-person dinner deal for the occasion with a three-course tasting menu to keep things interesting.

The menu is small but mighty, offering up such

gems as a burrata with eggplant and shishito peppers to start and pickled shrimp or pork loin as a main attraction. Finish out the meal with a panna cotta or a dessert root beer completely with smoke and an infusion of CO2, and you've had a pretty good night at the speakeasy.

#### Live Oak, 1603 Commonwealth Ave.

The newish Southern-inspired restaurant at the border of Rosemont and Del Ray is offering diners a bevy of choices for its Restaurant Week menu, all of which provide a hearty dose of comfort food to the plate.

Who can go wrong with a start of fried green tomatoes, deviled eggs, or - for those hot summer days - gazpacho or arugula salad? Then move on to the main course and feast on an entrée from all over the flavor wheel: pork loin, roasted chicken, hanger steak, and even a vegetarian gumbo complete with vegan sausage. Sweet treats round out the offerings - you could do worse than a buttermilk chess pie.

#### Meggrolls, 107 N. Fayette St.

One of Old Town's newest — and most popular eateries is also joining in the Restaurant Week fun in a most creative way. At first blush, Meggrolls' participation may seem questionable: How can the café that makes its living on little pockets of flavor come up with a deal that's even more compelling than usual? But fear not: Meggrolls has risen to the occasion.

For \$35, diners will get a choice of three Meggrolls — including options such as broccoli mac, buffalo wing, and chicken parm — as well as a side slaw, boardwalk fries, an apple pie or Oreo dessert, and, to wash it all down, a can of wine. Use that can to toast to the Alexandria food scene — and start planning your next Restaurant Week stop.

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

Archives, she discovered previously unknown Athenaeum history during the Civil War including its employment as a logistics center by the Union Army. \$5, free for NVFAA members. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

#### SATURDAY/AUG. 26

- Mount Vernon Flea Market. 8 a.m.-1 p.m., at 8717 Fort Hunt Road. Features furniture, art, china, glass, porcelain, pottery, books, photographs, lighting, tools, etc. Refreshments will also be on sale. Admission is free. Visit mountvernonfleamarket.wordpress.com
- for more info. Ballyshaners Irish Festival. 11 a.m-7 p.m. at 1A Prince St. A celebration
- Irish history and culture in Alexandria, and a fundraiser for the Alexandria St. Patrick's Day Parade. Visit www.ballyshaners.org/festival/. Garden Terrarium Workshop. 1-2:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Begonia enthusiast Johanna Zinn provides information on this genus and teaches techniques for creating a terrarium. \$38 plus supplies. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ greenspring.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/AUG. 26-27 Begonia Show and Sale. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Show sponsored

by the Potomac branch of the American Begonia Society. Free. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ greenspring.

#### SATURDAY/AUG. 26

Civil War Servants Lecture. 2 p.m. at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. Tour entitled "Under the Same Roof: Enslaved and Free Servants at the Lee-Fendall House.' \$10. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org.

#### SUNDAY/AUG. 27

- Free Piano Concert. 3-5 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. The Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association presents an afternoon of music with the West Shore Piano Trio as part of their Summer Chamber Music Series. Free Visit www.wmpamusic.org
- Sister Musicians Concert. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. Artists and sisters Shelby Lynne and Allison Moorer will perform in support of their upcoming release "Not Dark Yet." Visit www.birchmere.com.

#### MONDAY/AUG. 28 **7th Annual Charity Golf** Tournament. 8 a.m. at Fort Belvoir

Golf Club 8450 Beulah St., Fort Belvoir. Benefit for America's "Adopt A Soldier," an established nonprofit organization who has through grassroots volunteerism, donations, and partnerships; provides a positive impact to our nation's wounded. deployed service members, hospitalized military children, homeless veterans, veterans and their families. Email golftournament@ americasadoptasoldier.org.

Fall Vegetable Gardening. 7-8:30 p.m. at the Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Learn inexpensive techniques to extend the harvest and even enjoy some of the crops in the dead of winter. Visit mgnv.org or call 703-228-6414.

#### SATURDAY/SEPT. 2

Celebrate Honeybee Day. 10 a.m.noon at Green Spring G dens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Meet a beekeeper, see inside a beehive, learn a bee dance, do a bee scavenger hunt, learn how bees are important to the food supply and get tips on how to help honeybees.Call 703-642 5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ parks/greenspring. Saturday Cinema at Carlyle. 7:36

p.m. on John Carlyle Square, 300 John Carlyle St. Billy Crystal and Meg Ryan in "When Harry Met Sally." Free. Visit www.AlexandriaVA.gov/CarlyleFun.

#### FRIDAY/SEPT. 8

Patriot Day Golf Classic. 11:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. at Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road. 4th Annual Patriot Day Golf Classic to benefit two veteran and wounded warrior organizations. Visit www.bellehavencc.com/golf/ patriotday.

#### SATURDAY/SEPT. 9

Fall Garden Day. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Numerous local plant and garden craft vendors will have gardening materials, while a silent auction, bake sale, live music, food and kids' activity tent add to the festivities. Free. Call 703-642-5173.

#### MONDAY/SEPT. 11

- Yoga for Gardeners I. 9:30-10:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. This class features a gentle introduction to the vinyasa method which helps participants increase the strength, flexibility and endurance necessary for gardening. Class held indoors. \$123/person for 11 lessons. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ parks/greenspring using code 290 426 2401 or call 703-642-5173. Garden Sprouts: Nature
- Playgroup. 10-11:30 a.m.at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Preschoolers learn through nature-themed toys and puzzles while parents meet other playgroup parents one Monday a month. September's theme is "Pollinators Everywhere." Adult must accompany registered child. \$6/child. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ parks/greenspring using code 290 401 2701 or call 703-642-5173.

#### THURSDAY/SEPT. 14

Gardening Excursion. 7 a.m.-7 p.m., at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Chanticleer Garden in Wayne, Pennsylva-nia is a blend of art and horticulture. Trip includes motor coach, entrance, guided tour, and lunch. \$124. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ greenspring or call 703-941-7987.

#### FRIDAY/SEPT. 15

History By The Glass. Various times at Gadsby's Tavern, 134 North Roval St. Enjoy drinks at the tavern, which historically served a wide variety of beverages, and learn about the history behind them. \$50 for drinks and hors d'oeuvres. Call 703-746-4242 or visit gadsbystavern.org.

#### SEPT. 16-17

- Street Art Festival. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at 480 King St. King Street from Washington Street to the waterfront is transformed into an outdoor art gallery with original artwork by more than 200 artists from the U.S. and abroad. Featuring live music, and interactive art activities, as well as The Art League's Ice Cream Bowl Fundraiser. Visit www.artfestival.com/festivals/ alexandria-king-street-art-festival. Crafts at Carlyle. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. Children will be able to
- create their own piece of art at Carlyle House to take home. Children will get the chance to paint their own version of a floorcloth, a popular 18th Century floor covering. Call 703-549-2997 or visit www.nvrpa.org.

# YOU ARE ONE WITH NOVA PARKS

If you are one of over 100,000 people a year to go to Great Waves Waterpark at Cameron Run Regional Park, you know the joy of a great day at the waterpark. You know how much the children love this place. Cameron Run has long been the best water parks in the region with its wave pool, various slides and features.

The joy of a day at the water park is a summertime right of passage. And with NOVA Park's 5 waterparks adventure awaits with themes that capture the imagination. So before the summer is over, take the family and spend a day at one of these wonderful places:

Great Waves at Cameron Run Regional Park, City of Alexandria Ocean Dunes at Upton Hill Regional Park, Arlington County Pirates Cove at Pohick Bay Regional Park, Fairfax County Atlantis at Bull Run Regional Park, Fairfax County Volcano Island at Algonkian Regional Park, Loudoun County





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Alexandria Gazette Packet 🔹 August 17-23, 2017 🔹 19

# Opinion

# Making Pet Microchips More Effective

By Barbara Moffet Animal Welfare League of Alexandria

microchip is a small capsule of electronic circuitry about the size of a grain of rice that can be easily injected under a pet's skin by a veterinary professional. Each microchip transmits a unique identification number that can be read with a microchip scanner and used to look up the pet

AWLA

and used to look up the pet owner's contact information; countless lost pets have been reunited with their owners using

this technology. The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria (AWLA) recently offered microchip scanning at two community events, revealing critical issues pet owners should be aware of when using this technology. Of the 64 dogs scanned at these events, 43 were confirmed to be microchipped as their owners thought. Three of the dogs had microchips that were extremely difficult to find, one had a chip that could not be located and one had a chip with a number that could not be traced. Fourteen had chips that their owners were not aware of and therefore had not kept their contact information up to date in the microchip registry.

Here are some common issues with microchipping technology—and how best to handle them:

Issue: Animal has a microchip, but it is not found when the animal is scanned.

Solution: Microchips are inserted at the top of the neck in dogs and cats; however, as animals grow, the chip can sometime fall out or "migrate" to other areas on the body and be missed by the scanner, especially if the animal is scanned quickly. AWLA recommends that pet owners have their pets scanned at every regular checkup by a veterinarian to ensure the chip can be found easily.

Issue: The animal's microchip number is found when the animal is scanned, but the microchip number does not correlate with



A microchip is inserted just under the skin of a dog by Animal Welfare League of Alexandria workers.

a specific company to call about its registration.

Solution: Microchips are now being manufactured with numbering systems that do not necessarily match the company that manufactured them; registration is sometimes handled by a third-party company. To address this problem, a national registry has established been at www.petmicrochiplookup.org. This allows the microchip manufacturer and third-party registration companies to share information. A pet owner should be able to search the pet's microchip number in the website and obtain contact information for the microchip company along with information about the pet. Not all microchip manufacturers or third-party registries participate in this, which may yield a "no information found" result on the website. If your pet's microchip number shows up as "no information found," you should also consider registering your pet's microchip with a company like www.foundanimals.org that will then upload your registration to the national registry. This solution can be effective if the animal shelter/veterinary clinic that finds your animal knows to check petmicrochiplookup.org.

Issue: The animal's microchip number is found and is easily associated with a com-

 $r_{H}^{\nabla}$  pany to call for the registration, but the contact information is out of date or no longer associated with the pet owner.

Solution: A microchip is only as good as the information associated with its number. It is very important to check that your pet's microchip registration information is kept up to date. You may want to consider contacting your pet's microchip company once a year to ensure that the primary and secondary contact information is correct and that you have listed an "emergency contact" as part of the registration.

To ensure that pet owners get the best possible protection from microchips, the AWLA recommends:

Have the pet scanned at each veterinary appointment to confirm the location of the chip, or bring your pet to the AWLA-operated facility at 4101 Eisenhower Ave. during open hours to have it scanned by AWLA staff. Then make a note of the chip number along with the name of the microchip company and store that information in a safe location.

Call your microchip company and confirm that your contact information is registered correctly. Update your information with the company any time your contact information changes. Add a secondary contact person and an emergency contact to the record, preferably someone who doesn't change addresses often. Enter your pet's microchip number into www.petmicrochiplookup.org and make sure that the information links to a company that has your current contact information. If it does not, consider registering your pet's chip number for free at www.foundanimals.org since they upload this information the to www.petmicrochiplookup.org.

The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria is an independent, local, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that operates the animal shelter for the City of Alexandria. The AWLA is committed to ending animal homelessness, promoting animal welfare, and serving as an educational resource for the City of Alexandria community. More information is at AlexandriaAnimals.org.

#### Letters

From Page 13

commissions and committees, some of which are fraught with patronage and conflict of interest. Additionally, a number of non-Alexandria residents serve on some of these boards, and some of these people are actually chairpersons. It is time for a review of the structure and purpose of these appointed panels, to ensure that they are equitably staffed, and serve the needs of residents.

To "jump start" this renovation, the City Council should appoint a group to oversee this review. Perhaps it should be named the "Committee of Committees," which is similar to a House of Representatives organization having this purpose. The chairperson should be a highly respected Alexandria resident who is familiar with the workings of the city government (e.g., former City Councilman and State Sen. Bob Calhoun would be an excellent choice). Additional committee members should be chosen by the Alexandria city manager; with a view towards staffing this oversight group with a representative selection of Alexandria residents.

The first task of this new "Committee of Committees" would be to assess the utility and value of all boards, commissions and committees in order to recommend which ones should be eliminated, retained, or combined with other committees. The respective membership rosters should likewise be scrutinized and recommendations be made to purge all non-residents and members having an excessive number of terms or multiple committee memberships from the rosters (these criteria to be determined).

The Alexandria Federation of Civic Associations should then participate in the nomination of new members for the remaining committees. The revised list of recommended committees and members should be submitted to the City Council for ratification. This process should be repeated every four years, unless no significant changes have taken place. This new process will hopefully insert the citizen into the critical decision-making process, and it should ensure a more equitable selection of committee members. This is a necessary step towards eliminating our current status of "taxation without representation."

> Townsend A. "Van" Van Fleet Alexandria

## Write

The Gazette Packet welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday, Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to: Letters to the Editor Gazette Packet 1606 King St. Alexandria VA 22314 Call: 703-917-6444. By e-mail: gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

- Bulletin Board

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

#### THURSDAY/AUG. 17

Backpack Stuffing Marathon. Volunteers wanted for FACE's Backpack Stuffing Marathon. Call FACE at 703-619-8414.

#### SATURDAY/AUG. 19

- Half-day Citizens' Police Academy. 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Alexandria Police Department Headquarters,3600 Wheeler Ave. This academy allows residents and community members to learn about various aspects of the Police Department during the summer months. Topics will include patrol operations, use of force policies, the K9 Unit, Special Operations Team, crime scene investigation and criminal investigations. This free class is limited in size to approximately 45 participants. Participants of this half-day Citizens' Police Academy must be at least 18 years of age and live or work in the City of Alexandria. Visit
- alexandriava.gov/Academies to apply. **Pet Adoption Drive.** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. in the Community Room of The Station at Potomac Yard, 650 Maskell St. The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria will join with NBC4 to participate in the third annual "Clear the Shelters" pet adoption drive. Visit AlexandriaAnimals.org for more.

#### MONDAY/AUG. 21

Foster Parent Orientation. 6-7:30 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. The City of Alexandria will hold a free, no obligation information session for prospective foster parents. An agency representative will be on hand to answer questions and explain the requirements to foster and/or adopt. For questions or to RSVP, call 703-746-5858 or email Christine.Levine@alexandriava.gov.

#### SATURDAY/AUG. 26

Boating Safety: Weather Forecasting. 9:30 am - Noon. at the Alexandria West Marine Store, 601 S. Patrick St. Learn about boating safety at free seminars on the last Saturday of the month, July through October. Classes will be taught by the Northern Virginia Sail and Power Squadron. Books about the topic each session will be available for purchase. Visit www.nvsps.org for schedule.

#### THURSDAY/AUG. 31

Application Deadline. The Alexandria City Council is seeking applicants to fill vacancies on boards, commissions, and committees. All applicants must complete a Personal Data Record Form no later than 5 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 31, 2017 for consideration at the Sept. 12, 2017 City Council meeting. For a complete list of vacancies, go to

www.alexandriava.gov/boards. Orientation for Prospective Volunteers. 3:30 p.m. at the Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. in the large meeting room. RSVP Northern Virginia, the region's largest volunteer network for people 55 and older, will hold an orientation for prospective volunteers. The event is free and open to the public. Free parking. To sign up for the Aug. 31 orientation email chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org or call 703-

403- 5360. To learn more about RSVP, visit www.rsvpnova.org.



TO Advertise in This Paper, Call by Monday 11:00 am 703-778-9411



# I Had a Dream



#### By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Which apparently, according to my oncologist, is not unusual. In fact, he's had them, too. What I am referring to, in a general sense, are cancer dreams. The 'cancer dream' I had was my first. Actually, it was not so much a dream, with a beginning, middle and an end, as it was a fragment; a moment in subconscious time that provided (illuminated would be too strong a characterization) an opportunity to possibly see my future and prepare accordingly.

Before I share my dream, let me give you a bit of context relating to my cancer condition. I am nearly five months into my ninth year post diagnosis. I have stage IV non-small cell lung cancer, the terminal kind. Stage IV, if you don't know (and I certainly didn't know stage IV from stage left until my oncologist told me in late February 2009) means the tumors have metastasized (moved from its original location, which is rarely good) and are inoperable (which means surgery is not an

option/recommended/reasonable). Ergo, the "13 month to two year" prognosis I was given and the associated 2 percent chance of survival beyond five years. To say then that cancer/my mortality is constantly on my mind is an understatement of epic proportions.

Given the unlikely still-living situation in which amazingly I find myself, I am regularly waiting for disappointing/discouraging health-related symptoms/news. With every five-week cycle of pre-chemotherapy lab work/24-hour urine collection and chemotherapy infusion, followed by quarterly CT Scans and semi annual brain and/or lower abdomen MRIs, I am at the mercy of results - which at this juncture rarely manifest themselves in any symptomatic/life-changing way. In short, I rarely know what the cancer is doing until my oncologist tells me. So far, mostly so good. As a result of this general lack of symptoms, I am always anticipating the day when I am not so lucky and wondering how it will happen/how I'll react when "the cancer," as "Forrest, Forrest Gump" said it, asserts its insidious hold. This was the dream fragment I had.

The only real symptom of my lung cancer/treatment shows up in my lab work: specifically my creatinine level, which measures kidney function. And kidney function, per conversations with my oncologist, is a major concern. The damage I've incurred already is irreparable and likely to get worse and a constant worry (I've recently had a "liquid biopsy" in an attempt to determine non-surgically the genetic mutation of my tumors which could possibly enable me to switch my chemotherapy to one which is not filtered through the kidneys). In the interim however, or until there is an "actionable" match, I am still preoccupied with this risk. The fear of dialys is/a kidney replacement weighs heavily on my mind.

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



#### A Education - Learning - Fun



Olivia Anthony (on right) at her graduation in Ecuador.

# Girl Scouts

#### From Page 15

national level. Volunteering opportunities included annual support for Wreaths Across America, the Alive Shelter, Christ House, Iliff Rehabilitation Center, and the Carpenter's Shelter. They volunteered for many school related activities at each of the four schools they attended. In addition, as each member of the troop was an athlete and played sports for T.C. Williams, they committed much time to teaching and helping younger athletes from the Recreation Department. They also partnered with younger Girl Scouts and troops on numerous occasions including the summer encampment, journey activities, hosting awards ceremonies, representing the troop at Service Unit meetings, and taking in two international exchange students to troop activities.

The troop members will now head off to college to continue their studies where they will be attending Amherst University, Auburn University, Hamilton College, The College of William and Mary, The University of Alabama, The University of Virginia, and Virginia Tech.

#### School Notes

Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos are welcome.

**Camille Thompson**, of Alexandria, was named to the fall 2016 dean's list at the University of Dallas (Irving, Texas).

**Sarah Tripplehorn**, of Alexandria, was named to the fall 2016 dean's list at the University of Dallas (Irving, Texas).

The following Alexandria students were named to the dean's list at The University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa, Ala.) **Gareth W. Markel**, Victoria Leigh Van Horne, and Aaron Joseph Cargas.

The **Automotive Program at Northern Virginia Community College's Alexandria Campus** recently received a grant from the NVCC Educational Foundation. The program received \$1,825 that will go toward car batteries, supplies, tools and other components necessary to train and prepare students for the automotive industry.

**Sarah E. Brennan**, of Alexandria, graduated from Oregon State University (Corvallis, Ore.) with a Bachelor of Science.

**Jason Oaks**, of Alexandria, graduated from Eastern New Mexico University (Portales, N.M.).

**Rebecca Littlefield**, of Alexandria, was named to the dean's list at the Lasell College (Newton, Mass.) for spring 2017.

**Laura Aileen Sauls**, of Alexandria, graduated from Clark University (Worcester, Mass.) with a Master of Arts in geography.

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# 9 VIRGINIA 2017 Special VIP Offer for your Toyota



# Alexandria trusts **McEnearney Associates**

#### McEnearney.com

OPEN SUN 8/20, 2-4



#### Alexandria \$799,900

NEW PRICE! Fabulous 2014 renovation with an addition boasts an open family room off a true gourmet kitchen with wine cooler. 2 master bedrooms with en-suite baths upstairs, a finished lower level and a great yard. thegoodhartgroup/listings/916-w-taylor-run/ Sue & Allison Goodhart 703.362.3221 www.TheGoodhartGroup.com



#### South Riding \$632,950

One of the largest model townhomes in Avonlea offers 4,400+ square feet, 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, gracious owner's suite, large kitchen, finished lower level with media room, wet bar. Close to commuter routes, and airport. 24938EarlsfordDrive.com David Rainey 703.286.1333 www.YourAtHomeTeam.com

#### Old Town Greens \$625,000

Prime Location! Beautiful 2-level, 3-bedroom, 2.5bath 1,780-SF townhouse condo. Walk to Metro, shopping, restaurants. One light to DC, 5 minutes to Airport and Old Town. Open floor plan with new hardwood floors, windows and stainless appliances. Gas fireplace in family room. Deck off kitchen.

Chris Hayes 703.944.7737 Gordon Wood 703.447.6138

Serving the Washington, DC Metro Area since 1980. 703.549.9292 | 109 South Pitt Street | Alexandria, VA 22314

OPEN SUN 8/20, 2-4



#### **Rosemont Park** \$797,500

This all brick beauty has high ceilings, beautiful moldings, gas fireplace and gorgeous hardwoods. Updates include new windows, kitchen and baths. Enjoy the full basement, fenced rear yard, custom deck, and detached garage. Easy walk to everything! 32 E Walnut Street Robin Arnold 703.966.5457 www.RobinArnold.com

#### Alexandria \$890,000

Rarely available detached home in convenient Governors Hill with 4,000 SF of living space. Featuring 5 bedrooms, 4 full & 1 half baths, gourmet kitchen, spacious master suite, and lower level rec room with walk-out to fenced yard. Walk to Huntington Metro. Bob Bazzle 703.599.8964 www.BobBazzle.com

#### OPEN SUN 8/20, 2-4



Mary Farrell 703.969.5522 www.ChooseMaryFarrell.com

#### \$859,000 Rarely available, exceptional residence. Luxurious, 2-bedroom + study, 2.5-bath, brick townhome

with gourmet kitchen, hardwood floors, gas fireplace, entertaining deck, new windows, fenced front yard, and garage parking! District Wharf Grand Opening October 2017! 609 7th Street SW





McEnearner

#### Rosemont \$1,149,000

Gracious home with 5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths and 2,500 SF. Wood floors, family room & master suite addition includes a rooftop deck. Updated kitchen, living room with fireplace, screened-in parch, & separate guest quarters.

Jen Walker 703.675.1566 www.lenWalker.com



Old Town \$849,000

NEW Price & NEW Updates! Stunning semi-detached townhouse. Great value for this much space, condition, location. Beautiful woodwork, fabulous updates, tall ceilings, tall windows on 3 sides. Parking out back gate. Just 3.5 blocks to waterfront. Minutes into DC. Delaine Campbell 703.299.0030 www.DelaineSells.com



#### Old Town \$1,150,000

Great location in Old Town! Cameron Mews is a quiet enclave of townhouses one block to King Street and the Potomac waterfront, Allbrick end townhouse with 4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, and renovated kitchen. Private brick walled garden and parking!

Colleen Coopersmith 703.338.2930 www.ColleenCoopersmith.com

