Nowhere are the challenges facing the Alexandria Fire Department more stark than at Station 206, the Seminary Road facility built in 1958. Standing on the front ramp looking west, Fire Chief Adam Thiel can see the massive Washington Headquarters Service — the new Department of Defense building where more than 6,000 people will work early next year. As the crow flies, it’s less than a mile away. But Thiel says during rush hour, the massive gridlock created by a lack of transportation planning could create a worse-case scenario — a 20-minute response time.

“That’s just to get to the building,” said Thiel, examining the high-rise from a distance. “Then there’s time to get through the building, ride the elevator, locate the patient and basically go to work.”

The 1950s-era fire station isn’t up to the challenge. A recent facility outlook showed the building has broken masonry, cracked door frames and antique equipment. A concrete slab in the back of the building has initials of someone who marked the spot in an earlier era, when the station served a sleepy suburban community of single-family houses. Now Station 206 finds itself on the front lines in a two-front war that may be impossible to win, protecting the 6,400 employees at the Washington Headquarters Service while simultaneously providing service to the growing West End community.

See West End, Page 30
ALEXANDRIA/Beverly Hills
$749,900

Beverly Hills Charm!
This cute and charming home is just steps to "The Pit" - the beloved park in Beverly Hills. The three upper level bedrooms include a lovely master suite, and the renovated kitchen and baths make this home shine! Garage parking allows for added convenience. Easy commute to 395, DC, Pentagon, and Old Town. This is a must-see! 
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www.suegoodhart.com

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$599,000

A Rare Find
A classic Colonial with hardwood flooring throughout, great wood-burning fireplace. Three nice sized bedrooms, separate dining room. Enjoy the screened porch that leads to the large backyard. Basement has 7 ceilings and ready to be finished. Never boiler and hot water heater. New roof. Sold as is. Two blocks off "The Avenue" shops, dining, and more.
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Exceptional Home in Southeast Quadrant
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703 626 3841
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OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA
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Just Listed
This delightful, three-bedroom, three-and-a-half bath townhome is perfectly located in the heart of Old Town. Bright rooms throughout. Two fireplaces, recently upgraded kitchen, gleaming hardwood floors, small garden area to enjoy cool evenings. Garage space attached plus one space in the community garage. Freshly painted inside and out. Just a few minutes to the Mount Vernon trail and river, six blocks to King Street, easy access to downtown DC. Well maintained common grounds.
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www.mcnearney.com
MLS ID AX7700115

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$379,600

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Three-level townhome in convenient Warwick Village. Recent updates include new windows, A/C, and water heater. Cherry kitchen cabinets, built-in shelves, partially finished lower level with workshop and rec room, fenced in backyard with extensive landscaping. Walk to Del Ray or take a short bike ride to Arlington.
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Week in Alexandria

Entering the Lion’s Den

Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell knows he isn’t popular in Alexandria, a fact that’s reflected by election returns and political clashes with the city’s legislative delegation. But that didn’t stop him from choosing a West End ballroom to host the Governor’s Energy Summit. The agenda was standard fare for the drill-baby-drill crowd, including a session called “Oil and Gas Development: The Onshore and Offshore Challenge.” The event also included a session forbiddingly named “Nuclear Energy: Renaissance or Requiem?”

“There was no place on his agenda for any kind of discussion about clean energy?” asked Phillip Ellis, field organizer with the Sierra Club.

When asked about criticism from the Sierra Club at a Tuesday morning breakfast in Alexandria before the energy summit, the governor bristled, calling the criticism “disingenuous.” He said he’s been “bullish” on wind farms off of Virginia Beach, adding that he recently signed legislation promoting the use of alternative fuels. McDonnell said he’ll be talking about alternative sources of energy during an upcoming conference. For now, though, he said it was time to stick to the basics. “Oil and gas are at the core of our energy production in this country,” said McDonnell. “It’s also where we have the most trouble with regulation coming out of Washington.”

Streetcar Named Debate

Arlington County is moving aggressively toward creating a system of streetcars that will trundle along Columbia Pike and maneuver their way along Route 1 toward Alexandria. What happens when those streetcars reach the border? That’s a question that’s open for debate. Alexandria City Council members recently approved a plan for bus-rapid transit in dedicated lanes along Beagelard Street. Although council members considered trolleys, the $185 million price tag of the project was rejected as too expensive. Instead, the dedicated lanes are designed so they could begin as bus-rapid transit lanes and become converted at some point in the future. Or not.

“It’s just too expensive,” said Councilman Frank Fannon. “Arlington should be looking at BRT instead of streetcars.”

Fannon said BRT offers the same level of service for a price the city can afford. Hogwash, responded former councilman and noted streetcar advocate Tim Lovain. Although streetcars require an initial capital outlay, they cost less to operate and maintain. Furthermore, he said, studies show that streetcars have a higher ridership than bus service. As to the amount of money, he said, it could be funded through tax increment financing or money from the state and feds. Lovain criticized Fannon’s approach as shortsighted, especially considering moves that have already been taken in Fairfax and Arlington counties.

His approach is pennywise and pound foolish,” said Lovain, adding that he is leaning toward running for City Council again next year. “Streetcars pay for themselves over time.”

Desperately Seeking City

Do you have a 30-foot evergreen you’re not using? City leaders want you to consider donating it to the seasonal cause, placing it at the entrance to Market Square as the official 2011 Holiday Tree. Last week, Alexandria officials put out the official word that’s open for debate. Alexandria City Council members recently approved a plan for bus-rapid transit in dedicated lanes along Beagelard Street. Although council members considered trolleys, the $185 million price tag of the project was rejected as too expensive. Instead, the dedicated lanes are designed so they could begin as bus-rapid transit lanes and become converted at some point in the future. Or not.

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More than 200 business, community and nonprofit leaders gathered Wednesday, Sept. 28, to discuss new ways to bring the community together using online and offline strategies at IMPACT 2011: Innovation + Philanthropy, formerly ACT’s Nonprofit Excellence Forum.

Gene Steuerle, chair of the Board of ACT for Alexandria, opened the day with welcoming remarks. According to Steuerle, the event, now in its seventh year, is designed to “help nonprofits to do their job better.”

Eric Lawrence, market president for Arlington, Alexandria and South Fairfax County for Capital One Bank, the event sponsor; and Nigel Morris, co-founder of Capital One Bank and managing partner of QED Investors, also helped to kick-off the event by speaking about the importance of IMPACT and what the event does for the area’s nonprofits.

“ACT is the principal mover and has done some marvelous initiatives,” said Morris. “Look at what’s going on in Washington — although Mark [Warner] is one of the good guys — he’s non-partisan and non-polar.”

The event was centered around a panel discussion — Michael Lee Pope
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- Versatile Lower level Features 3rd Bedroom/Den or Office, Full Bath and a Huge Family Room w/10’ Ceilings & Wet-Bar.
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R on Valley Forge, L on Greta Green Court to 124.

7301 Park Terrace $1,150,000
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- Total remake of Villamay beauty
- No Expense Spared
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- Master Bedroom with Full Bath includes 2 walk-in closets, jetted tub, and 3-head shower
- 3 Fireplaces
- Smashing Remodeled Kitchen
- 17 foot Hulceny
- StoneWall Garage System.
- Dir: S on GW Pkwy from Old Town - L Park Terrace to 7301 on Left

115 E. Glendale Avenue $525,000
- Turnkey and in Move-in Condition
- Walk to everything in DelRay and to Metro
- Granite and Stainless Kitchen
- Separate Dining Area
- Generous two-car garage
- Combination deck and patio
- Move in ready!
- Dir: Braddock metro west on Braddock Right on Newton R on Glendale Ave to house on right

7031 Tulane Drive $379,000
- Close-in Westgate Just South of Old Town Alexandria
- Two Blocks to GW Parkway and Potomac River
- Good Curb Appeal – On Cul-de-sac – Heavily Treed
- Large Rambler with Fully Finished Basement/Garage
- Large Formal Rooms /Ponded Executive w/Cornice Fireplace
- Five Generous Bedrooms *Three Full Baths
- Two Master Fireplaces **Hardwoods on Main Level
- Major Renovations on Handicap in include Remodeled
- Master Bath w/Downstairs Shower
- Dir: S on GW Pkwy from Old Town. R on Tulane to 1303
  on Left at top of hill.

**COMING SOON**

122 Woodciff Court $659,000
- New Architectural Roof
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1/2 Walk-In Closet
Large exercise/hobby room
New Windows & Freshly Painted
Garage, Fish pond & More
Dir: R on Old Town Rd. R on Morning side.
L on Admiral. R on Woodcliff Court to end of cul-de-sac.

Delights in Del Ray

Dreaded skies couldn’t dampen the enthusiasm of the nearly 20,000 attendees at the 16th annual Art on the Avenue Oct. 1 in Del Ray. “In 16 years, this is the first time it’s rained,” said organizer Pat Miller of the Del Ray Business Association. “It was bound to happen but we’re happy with the turnout and are glad to see such enthusiasm among the crowd.”

With umbrellas in hand, festival goers enjoyed entertainment, children’s games and delicacies prepared by Del Ray restaurants as they browsed the wares of hundreds of artisans and craftsmen.

U.S. Rep. Jim Moran, who earlier in the day served as a judge for the pie baking contest, joined Mayor Bill Euille and other dignitaries in a ceremonial ribbon cutting to welcome new business owners Bobby Mahoney of Del Ray Pizzeria and Jamie Gallagher of Origin Fitness to the Del Ray Community.

“Everyone has been so welcoming since we opened,” Mahoney said. “There is no place we’d rather be than in Del Ray.”

— Jeanne Theismann

Sculpture Rick Jones works on a clay model of Confederate hero Colonel John Mosby at the Del Ray Artisan tent.

Cara Michele Di Massimo bundles up among her fine art glass creations.

London Turnage sits patiently as the face painting artist gathers up a final color of paint to add spots to the butterfly wings.

People

Warwick Lloyd, 6, smiles after performing for the crowd with the Suzuki Violin Center at Art on the Avenue Oct. 1.

Despite the weather, 4-year-old twins Ava and Samantha Adams enjoy the entertainment.
Best Street Award

Mayor Bill Euille, American Planning Association Virginia Chapter board member Allison Heck and Alexandria Planning director Faroll Hamer along with members of the Planning Commission pose for photos after the Best Street Award was announced on Tuesday evening, Oct. 4.

Alexandria Town Crier Ben Fiore-Walker proclaims to all present that Alexandria has been named one of the 10 Best Streets for 2011 by the American Planning Association. In addition to King Street in Alexandria: Santa Monica Boulevard in West Hollywood, Calif.; U Street in Washington D.C.; Front Street in Lahina, Hawaii; Main Street in Galena, Ill.; Main Street in Nantucket, Mass.; Washington Avenue in St. Louis, Missouri; Market Street & Market Square in Portsmouth, N.H.; Davis Street in Culpepper, Va. and Downtown Woodstock Streetscape in Woodstock, Vt. were also chosen for awards this year.

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Godspeed Returns to Alexandria

The Godspeed has docked once again at the foot of Queen Street. Starting on Tuesday, Oct. 4, fourth grade students from all of the Alexandria Public Schools and four from Fairfax County began touring the boat to learn about ship travel in the 18th century.

The Godspeed was commissioned in 2006; a 40-tonner, the ship is a re-creation of one of the three ships that sailed from England and arrived in Jamestown in 1607. The Godspeed is designated as part of the official fleet of the Commonwealth by the Virginia General Assembly.

Photo by Louise Krafft/Gazette Packet
Debate on Duke

By Michael Lee Pope
Gazette Packet

Many residents on the West End are still fuming over the City Council’s recent decision to kill dozens of trees by widening Beauregard Street, a move that many considered unwarranted or ill-conceived. Now that debate is about to be resurrected in a different location. Members of the Planning Commission and City Council will soon be taking up a proposal to widen Duke Street, doing away with access roads along the street in order to create another high-capacity transit corridor with dedicated lanes that could be used for bus rapid transit or trolleys.

Opposition is already building. “I’m not convinced Duke Street needs this right now,” said Councilman Frank Fannon, who voted in favor of the Beauregard transit corridor. “We could start building transit corridors everywhere, but is that justifiable?”

According to a preliminary analysis conducted by city transportation planners, the Duke Street corridor meets the threshold required to justify a transit corridor based on population density and employment density. Before City Council considers a formal recommendation, however, transportation officials will conduct a more thorough analysis to detail how it would work and how many people would use the new transit corridor.

“We don’t have a foregone conclusion,” said Abi Learner, director of transportation. “We think we know what the answer is, but we need to do our homework first.”

FOUR ALTERNATIVES are under consideration by city officials. Two would have existing conditions on the Duke Street corridor.
Getting the Big Dog

When leaders of the newly formed Bishop Ireton High School Business Network were planning their inaugural kickoff, the school’s most famous alumnus seemed like the obvious choice for a keynote speaker. But would he accept? Fortunately for the newly formed business network, Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell (class of 1972) said yes.

“Virginia is a great state,” the governor alumni and alumnai of the Catholic school said in a Tuesday morning speech. “We have contributed more for freedom and democracy and, frankly, the propagation of the faith than any other state.”

The governor encouraged the business leaders to exchange business cards and make connections, forming a network of associations from the Catholic school. Executive committee member B.R. McConnon (class of 1984) said it was a “huge shot in the arm” to have the governor deliver a keynote address to the inaugural meeting, which drew more than 100 people to the Carlyle Club.

The idea was to build on a previous business association, known as the Carlyle Club, which had become dormant in recent years.

“Ideally, we’d like to provide internships and jobs,” said McConnon. “But we need to get to a critical mass before we’re able to do that effectively.”

Return of Lunch

Carlyle isn’t an ideal neighborhood for a restaurant. It’s loaded with office workers seeking a quick bite to eat and it’s mostly deserted after the workday. That’s why Carlyle Club owner Brennan Reilly had a hard time drawing a crowd for lunch when he opened the doors of the upscale restaurant in October 2007. By the end of 2009, Reilly said, it was clear that lunch wasn’t in the cards. So he took it off the menu.

“It was the right decision for the time,” he said. “It allowed us to focus on private events, which have become extremely successful.”

Now, two years later, the Carlyle Club is ready to have another stab at the mid-day meal. Later this month, the restaurant will once again open its doors with a mid-priced lunch menu. Reilly describes the price range as something akin to Clyde’s — above the sandwich shops in the neighborhood but below a fine-dining establishment. Instead of offering lunch every day of the week, the Carlyle Club will offer lunch only on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

“It’s a little non-traditional,” he acknowledged. “But in Carlyle, you have to be non-traditional because it’s not a great area for retail or restaurants — so far.”

Clearing the Air

Alexandria’s deal to shut down the long-despised coal-fired power plant moved one step closer to reality last week, when grid operator Pennsylvania New Jersey Maryland Interconnections announced that the GenOn Potomac River Generating Station is not critical to maintaining the electricity grid in the metropolitan Washington, D.C., region. The move was hailed as a victory among those who have worked to close the plant for years.

“This is a major step forward,” said Elizabeth Chimento, one of the leading voices for shutting the plant down over the last decade. “At this point, I wouldn’t imagine any reason why the plant wouldn’t be able to close its doors in October 2012.”

The deal city leaders truck with GenOn last month was contingent on approval of the grid operator as well as Pepco, which owns the land. Chimento said she feels confident Pepco will give the stamp of approval.

“Pepco might have to pay GenOn some money to get out of the lease agreement,” she said. “But then they would be free to sell to a developer.”

City officials have said they do not expect redevelopment at the 25-acre site to be part of the waterfront small-area plan now under consideration by City Council members.

— Michael Lee Pope
Lynnwood Campbell: A lifetime of commitment.

By Sherry Wilson Brown

Living Legend Lynnwood Campbell says no to many requests. He won’t be a flunky or token on your board. But when there is a genuine need, he happily says yes. As a result, he has impacted our public schools and policies toward children, human rights, the city budget, charitable giving, and elections.

Campbell was born in Freedmen’s Hospital (now Howard University Hospital) in 1947, though his family lived in Alexandria. His father was a deliveryman who became the first black salesmen at Virginia Electric Supply on King Street and his mother owns and operates her own beauty shop. Today, his younger brother, Bernard, works at the Alexandria Amtrak Station. His sister Wilma Anderson, who died a few years ago, worked in the law offices of Samuel and Otto Tucker as a teenager and retired from Federal service. Campbell has a baby brother in Silver Spring, Zachary Moore, a retired IBM Engineer, who was adopted by the Campbells at three months when his mother died.

After completing St. Joseph’s Elementary School, Campbell entered 8th grade at St. Mary’s Elementary School where he was the first black student. The first week, police monitored the situation and his father drove him to school. It felt like he was Sputnik with students coming up just to look at him. “Then [the late] Ken Barnett came up and asked if I’d like to be friends. He was a really popular student and once we were friends, things settled down.”

For high school, as a minority Campbell would have to appear before the Alexandria School Board (to which he was later appointed) and ask for permission to attend George Washington or Hammond rather than Alexandria. He was called to active duty. He completed the U.S. Army Finance School and was assigned to the Military District of Washington as the Deputy Finance and Accounting Officer. His brother Bernard was innocently caught up in a situation at Gino’s Restaurant. The youths actually involved left but when Bernard fought with a police officer, he was arrested. Word spread and there were several small incidents that threatened to lead to a riot which the Army was prepared to arrest him. Campbell gave away his boat a few years ago as he didn’t have enough time to enjoy it. Among all his volunteer activities, he does have some spare time which he uses to help the people whose vision and dedication make a positive, lasting impact in Alexandria. Lynnwood Campbell says simply, “People asked me to serve, and I served.”

Sherry Wilson Brown is executive director of Agenda: Alexandria.
Northern Virginia Pays Again

Commonwealth reaps economic benefits of Dulles, National airports, forces costs on Northern Virginia residents.

Drivers in Northern Virginia are justifiedly concerned about tolls. The cost of driving from Leesburg to Woodbridge on existing and proposed toll roads would run between $30 and $40 at some times of the day.

The Greenway in Loudoun leads to the Dulles Toll Road to Beltway HOT Lanes to Interstate 95 Corridor HOT Lanes. In each case, a driver would theoretically have an alternate, Route 7 along the Greenway and Dulles Toll Road, the regular lanes of Interstates 495 and 95. But recent vitriol about tolls on the Dulles Toll Road is misplaced. This is one more example of the Commonwealth of Virginia feeding on revenues from the economic vitality of Northern Virginia, then forcing Northern Virginia residents to pay for the infrastructure of that economic activity out of local funds and personal pockets.

The Virginia Department of Aviation report in August attributes $17.5 billion in annual economic activity in Virginia to Dulles International (IAD) and Ronald Reagan National airports, with Dulles providing the majority of that. The Commonwealth collects most of the tax revenue that results from this activity, but pays only 3 percent of the $6.2 billion cost of rail to Dulles. This will force more than 80 percent of the costs of building rail to Dulles to local drivers and property owners.

Having major airports adequately served by rail and other transportation options is more than an amenity, it is part of sustaining the economic benefit that comes from major airports. The question is not whether we should be building rail to Dulles, but about who benefits and who pays.

So yes, it makes sense to pressure MWAA to proceed to make cost-effective decisions. Yes, it is maddening that tolls could climb to the point of pushing drivers off the Toll Road and onto Route 7.

But when you hear that the state wrapped up last fiscal year with a surplus, you can realize one more time that Northern Virginia residents are paying for the Commonwealth’s prosperity coming and going. No relief is in sight.

The state collects the income tax from the good people of Northern Virginia, by the high tech firms, by the businesses that reap the economic benefits of Dulles, National airports, by the businesses that benefit from major airports. The question is not who benefits and who pays, but about who benefits and who pays.

The Commonwealth contribution, 3 percent, which is based upon a fixed grant of $900 million.

The Dulles Toll Road contribution, more than 57 percent, provides the remaining amount. And drivers beware, HOT Lanes ahead.

— Mary Kimm

Breast Cancer: You’re Not Alone

By Christine Candió
CEO, Inova Alexandria Hospital

Unless you’ve had breast cancer, you just don’t understand what it’s like to have to wait.”

Lisa Baker knows now. But three years ago, she assumed she had a “pass” from getting breast cancer. She had no family history of the disease and had spent the last eight years raising funds to help others with breast cancer by coordinating the City of Alexandria’s annual “Walk to Fight Breast Cancer” in her role as director for the City’s former Office on Women (now part of the Department of Community and Human Services).

Then everything changed. She discovered a lump in her breast and was subsequently diagnosed with Stage 2 breast cancer. She sought treatment at Inova Alexandria Hospital and is now a proud spokesperson for breast cancer awareness.

At Inova Alexandria Hospital, we know first-hand the devastating effects of breast cancer diagnosis: It touches your whole family; it’s touched our hospital’s employees’ families, too. But you don’t have to walk that road alone.

Inova’s Breast Care Institute offers a multidisciplinary team of more than 100 physician experts throughout Northern Virginia to coordinate patient care through diagnosis, treatment and recovery. Our Breast Care Navigator nurses provide a personal touch, guiding patients and their families through the care process and the myriad of information and treatment decisions they must suddenly confront. They can help find the right doctor, coordinate office visits, research clinical trials, and find transportation and financial options.

We’re taking that level of care one step further with the October opening of the Inova Advanced Imaging Center in Alexandria, located at 1800 N. Beauregard St at Mark Center. The comprehensive diagnostic outpatient imaging center — a service of Inova Alexandria Hospital — will offer a full complement of imaging studies, in addition to a dedicated Women’s Imaging Service that includes digital mammography, bone densitometry and stereotactic biopsy. And, we’re so excited that our radiologists will offer same-day readings on mammography. As Lisa Baker knows — the waiting can often be the hardest part.

I hope to see many of you at this year’s annual Walk to Fight Breast Cancer on Saturday, Oct. 22 at the AMC Hoffman Center in Alex
Focus
On Blight
To the Editor:
   Good planning should recognize and support local communities and systems that are thriving and self-supporting. The foot of King Street is currently occupied by the Old Dominion Business (ODBC), an institution that has been there for decades, and there are communities of joggers and walkers that pass by every day. There may not be a new, shiny plaza at the foot of King Street, but it feels intimate and safe, and has local color and charm provided by the sailboats docked there. However, the City seems determined to buy the ODBC property and has even threatened to take it by eminent domain if necessary. Then they would counter that an institution that has been there almost 30 years. I am fully cognizant of the fact that it is a tourist town and that that fact affects me and my lifestyle. Off the top of my head, the impact is evidenced in a lack of parking, buses lumbering down narrow residential streets, an inability sometimes to get a table at a favorite restaurant, prades to the left of me, festivals to the right of me, development that is rampant and often run-amok, and two schools (and the attendant parking issues and extra caution and vigilance they necessitate) within three blocks of my home. I knew this when I chose Old Town as a place to live and raise my family. My Lasker’s statement is the most telling, though, of the attitude that prevails, unfortunately, among many of our commercial neighbors. Though we patronize your stores, and encourage our friends and visitors to do so as well, there is no reciprocity of consideration. Perhaps it is time that some acknowledgment and a symbolic tip of the hat be made to the Old Town residents and the patrons of the Farmers’ Market. Were it not for our patronage, it would not be the oldest continuously operating farmers’ market in the country; that claim could not be made. Were it not for our patronage, it would not be written about and publicized and lure tourists year in and year out through all the seasons, tourists who also patronize your shop. In sum, keeping the market open an additional hour would be a gesture of balancing the interests of commerce in the immediate area with the pleasure and convenience.

Deena de Montigny
Farmers’ Market’s Value
To the Editor:
   I would like to respond to the viewpoint of Amanda Lasker (“Business Matters,” Sept. 29-Oct. 5) regarding extending the hours of the Alexandria Farmers’ Market.

   “Saturday is our busiest day,” said Amanda Lasker, owner of Gossypia. “So having the market open later would definitely hurt business.” I would counter that an extension of one hour is certainly not going to reduce the bottom line of any business to the extent of “hurt.” “Impact,” perhaps would be a better word. And even then, I seriously doubt the magnitude of such an effect. Perhaps Ms. Lasker and others should do a survey over the next few weeks, counting the number of patrons, and purchasing patrons, who enter their stores during the hour in question. Armed with such data, they could hopefully make more of a case for their viewpoint.

   “Vendors and consumers might benefit from later hours at the farmer’s market. But Old Town retailers could be on the losing end of the equation.” I take umbrage at this statement. I have lived in Old Town almost my entire life, and have owned a home (and paid real estate taxes, personal property taxes, and parking fees) here for almost 30 years. I am fully cognizant of the fact that it is a tourist town and that that fact affects me and my lifestyle. Off the top of my head, the impact is evidenced in a lack of parking, buses lumbering down narrow residential streets, an inability sometimes to get a table at a favorite restaurant, prades to the left of me, festivals to the right of me, development that is rampant and often run-amok,
of the market’s patrons and area residents. Surely some measure of accommodation can be afforded.

Brooke English

Transit Solution
To the Editor:

BRAC may be dominating local news headlines, but equal or greater drama can now be found in the public discussions regarding a proposed north-south high capacity transit route (“Corridor A”) in eastern Alexandria.

This corridor, which is vaguely proposed to run anywhere between N. Henry Street to the west and N. Washington Street to the east, has been the topic of heated debate for several years, most especially at recent meetings of the High Capacity Transit Corridor working group. In fact, the last meeting on Sept. 15 broke into disorder. Public opposition is strong and it is time to refocus the argument.

Stalemate or checkmate? Is there a way out of this? There is, if the City is willing to listen. It is based on a proposal from Planning Commissioner Jesse Jennings, who also serves on the City Transportation Committee, that discussions be reopened about running the north-south route along Mt. Vernon Avenue in Del Ray. The West Old Town Citizens Association — where Mr. Jennings voiced the idea in April — supports this notion with an additional enhancement: that the City use the proposed Mt. Vernon trolley service as the eastern leg of the three-segment transit corridor as it now seeks to create.

There are many, many reasons to recommend this solution. First, the trolleys (King Street included) are popular and more likely to attract commuters than standard buses. U.S. Route 1 (N. Patrick and N. Henry Streets) have never had regularly scheduled bus service whereas Mt. Vernon Avenue is a current as well as historic transit corridor, something which is regularly celebrated and exploited by the Del Ray community as part of its branding campaign.

Riders could be brought down “the Avenue” to Monroe then easily routed down Commonwealth Avenue (Rosemont’s historic streetcar corridor) to the King Street Station. This is the current route of the Dash A10 bus service, and would neatly complement Fairfax County’s transit strategy, which is to funnel commuters into heavy rail. (In Fairfax County’s case, the target is the Huntington Metro station, a recommendation the civic association put forward a decade ago.) For the north side of the route, service could terminate at the future Potomac Yard metro station, something Arlandria leaders have already suggested. The Mt. Vernon Avenue trolley also has the support of the Del Ray Business Association.

What about the cost? Times are tough but we can be creative. Money has already been allocated in the City’s FY 2012 budget for a Mt. Vernon Avenue trolley, and the funds secured for future Potomac Yard bus rapid transit between Crystal City and Braddock Metro could be reprogrammed. There are few reasons why anyone living in the Yard would need to stop at Braddock Metro, given its predominantly residential nature and the dearth of new and projected retail shops, restaurants and historic attractions. The City would get better bang for its bucks moving commuters from the Yard into heavy rail at King Street while also creatively linking the business districts of King Street and Mt. Vernon Avenue, which is something that Vice Mayor Kerry Donley has expressed interest in doing.

As for the notion of more circulator buses, which was recently floated at the Corridor A meetings, there’s no need to add new routes. Just expand the King Street trolley slightly to serve Union Street along the length of the waterfront. This puts even more transit options on the table for south and north Old Town residents not already within a few blocks of transit services, with the advantage that the service would feed directly into Metro at King Street.

The proposals regarding Corridor A are weak-kneed. We need to think creatively, more creatively than the recently completed Mon roe Street Bridge implies. There is a solution out there, if only City leaders will listen.

Leslie Zupan, President West Old Town Citizens Association

Sarah Becker, Past President Transfer of Development Rights?

To the Editor:

I am opposed to the City’s Waterfront Plan as it advocates increased development within the 100-year flood plain along the waterfront. Much of the Plan area including sites east of Union Street between and including the two Robinson Terminal sites is within the 100-year flood plain and I am opposed to additional development there because:

It is Environmentally Unsound: Allowing additional impervious development is in direct conflict with flood plain management best practices and exacerbates flooding downstream. The best use of land within the 100-year flood plain is as open, pervious parkland.

It is Poor Building and Urban Design: Codes require all new occupied and habitable space to be located above the 100-year flood level, which is several feet above street level at most of the sites in question in the Waterfront Plan. Thus the Plan encourages large buildings, raised above the street level, with parking and storage at the pedestrian level. Compare the vibrancy of the 100 and 200 blocks of King Street which consist of small scale historic structures at street level, to the first two blocks of North Union or the 300 to 500 blocks of King Street where typically less vibrant, post war developments with their first floors raised above the street level exist. What do we want along the waterfront: parks and rehabilitated historic structures, or new behemoths that will fail as vibrant urban design?

It will Lower Residential Property Values and Quality of Life in Old Town: It is well documented that residential values increase when located adjacent to parkland and decrease when adjacent to hotels and the noise and traffic generated by guests and services. Allowing increased development — including hotels — will negatively impact adjacent residential land values. Do we want to live next to parks or next to hotels that require deliveries and waste services at 7 o’clock every morning?

A Solution: The City should limit any new development along the waterfront to the rehabilitation and reuse of existing historic buildings at their current scale and character. These buildings are grandfathered and can maintain current uses and pedestrian access at street level. In an effort to keep the current land owners whole, the City should implement a Transfer of Development Rights program through which current land owners could sell their development rights to the new owners.

See Letters, Page 29

DreamDog Visits

More than 30 CFNC children enjoyed a visit from The DreamDog Foundation, an organization dedicated to empowering children to believe in themselves and their dreams. The DreamDog Foundation’s founder Rainey (aka Lorraine Friedman) brought campers from her Do the Write Right Thing Summer Camp, Jazz the DreamDog as well as a host of songs, dances and children’s books — all of which she wrote and produced for the DreamDog program. With songs like “You can do anything” and the motto “the magic is in you” the DreamDog team taught preschoolers how much potential they have to solve problems and succeed in school and beyond.

DreamDog Visits

Margaret Elizabeth Carter

You are greatly missed. You were a beautiful, loving, giving mother, sister-in-law, grandmother and friend. Everyone loved you. You had a warm, loving personality. Thank God for allowing us to have you in our lives.

Love,
Your daughter Vera Carter and family

Sarah Becker, Past President
FALL IN LOVE with OLD TOWN COMMONS

Discover smart city living at EYA’s newest community in Old Town Alexandria. Just steps to King Street, Braddock Road Metro, and the waterfront, these homes offer spacious open floor plans with gourmet kitchens and reserved garage parking.

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In August 2011, 168 Alexandria homes sold between $1,700,000-$78,000. This week's list represents those homes sold in the $1,700,000-$350,000 range. For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com.
Half Marathon Draws Thousands of Runners

BY GALE CURCIO
GAZETTE PACKET

The second annual Woodrow Wilson Bridge Half Marathon ran from Mount Vernon to National Harbor. Tom Curcio, Ed Farino and Fausto Vasquez led the elite runners on their bicycles; Curcio was also one of the many businesses who sponsored the event.

Race organizer Steve Nearman was pleased with the results, “We removed the gravel section from the course and drew the runners directly into the Michelob ULTRA Finish Line Festival which made for a much bigger crowd there this year. We also greatly expanded the NIB race from three local athletes last year to 11 athletes from around the nation this year plus we added a VIP Dinner for them at McLoone’s Restaurant. That took a ton of planning and my hat is off to Megan Pinck for executing flawlessly all weekend with 11 visually impaired athletes and their guides.

“What is particularly phenomenal is that in both years, we had no serious injuries and actually hardly any injuries at all. All five of my running doctors were able to finish the race without stopping to assist anybody. My race director Kathy Dalby and I firmly believe that safety is truly our highest priority.”

Moses Kigen Kipsosgei, who flew to America from his homeland of Kenya, won the second annual Woodrow Wilson Bridge Half Marathon.

Kipsosgei crossed the finish line in 1:02:37, knocking 2:07 off Derese Deniboba’s event record time from last year. Defending champion Derese Deniboba came in second in 1:02:56.

“The first 3K was a little bit slow,” said Kipsosgei, who was third in the New York City Marathon last year. “But from 5K I decided to just go for time. The course was good — I like the ups and downs.”

Bekelech Bedada, a New York City resident from Ethiopia, broke away from Kenyan Gladys Asiba and came in first, breaking Catherine Ndereba’s event record by 33 seconds in 1:12:44. Asiba placed second in 1:15:58.

Both Kipsosgei and Bedada earned $1,000 for the win and $300 for the time bonus.

The top seven men all earned time bonuses for sub-1:05 while the top four American athletes and their guides.

Runners race across the bridge during the half marathon on Sunday, Oct. 2.

Mary Catherine Gibbs (2:37:49) and Laura Zabriski-Martín (2:31:10) celebrate at the finish line of the Wilson Bridge Half Marathon.

Alexandria resident Matthew Rodjom, left, finished second among visually impaired runners in the Wilson Bridge Half Marathon Oct. 2 with a time of 1:24:21. With him at the finish line are race director Steve Nearman and Amy McDonough, who edged out Rodjom for first place with a time of 1:23:59.

Jonathan Nearman, 12-year-old son of race director Steve Nearman, helps present a check to Autism Speaks, one of the charities supported by the Wilson Bridge Half Marathon. With him are Kathy Dalby of Pacers, left, and Christina Markish of Autism Speaks. The event donated $17,500 to seven local charities.
Henry L. Williams

On Sept. 28, 2011, Henry L. Williams, long time resident of Alexandria and beloved husband of Dorothy Williams, died. He is survived by a host of stepchildren, nieces, nephews as well as other family and friends. A visitation will be held on Thursday, Oct. 6 from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Ebenezer Baptist Church, 909 Queen Street, Alexandria. Services to begin at 11 a.m.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 12

Getting Through the Medicare Maze. 10:30 a.m. Join Howard Houghton, Director of Virginia Insurance Counseling and Assistance Program (VICAP) for an informative program on the 2012 Medicare health and drug plans. Open season is Oct. 15 to Dec. 7. Call 703-765-4573.

Open House. 8:30 to 11 a.m. At St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes School. Group Tours for Prospective JK/K Parents. This is an opportunity to tour the Lower School campus, meet administrators, and see the faculty in action. At the Lower School, 400 Fonianne Street, Alexandria. Reservations necessary. 703-212-2705. KFeleszi@ssas.org. www.ssas.org/admission

OTCA Member Meeting. 7 p.m. social; 7:30 p.m. program. Includes statements by candidates for House and State Senate for Old Town; How Proposed Transportation Plans May Impact Old Town; and an Update on the Waterfront Plan, including the closure of the GenOn Energy (Mirant) Power Plant Property. At The Lyceum, 201 South Washington St., Alexandria. Visit www.oldtowncivic.org

SATURDAY/OCT. 15

Fall Oral History Training Session. 10 a.m. to noon. At the Archaeology Museum, 105 N. Union St., Third Floor, Alexandria. Call 703-746-4399. RSVP to jen_hembree@hotmail.com by Oct. 1.

TUESDAY/OCT. 18

Preschool Fair. 9 a.m. to noon. It is a great opportunity to check out 40 preschools in the Alexandria area. Sponsored by the MOMS Club of Alexandria-NE. At First Baptist Church, 2922 King St., Alexandria. Call 703-746-4399. RSVP to vvmiller801@netzero.net

SUNDAY/OCT. 22

Foster Parent Orientation. 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The City of Alexandria will hold a free, no obligation information session for prospective foster parents. At Beatty Library, 5005 Duke Street, Alexandria. Call 703-746-5858

OBITUARY

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BULLETIN BOARD

To have a notice listed, e-mail gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Call Steve Hibbard at 703-778-9412 with questions.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 12

Getting Through the Medicare Maze. 10:30 a.m. Join Howard Houghton, Director of Virginia Insurance Counseling and Assistance Program (VICA)P for an informative program on the 2012 Medicare health and drug plans. Open season is Oct. 15 to Dec. 7. Call 703-765-4573.

Open House. 8:30 to 11 a.m. At St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes School. Group Tours for Prospective JK/K Parents. This is an opportunity to tour the Lower School campus, meet administrators, and see the faculty in action. At the Lower School, 400 Fonianne Street, Alexandria. Reservations necessary. 703-212-2705. KFeleszi@ssas.org. www.ssas.org/admission

OTCA Member Meeting. 7 p.m. social; 7:30 p.m. program. Includes statements by candidates for House and State Senate for Old Town; How Proposed Transportation Plans May Impact Old Town; and an Update on the Waterfront Plan, including the closure of the GenOn Energy (Mirant) Power Plant Property. At The Lyceum, 201 South Washington St., Alexandria. Visit www.oldtowncivic.org

SATURDAY/OCT. 15

Fall Oral History Training Session. 10 a.m. to noon. At the Archaeology Museum, 105 N. Union St., Third Floor, Alexandria. Call 703-746-4399. RSVP to jen_hembree@hotmail.com by Oct. 1.

TUESDAY/OCT. 18

Preschool Fair. 9 a.m. to noon. It is a great opportunity to check out 40 preschools in the Alexandria area. Sponsored by the MOMS Club of Alexandria-NE. At First Baptist Church, 2922 King St., Alexandria. Call 703-746-4399. RSVP to vvmiller801@netzero.net

SUNDAY/OCT. 22

Foster Parent Orientation. 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The City of Alexandria will hold a free, no obligation information session for prospective foster parents. At Beatty Library, 5005 Duke Street, Alexandria. Call 703-746-5858
T he fourth annual Taste For Giving, a community-wide fundraiser to benefit more than 30 local charities and nonprofits, is set to take place Oct. 14 from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Torpedo Factory Art Center. Hosted by the Alexandria Rotary Foundation, the event will feature 17 local restaurants, a wine bar, music and entertainment and both a live and silent auction.

“Proceeds from Taste For Giving support organizations like ALIVE, Alexandria Neighborhood Health Services, Carpenter’s Shelter and Campagna Center,” said Joan Renner, an organizer of the event. “We donated more than $45,000 to local charities last year and hope to reach $60,000 to give back to the community this year.”

Participating restaurants include: Overwood, Tempo, Union Street Pub, Pork Barrel BBQ, The Majestic, Firehook, The Chart House, Finn & Porter, La Tasca, Hard Times Café, Alexandria Pastry Shop, Columbia Firehouse, Ben & Jerry’s, La Porta’s, Old Hickory Steakhouse, Bittersweet and Chadwicks.

“Not only do these restaurants support our event, but they are very generous supporting many other charity events that support the needy in our community,” Renner added. “They are always enthusiastic about helping the community and being part of a community event. Honestly, it’s the restaurants that make this event and we couldn’t do it without them.”

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.tasteforgiving.org.

— Jeanne Theismann
Get Ready for the ASO’s ‘Music of Dreams’

Musings from The Maestro

We are the music makers,
And we are the dreamers of dreams
— ARTHUR O’SHAUGHNESSY


Music and dreams seem to come from the same place in our subconscious and the hidden places of the human mind. The ASO’s exploration of this potent combination will feature music ranging from the blissfully tranquil to the electrifying. These masterpieces profoundly affected the composers who created them, and their magic continues to haunt us today.

The complexities and nuances of “The Music of Dreams” requires music-making of extraordinary sensitivity and panache — we are lucky to have guest artists this season who are renowned for those qualities. The opening weekend concerts will feature the Turtle Island Quartet, which has delighted the world with its fresh and rejuvenating approach to programming and performance. The title of the first piece of their set illustrates their playful and joyful spirit — “Little Mouse Jumps.” I am extremely proud that the second piece in their set, “Force of Nature” — will receive its world premiere with the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra.

The Turtle Island Quartet knows how to mine the power of the subconscious and dreams through the mixing of ideas that are not always apparent on the surface of our consciousness; yet they constantly delight us with their sense of wonder and revelation. Their world premiere performance of “Force of Nature” will give us all the thrill of being a part of the excitement of discovering new and fresh music … and music that relishes in a sense of fun and play!

“An Altered State” concludes with Berlioz’s “Symphonie Fantastique,” arguably the most famous example of music within the realm of dreams. Berlioz provided us with a storyline that utterly shocked the early 19th century and still has the power to shock today. I don’t want to spoil the surprise for those of you who are new to this astonishing piece — it is still able to get under my skin and leave me rattled!

Please join the Turtle Island Quartet and the musicians of the Alexandria Symphony on Oct. 8 and 9 for our “Music of Dreams” grand opening. We hope you will experience the entire season featuring the legendary violinist Midori, clarinetist Richard Stoltzman, organist David Brock and pianists Thomas Mastroianni and Carlos Rodríguez. Together we are the music makers, the dreamers of dreams … See you at the concert!

Kim Allen Kluge
Music Director
Alexandria Symphony Orchestra
Alexsym.org

The Alexandria Symphony is gearing up for a “fantastique” opening weekend featuring Berlioz’s Symphonie fantastique and performances by David Balakrishnan (above) and Mark Summer of the Turtle Island Quartet.

2011-2012 Season

Saturday, Oct. 8, 8 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 9, 3 p.m.
Kim Allen Kluge, conductor
David Balakrishnan, violin and Mark Summer, cello, members of the Turtle Island Quartet
Balakrishnan: Little Mouse Jumps
David Balakrishnan, violin
Balakrishnan: Force of Nature*
Mark Summer, cello
Berlioz: Symphonie fantastique

*world premiere

ASO and Saint-Saëns’s “Organ” Symphony
Saturday, Nov. 5, 8 p.m.
Kim Allen Kluge, conductor
Thomas Mastroianni, piano
Schubert/Lisz: Wanderer Fantasy
Thomas Mastroianni, piano
Saint-Saëns, Symphony No. 3 in C minor, “Organ”

ASO, Richard Stoltzman, and Mozart’s Requiem
Saturday, Feb. 11, 2012, 8 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 12, 2012, 3 p.m.
Kim Allen Kluge, conductor
Richard Stoltzman, clarinet
Alexandria Choral Society
Metropolitan Chorus
Mozart: Clarinet Concerto
Richard Stoltzman, clarinet
Mozart: Requiem

Midori with the Alexandria Symphony
Saturday, March 31, 2012, 8 p.m.
Sunday, April 1, 2012, 3 p.m.
Kim Allen Kluge, conductor
Midori, violin
Mendelssohn: Concerto for Violin
Midori, violin
Stravinsky: Firebird Suite

Alexandria Symphony presents The Planets
Saturday, May 19, 2012, 8 p.m.
Kim Allen Kluge, conductor
Carlos Rodriguez, piano
Rachmaninoff: Piano Concerto No. 2
Carlos Rodriguez, piano
Holst: The Planets

The cool fall weather signals the start of a new season of music by the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra. Entitled “Music of Dreams,” the 2011-2012 season, led by Maestro Kim Allen Kluge, will begin on Oct. 8-9 with the world premiere of David Balakrishnan’s Force of Nature, performed on cello by the composer’s fellow Turtle Island Quartet member Mark Summer. Balakrishnan will perform violin on another of his original compositions, Little Mouse Jumps. Other performers this season include Thomas Mastroianni performing Liszt’s transcription of Schubert’s Wanderer Fantasy on Nov. 5; Richard Stoltzman on Mozart’s Clarinet Concerto Feb. 11-12, and Carlos Rodríguez rounding out the season on May 19 with a performance of Rachmaninoff’s Piano Concerto No. 2.

Repertoire highlights throughout the year include Berlioz’s Symphonie fantastique; Symphony No. 3, Organ by Saint-Saëns; Mozart’s Requiem; Stravinsky’s Firebird Suite; and The Planets by Holst.

ASO’s “Music of Dreams” season will include the return of violinist Midori, who most recently appeared with the orchestra in 2006. In addition to performing Mendelssohn’s Violin Concerto on March 31 and April 1, she will also spend the week of March 26 in the high schools of Alexandria and Arlington as part her Orchestra Residency Program. The ASO was one of two orchestras in the United States personally selected by Midori and her staff for this honor in 2012.

The ASO will also bring back several of its other annual events in 2011-2012: the Children’s Holiday Concert at St. Paul’s in Old Town, Alexandria and the Children’s Arts Festival in spring of 2012. As in past seasons, the Symphony will continue with its $5 youth tickets to all concerts.

All classical subscription concerts will take place at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 3001 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria. Parking is free to all ASO patrons. For more information, visit alexsym.org or call 703-548-0885.
All Day Dining at Bradlee Center

Something is tickling The Wanderer’s nose...is it the wafting aroma of coffee, fresh baked bagels, or lemon bars? Tinged perhaps with the faintest scent of French fries from our favorite Scottish restaurant? Maybe mixed with sushi, kabobs, or roasted chicken?

The answer: All of the Above! Delightful, delectable breakfast, lunch, dinner and dessert in one parking place...heaven on earth!

ATLANTIS PIZZERIA
Great pizza, Greek specialties and burgers. Something for everyone in the family for breakfast, lunch or dinner!
703.671.0250, alexandriaitalianfood.com

KYOTO JAPANESE RESTAURANT
Known for their Sushi Bar with a great selection and delicious Chef’s Specials. They also serve Japanese and Korean dishes.
703.379.8080

ALEXANDRIA PASTRY SHOP & CAFE
The place for birthday cakes, pastries and cookies. Sandwiches, salads and a variety of sides to eat in or take home. Their Christmas gingerbread houses are a holiday favorite!
703.578.4144, alexandriapastry.com

CAPITAL BAGEL BAKERY
Great assortment of bagels, spreads and sandwiches.
703.379.6462

CHICKEN OUT
Local chain serving chicken roasted with their special spice blend and lots of delicious sides.
703.988.8802, chickenout.com

GOLDEN DRAGON RESTAURANT
Chinese, Japanese and Sushi. Dine in or order delivery up until 10:00pm, Sunday-Thursday, 10:30pm, Friday and Saturday.
703.573.8079

MCDONALD’S
The place where lots of little Alexandrian’s have had their first “Happy Meal”!
703.379.0441, mcdonalds.com

SUBWAY
Choose your fresh baked bread and a variety of deli choices from this popular sandwich shop.
703.931.3700, subway.com

STARBUCK’S
You know that Fall has arrived when you get a whiff of the Pumpkin Latte!
703.845.9563, starbucks.com

CRAVE FROZEN YOGURT
Look for them in early November. 24 flavors and over 60 toppings to try!
571.490.8989, cravefroyo.com

Coming Soon!

CAFE SHIRAZ MEDITERRANEAN BAR & GRILL
Planning a mid-October opening, they will be serving grilled kabobs and seafood, authentic Middle Eastern Mezze (small plates) and offering an extensive and affordable wine selection.
703.931.0020

CAFE SHIRAZ MEDITERRANEAN BAR & GRILL
Planning a mid-October opening, they will be serving grilled kabobs and seafood, authentic Middle Eastern Mezze (small plates) and offering an extensive and affordable wine selection.
703.931.0020

Coming Soon!

Photos by Louise Krafft
© Google Map data

Talk of the Town

22 ❖ Alexandria Gazette Packet ❖ October 6-12, 2011 www.ConnectionNewspapers.com
NOW THROUGH OCT. 30
Civil War Walking Tour. Saturdays and Sundays 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Covers the changing role of African Americans on the estate, views on George Washington from the perspective of Union and Confederate supporters, and the Washington-Robert E. Lee connection. At Historic Mount Vernon. These tours are limited in capacity and cost $5 in addition to Estate admission: $15 adults, $7 children (6-11), free for children 5 & under. Visit www.mountvernnon.org or call 703-785-2000.

NOW THROUGH OCT. 31
Alexandria Arts and Crafts Fair. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. every Sunday. Features some of the area’s best artists and artisans and includes jewelry, glass works, ceramics and pottery, hand woven products, and other crafts. At St. George Gallery, 105 North Alfred Street, in the heart of Old Town Alexandria.

NOW THROUGH OCT. 13
Brit Wit. Sundays 5 to 6:30 p.m. Join Maryland Public Television station’s Afternoon Tea lady Heather Sanderson, who will help you explore the unique style of British comedy through hilarious short pieces that will remind you why laughter is the best medicine. At the Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St., Alexandria. Call 703-683-5778 ext. 2.

NOW THROUGH DEC. 19
Tavern Toddler. Mondays between 10:30 a.m. and noon. Cost is $7/group of three. A five-visit pass is $30. A weekly open playtime and a new craft activity each week. At Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal St., Old Town Alexandria. Call 703-746-4242 or visit www.gadsbytavern.org.

SUNDAY, OCT. 9
Musician James Maddock. Will be appearing at the Birchmere in support of the Spinn Doctors on their Pocket Full of Kryptonite 20th Anniversary Tour.

FRIDAY, OCT. 7
“A Most Unlikely Hero” Film. (2003). 7 p.m. The story of Captain Bruce Yamashita’s courageous and inspiring battle against racism and discrimination in the United States Marine Corps. At Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, Hollin Hall Fireplace Room, 1901 Windmill Lane, Alexandria. Call 703-721-0395 or gosuarchen@yahoo.com.

Book Launch. 7 p.m. The Hidden History of Alexandria, D.C., by Michael Lee Pope. How did Alexandria end up as part of the District of Columbia? What went wrong, and why did it leave? Find out as author Michael Lee Pope reveals the “Hidden History of Alexandria, D.C.” at the historic Athenaeum. At the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. info@vafla.org or call 703-548-0035.

SATURDAY, OCT. 8

Slave Memorial Commemoration. 11 a.m. The Mount Vernon Ladies’ Association joins Black Women United for Action to honor the slaves who lived at Mount Vernon with a program and wreathlaying ceremony. The event features dramatic readings, African drumming and uplifting music in recognition of the slaves’ sacrifices and contributions to the early formation of this nation. At Historic Mount Vernon.

“From Florida to Coahuila.” 4:30 p.m. Part of Movies with a Mission Series. At the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St., Alexandria. Call 703-746-4356 or visit www.alexblackhistory.org.

Big Sale. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Habitat for Humanity’s Restore and the Washington Metro Chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers are hosting their fourth annual Big Sale at the Restore, 7770 Richmond Highway, behind Golf’s Gym Alexandria (5 miles outside Beltway on Route 1 South). Designer donated items for sale include wall hangings, fabrics, trim, cabinets, blinds, shades, architectural details, countertops, tile, curtain rods, light fixtures, furniture and much more. All proceeds go to Habitat for Humanity. Contact Joann Manzek, ASID at 703-731-4968.

OCT. 8 TO 9
West End Apple Wine Festival. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cameron Station and Ben Brennan Park are transformed into a destination event featuring more than 90 juried artists; 25 crafters; a “Taste of the West End” tasting the taste buds with culinary delights from 15 ethnic restaurants; a wine garden featuring award-winning DeFries Vineyards and Winery; captivating local entertainment; children’s activities and sponsor booths. Admission: art festival: free; wine garden - $5. Call 703-721-6455 or visit www.westendapplewinefestival.com.

Northern Virginia Handcrafters Guild Fall Festival. Admission is $3. Some 60 juried artists and crafters will be on hand to show and sell their works. Saturday, Oct. 8 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, Oct. 9 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is $3. At Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale Campus, Gymnasium, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Samples of their work can be seen at www.vghg.org.

Turtle Island Quartet with the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra. Saturday at 8 p.m.; Sunday at 3 p.m. With Kim Allen Kluge, conductor. Featuring David Balakrishnan, violin and Mark Summer, cello, members of the Turtle Island Quartet. Tickets are $35/adult; $30/senior; $10/students; $5/youth. Join Colleen Fay for a free preconcert chat one hour prior to each performance in the Concert Hall. Free parking. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 3001 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria. Visit www.alexsym.org or 703-548-0885.

THROUGH OCT. 9
Jamestown Settlement Ship Godspeed. Free. The Godspeed, a re-creation of one of the three See Entertainment, Page 26
Entertainment

‘Movies With a Mission’

The Alexandria Black History Museum is continuing its partnership with SankofaSpirit to share the “Movies with a Mission” program this fall. The screenings are held 4-6 p.m. on the second Saturday of the month through Saturday, Dec. 10, at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe Street, Alexandria. “Movies with a Mission” are free to African and the African Diaspora that seek to inform and inspire dialogue. Screenings will be followed by a discussion and gallery walk. Reservations are requested, as seating is limited. Call 703-746-4356. The following films will be offered:

❖ Oct. 8 — “From Florida to Coahuila.” This film from Rafael Rebollar Corona explores the African legacy in Mexico by focusing on Africans who escaped from slavery in the United States and made their way to the Spanish colony of Florida. There they intermarried with the Seminoles and eventually moved into Mexico, gradually integrating that culture. A fascinating exploration of a cultural identity that transcends the constraints of political borders! (50 minutes)

❖ Nov. 12 — “Standing on My Sisters’ Shoulders.” A missing chapter in our nation’s record of the Civil Rights movement, this powerful documentary reveals the movement in Mississippi in the 1950s and ’60s from the point of view of the courageous women who lived it — and emerged as its grassroots leaders. Their living testimony offers a window into a unique moment when the founders’ promise of freedom and justice passed from rhetoric to reality for all Americans. Interviews and powerful archival footage weave a story of commitment, passion and perseverance and tells the story of the women who fought for change in Mississippi and altered the course of American history forever. (60 minutes)

❖ Dec. 10 — “The Black Candle: A Kwanzaa Celebration.” This landmark, vibrant documentary from M.K. Asante uses Kwanzaa as a vehicle to explore and celebrate the African-American experience. Filmed across the United States, Africa, Europe and the Caribbean, “The Black Candle” is a timely illumination on why the seven principles of Kwanzaa are so important to African Americans today. Narrated by Maya Angelou, it traces the holiday’s growth out of the Black Power Movement in the 1960s to its present-day reality as a global, pan-African holiday embraced by over 40 million celebrants. (71 minutes)

Founded in 2002, Atlanta-based SankofaSpirit is dedicated to providing cultural and educational programs and services that focus on Africa and the African Diaspora. Through its programs and services, SankofaSpirit encourages people of African descent to reconnect with their important legacy. For more information, please visit www.sankofaspirit.com.

The Alexandria Black History Museum is located at 902 Wythe Street in the heart of the Parker-Gray Historic District and is open from Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visit www.alexblackhistory.org or call 703-746-4356.
Throughout October, the Alexandria Archaeology Museum will be offering several programs in conjunction with Virginia Archaeology Month. This year’s statewide theme is “Between the Battles: The Life of a Civil War Soldier,” and many of Alexandria’s activities will explore the Civil War. Visit www.alexandriaarchaeology.org or call 703-746-4399.

SATURDAY, OCT. 1, 10 A.M. TO 11 A.M.
“Bipoints Before Clovis” Lecture. Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 North Union Street, #327. Kick off Virginia Archaeology Month with this free illustrated lecture on the history of bipoint technology. Author and archaeologist William Jack Hruniczky will discuss the bipoint knife, which has sharp points at both ends, and why it is one of the oldest technologies among Homo sapiens. According to Hruniczky, bipoints date back about 25,000 years, predating the Clovis culture. He will also discuss the Cunnar bipoint and the Virginia Norfolk bipoint. Sponsored by the Friends of Alexandria Archaeology (FOAA).

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 5, 7:30 P.M. TO 8:30 P.M.
“A Visual Tour of Civil War Alexandria” Lecture. The Lyceum, 201 South Washington Street. See what Alexandria looked like during the Civil War through the eyes of photographers who documented it! Wally Owen, Assistant Director of Fort Ward Museum and co-author of Mr. Lincoln’s Forts: A Guide to the Civil War Defenses of Washington, will present an illustrated lecture featuring 3-D images and rare photographs, including many that have never been published. Tickets are $10 per person and advance reservations are required. Call 703-746-4994.

SATURDAY, OCT. 8, NOON TO 4 P.M.
Arts Safari & Museum Open House. Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 North Union Street, #327. The Torpedo Factory Art Center hosts its annual Alexandria Arts Safari, a festival of hands-on arts and crafts activities for kids and their families. The Potter’s Art activity presented in the Alexandria Archaeology Museum is designed for kids of all ages. Learn to identify 19th-century Alexandria potters from the designs applied to salt-glazed stoneware pottery, and create your own take-home drawing at this free family event.

SATURDAY, OCT. 22, 1:30 P.M. TO 3 P.M.
Archaeology Day at Shuter’s Hill Site. Grounds of the George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Archaeologists from Alexandria, Mount Vernon, and Fairfax County will offer site tours and hands-on archaeology fun at Shuter’s Hill, once home to an 18th-century plantation and a later estate occupied by Union troops. Find out what discoveries archaeologists have made this year before the site is closed for the season. This event is free but reservations are required, so call 703-746-4399.

THURSDAY, OCT. 27, 6:30 P.M. TO 9 P.M.
Auction and Reception to Benefit Freedmen’s Record Book. Principle Gallery, 208 King Street. Join Alexandria Archaeology at this benefit event to support the Centrabands and Freedmen’s Cemetery Memorial and the historic book of records linked to the cemetery. Proceeds from this reception and silent auction will support the restoration of the original book listing marriages and deaths of hundreds of African Americans who came to Alexandria seeking refuge during and after the Civil War. The extremely fragile book is at the Library of Virginia and must be completely unbound, cleaned, stabilized, and rebound, a process that is estimated to cost more than $1,500. This volume is the only source of the names of the people buried at Freedmen’s Cemetery, names that will appear on the Memorial. Minimum suggested donation to attend the reception is $10.

SATURDAY, OCT. 29, 10 A.M. TO 11 A.M.
“Historic Alexandria” Lecture and Book Signing. Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 North Union Street, #327. Author, historian, and member of the Alexandria Archaeological Commission Ted Pulliam will explore key events and people that make up the Alexandria story, with a special focus on the Civil War. Ted’s lecture will be based on his new book, Historic Alexandria. An Illustrated History, which will be available for purchase and signing following the free lecture. Sponsored by the Friends of Alexandria Archaeology (FOAA).

In addition to the above events, at the Archaeology Museum each Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., explore the Civil War in Alexandria with “Civil War Sundays”: a free showcase of an original, May 26, 1861, edition of the New-York Tribune detailing Colonel Elmer Ellsworth’s death in Alexandria, a Peeps diorama illustrating Ellsworth’s death, a TimeTravelers Passport exhibit featuring the Civil War drummer boy, diorama of a heating system constructed in Alexandria to warm Civil War hospital tents during the winter of 1861, a cocked and loaded Wickham musket discarded in a privy during the 1860s, and an exhibit on the Lee Street Site during the Civil War.

For more information, visit www.alexandriaarchaeology.org.

The Best in Family Dining

The Royal Restaurant offers the best of the best in catering & event locations in Old Town Alexandria & surrounding communities.

Choose from a large array of delicious foods for all occasions - birthdays, weddings, business meetings & other gatherings. The Royal has something delicious for every event.

Beautiful banquet rooms in Old Town & other locations include adjacent parking.

Reserve Now for This Year’s Holiday Parties

An Alexandria community fixture for more than 100 years, the Royal Restaurant offers the best in Greek, Italian and American cuisine. Enjoy burgers, steaks, prime rib, chicken, seafood, pasta and full salad bar complete with special children’s menu items.

734 North Saint Asaph Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314
703-548-1616 • www.theroyalrestaurant.com
Award-winning wine menu • Major credit cards accepted
ENTERTAINMENT
FROM PAGE 23

ships that brought America’s first permanent English colonists to Virginia in 1607, will host public tours. The ship will be docked in Alexandria City Marina on Oct. 4-7, from 3 to 6 p.m.; Oct. 8, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Oct. 9, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. At Alexandria City Marina adjacent to Founders Park near North Union and Queen streets. Visit www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com.

SUNDAY/OCT. 9
Bach Vespers. 5 p.m. At Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2701 Cameron Mill Road, Alexandria. Call 703-549-4766 or visit www.wpc-ale.org.
The Spin Doctors with James Maddock. 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $25. At The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Call 703-549-7500 or visit www.birchmere.com.

TUESDAY/OCT. 11
Christine and David Hagan. 7:30 p.m. NOVA Community Chorus Benefit Recital. Music for one piano, four hands: Brahms, Respighi, Milhaud, Gerhard and Jonathan Kohl. At The Rachael M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Call 703-746-4242 or visit www.birchmere.com.

THURSDAY/OCT. 13
Lynn Holfield. 7 p.m. Tickets are $10. At The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. Visit nfvla.org or call 703-548-5003.

Spanish Wine Tasting. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Focusing on wines from the wines of Spain. Tasting will be led by Wilkinson Wine Cellar; tickets $25/person. At Lee-Fendall House, 1400 N. Meade St., Alexandria. Call 703-746-1705.

FALL FOOD FESTIVAL
Saturday, October 15 • 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Saturday, October 22, 2011 at 8:00 a.m.

The Walk
TO FIGHT BREAST CANCER

To register, visit www.alexacancerwalk.com or call 703-746.5030.

Help raise funds for early detection and education in Alexandria

On-site registration and parking at
AMC Hoffman Center Theatres
206 Swamp Fox Road • Alexandria, Virginia

Special thanks to
Alexandria Gazette Packet

BY KATHARINE BACON

In the News

From Page 23

most of the wine is sold at the winery, with small amounts distributed to 42 retail outlets across the state and 15 on- premise locations.

color of the wine is a deep, dark purple, with hints of blueberry and blackberry.

Second place went to Massey Vineyards, which produced a single varietal wine, Merlot, with a smooth, rich flavor.

Catlett Road vineyard, which has been in operation for 10 years, produces a variety of wines, including a Pinot Noir and a Chardonnay.

The Virginia Wine Festival is held annually in September and attracts thousands of visitors from around the state.

The festival features wine tastings, food sampling, live music, and a variety of other activities.

The festival is held at Lee-Fendall House, an historic mansion in Old Town Alexandria, and is open to the public.

Tickets for the festival are available online, and are $25 per person, which includes admission to the festival and wine tastings.

For more information, visit www.virginiawinefestival.com or call 703-746-4242.
Since 1749, publication of the Alexandria Gazette has ceased on only two occasions. The first was a brief period in 1861, when the city was under British occupation. The second occasion was much more grim and considerably lengthier in duration, prompted by the Union invasion of the city and Col. Wilcox’s demand that Gazette editor Edgar Snowden publish his proclamation of martial law.

Snowden refused. After publishing one last “Extra” edition of the paper, the editor ceased publication altogether rather than consent to the demand. In retaliation, Michigan troops seized the Prince Street office and printed the colonel’s order themselves, demolishing desks in the process while looting bonds and certificates that were stored in the building. And so the city of Alexandria was without a newspaper for five months.

By the beginning of October, Snowden was ready to resume operations. On Oct. 7, he initiated publication of The Local News, a scaled-down version of the Gazette intended to fill the void of news and information that had existed in the city almost half of 1861. From the first issue, it’s clear that Snowden wasn’t sure the venture would succeed. And yet he was determined to do everything in his power to resume the grand old lady.

“This sheet is a temporary experimental one and is issued in the conviction that it is responsive to a public want,” Snowden wrote in the Oct. 7, 1861 issue. “Should this move to be without foundation, the ‘News’ will be discontinued after a few issues.”

The News lasted for more than a few issues, detailing life in occupied Alexandria. There were lists of people who had been married or died as well as accounts of Confederate casualties and where they were laid to rest. Several issues carried entreaties to remember the poor, who had been hit the hardest by the crisis. And then there was war news from the front, reporting the movements of great armies engaged in a deadly conflict that had become bloodier than most had imagined before the first shots were fired at Manassas over the summer.

“No considerable town of Anglo-Saxon people in the world under any circumstances could remain long without a demand for news of the day,” Snowden explained, “the incidents of local life and a medium furnishing a means of communication among the townspeople.”

THE CITY HAD ALREADY experienced quite a number of changes. One was the proliferation of “newsboys,” young men who sold newspapers on the street corners. According to an early edition of The Local News, the newsboys had eclipsed the “steady old carrier” who had been “so un-failing in his rounds, through the snow, set and sleet in the winter and sunshine and dust in the summer.” Perhaps the change represented the passing of an era, ushering out the old man as if it were New Years Eve. The younger set seemed much livelier.

“We have now a throng o’ leaping — chattering — yelling — lads, whose shrill voices at times make the streets resonant with their cries,” he wrote. “The vending of newspapers has become a quite a profitable trade for the lads, and right glad we are of it.”

Business was spotty. As a matter of course, the wholesale line had been completely suspended. Dry goods and grocery merchants were doing a moderate retail trade. Bakers and confectioners were having a brisk time. And eating houses, on a large and small scale, were “well patroned.” News dealers were doing “a lively business,” reflecting a desperate need for any piece of information that could cut the thick fog of war. And yet there was a sense that things would never be the same.

“The numerous carts and drays that traversed the thoroughfares and performed the carrying of the city trade have given way to the ponderous army wagon and somber ambulance and military costumes almost exclusively occupy the sidewalk,” Snowden explained on Oct. 12. “The sound of the Watchman’s horn heard in the town at 10 o’clock at night — since time whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary — now is silenced, the bugle’s signal and drum’s tattoo having taking their time-honored place.”

SNOWDEN’S REFUSAL to publish the order of martial law was not the only clash the editor had with the occupying Union forces. One of the most infamous times happened in February 1862, when St. Paul’s Episcopal Church rector Kensey Stewart omitted the prayer for the Union president. A Union officer demanded he say the prayer, but Steward ignored him.

“The irate officer quickly had Stewart arrested and marched out of the church,” wrote Ted Pullium in the recently released “Historic Alexandria.”

The next day, Snowden editorialized that the incident was an “outrage on Christianity and propriety.” Union soldiers responded by gathering at the newspaper’s headquarters on Prince Street and setting the building on fire. Fortunately, the early file of the paper had been removed, although operations ceased on Feb. 10, 1862. The Alexandria Gazette resumed publication on May 13, 1862 and ran until Oct. 31, 1864, when Snowden announced that he had been arrested by military authorities and that the paper would once again be suspended.

Just as many Alexandrians abhorred the presence of Union soldiers in their city, explained historian Ted Pullium, “many Union soldiers had little desire to be there.” The newspaper resumed publication on Jan. 3, 1865 and has been in continuous publication ever since.

The Gazette House on Prince Street was invaded by Union troops who were unhappy with the newspaper’s editor.

When Edgar Snowden editorialized that Union troops’ behavior at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church was an ‘outrage on Christianity and propriety,’ Union soldiers responded by burning down the newspaper’s building on Prince Street.
Obituary

Shayna Englin of Englin Consulting, LLC, a consulting firm focused on mobilizing supporters for nonprofits, causes and political candidates; Brian Fujito, chief technology officer of Razoo, which helps organizations with online fundraising, and Darell Hammond, founder and CEO of Kaboom!, a not-for-profit which works with communities and corporations to build playgrounds where there are none.

Shayna Englin of Englin Consulting

Englin said, “Think about what it is you’re trying to do. Use the old-fashioned telephone tree. Find leaders to call five people, get them to call five people, etc. Go moderated by U.S. Sen. Mark Warner and featured Shayna Englin of Englin Consulting, LLC, a consulting firm focused on mobilizing supporters for nonprofits, causes and political candidates; Brian Fujito, chief technology officer of Razoo, which helps organizations with online fundraising, and Darell Hammond, founder and CEO of Kaboom!, a not-for-profit which works with communities and corporations to build playgrounds where there are none.

Shayna Englin of Englin Consulting

Englin said, “Think about what it is you’re trying to do. Use the old-fashioned telephone tree. Find leaders to call five people, get them to call five people, etc. Go back to deep organizing — go deep, not broad. You don’t have to be a tech whiz.”

Then Warner asked, “Nonprofits typically fall three years behind in technology. How do you keep up?”

Fujito mentioned how the Three Days of Giving mobilized board members. “These community events bring people together and get training.”

Englin said that you don’t have to be cutting edge on everything. “Pick one thing — for example, LinkedIn.”

“Consumers have different ways of communication,” said Fujito. “You need to give people different options.”

Another Transit Corridor on Duke?

From Page 7

dedicated lanes for 80 to 90 percent of the corridor, using either bus-rapid transit or streetcars depending on the amount of funding available. The other two options would have dedicated lanes on a smaller percentage, between 40 percent and 60 percent, using either bus-rapid transit or streetcars. Opponents worry that keeping the same number of exist-

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Another Transit Corridor on Duke?
rights to land owners or developers in other parts of the City, the Commonwealth or even across state lines where increased development is more appropriate. In return the sellers would forgo any future development rights at these sites and create perpetual conservation easements.

The mechanism of Transfer of Development Rights if implemented here in Old Town, could save the waterfront from exces- sive over development, could create addi- tional open space and parkland along the water, could preserve the economic value of these sites and keep current landowners whole, and could protect Old Town from losing the historic character and quality of life that is the economic magnet that attracts our visitors in the first place.

Joe Demshar
Alexandria

Effect on Businesses
To the Editor:
Wow, it is “déjà vu all over again!” Imag- ine my surprise to see that the topic of ex- tending the hours of the Saturday Farmer’s Market on Market Square has again been raised. I find it hard to believe that the rea- sons the request was not acted on before have changed much: Parking congestion on local streets and lost Saturday morning sales revenue for nearby businesses. My highest sales volume is on Saturday. Many of my customers comment on the trouble they have finding parking near the shop and/or the difficulties they have navigating parking or double parked vehicles around Mar- keter Square.

I am sure a few vendors would like longer hours, but it frets me to think that the rea- sons the request was not acted on before have changed much: Parking congestion on local streets and lost Saturday morning sales revenue for nearby businesses. My highest sales volume is on Saturday. Many of my customers comment on the trouble they have finding parking near the shop and/or the difficulties they have navigating parking or double parked vehicles around Market Square.

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Amanda Lasker
Owner, Gossypia
Alexandria

Many Helped With Project
To the Editor:
Last weekend I completed my Eagle Scout project, rebuilding the main stairs at Beverley Park, aka “The Pit.” I could not have done this without the support of so many people in the community. A huge thanks to the adults who lead Troop 129, their guidance continues to be invaluable. And to all my fellow scout volunteers, my many school and family friends, and to the neighbors of “The Pit,” it was truly a commu- nity effort.

But my biggest thanks is to the great part- nership that I had with the City of Alexan- dria. Jack Browand and his staff at the De- partment of Parks, especially Russell Tay- lor and Derek Claytor, were tremendous supporters in every step of this project. Their continued help throughout made these new steps a reality.

Will Rainey
Life Scout
Troop 129
Alexandria

Why New City Manager Now?
To the Editor:
Now is not the time to hire a new city manager. Recently I have heard rumor that we are about to hire a new city manager. On the City Website we are already past the grace period of 30 days. As citizens have asked with a host of issues, what is the rush? The city manager is hired to carry out the policy direction set by the city council, and we are 13 months from a new city council election. There is no reason to choose someone new who may not be suitable to the next coun- cil.

Kathryn Papp

Rendezvous on the Chesapeake
The Labor Day weekend saw mem- bers of the Northern Virginia Sail and Power Squadron members and friends.

Cruise Chair George Degnon and First Mate Marge (seated) with Northern Virginia Sail and Power Squadron members and friends.

To the Editor:
I have worked with the acting city man- ager Bruce Johnson on the Budget and Fisc- al Affairs Advisory Committee and from what I have observed so far he has been able to continue the program of the current city council. I also know his experi- encing in budgeting, which may be the hallmark of the former City Manager thanks to Bruce. And we are already into a new budget season. Why pull the pitcher going into the seventh inning when he is pitching well, and your team is ahead, as we have been with the recently discovered surplus.

Besides, the current city council does not seem to have heard the waves of protest across the city, so it seems unlikely that they can pick a chief operating officer for our city who will have the confidence of the residents of the city. From the poor deci- sion made on BRAC, voting for the widen- ing of Beauregard against the wishes of most residents, to pushing forward with a waterfront plan that serves no one, I would say, besides fiscal affairs the city is not under- good management.

City Council hires the manager and the city manager hires the head of Parks and Recreation, the head of the Planning De- partment, and other department heads.

The labor manager process be or she will set the direction for many years to come. We have weathered the fiscal storms pretty well, maintaining our bond rating, and keeping our tax rate in line with other jurisdictions. But we are near the peak of our borrowing capacity and the Metro Sta- tion in Potomac Yards will absorb much of the money that could be used for transit around the whole city. Members of this council were on the council that did not seize earlier opportunities to have a metro built sooner and at lower cost. They were on the council that chose to locate PTO be- tween two metros instead of at one. The current council has pushed development that has not lived up to its promise, either to reduce residential property taxes or bring high quality retail.

So unless the mysterious person the coun- cil is hiring is ready not just to ride the wave, but prepared for the perfect storm, let’s wait for a new council. In order to maintain be- ing the authentic and unique place we are getting an award for this week, Alexandria needs a new direction. Until the citizens have a chance to choose that direction with the city council election next fall, it is not time to hire a new manager. We might even want to hire a new manager through a more public process that engages citizens, instead of hiring a consultant to find them. A new city manager must be innovative and cre- ative and ask at every turn, are we just managing to get by or are we managing to create a great city, worthy of the honors bestowed upon us.

Boyd Walker

Not Alone
andria. Our hospital is proud to have as- sisted the City in this event for the past 18 years, which benefits the Alexandria Breast Cancer Walk Fund at Inova Alexandria Hos- pital. It’s allowed us to provide over 5,000 free mammograms to uninsured women or those in financial need since it was estab- lished in 1994. Please help us fight this dis- ease and join us at this family-friendly event. Bring your dog! Registration and other in- formation is available at alexandriaviawga.gov/ TheWalk.

To reach a Breast Care Navigator or sign up for our monthly breast health e-news- letter, “Link to Pink,” go to the Inova Breast Care Institute, at innovabreastcare.org.
West End Firetrap?

“It makes your hair stand on end thinking what could happen out here,” said West End resident Kathy Burns. “We’re talking about a potential disaster here, so people should take this seriously.”

THE THREAT of disaster looms large over the Alexandria Fire Department, which is still grappling to deal with the consequences of a 2007 fire at an 18-story high-rise that injured six firefighters and sent three to the hospital. One Alexandria firefighter spent several days in intensive care and could not return to work for more than a month. The incident was such a catastrophe that the Virginia Occupational Safety and Health agency issued the citation to the Alexandria Fire Department, calling the department’s lack of staffing and equipment a “serious violation.”

“Given the well-documented fire and emergency services capacity issues in both the city and the region,” wrote former City Manager Jim Hartmann in a March 2010 memorandum, “it will be impossible for the (Alexandria Fire Department) to effectively address the issues of WHS/BRAC-133 without degrading our ability to serve city residents, businesses and visitors.”

FOR NOW, the fire chief says, accomplishing the impossible is all in a day’s work. He says the city’s firefighters will respond with the staffing and equipment available, working as hard as they can with what’s currently available. In the future, he expects some relief. The coming months will see city leaders break ground on the new $15 million fire station in the Eisenhower Valley. And a coalition of developers has offered to construct a new $10 million station at the intersection of Beauregard Street and Sanger Avenue in exchange for increased density, a deal that could be jeopardized by resistance to increased density in the West End.

“Development isn’t a magic word,” said Barbara Rowen, a longtime resident of Greenhouse Condominiums. “It involves sacrifice from people who were here before the development.”

Alexandria residents are being asked to sacrifice by the Department of Defense, staffing for only four engine companies. Standing at the center of Station 206, that’s a situation that troubles Chief Thiel.

“At this station there are three firefighters who are trying to staff two pieces of equipment,” said Thiel. “We basically can’t even fill a first-alarm assignment using just Alexandria units because we don’t have this staffed.”

The geography couldn’t be worse. The Washington Headquarters Service is located in the busiest section of the city for emergency calls, an area that is used at full capacity every day. All five of the area medic units are often fully mobilized before noon each day. Because the Alexandria Fire Department has been designated as the “primary fire and emergency services responder” to the Washington Headquarters Service, the lack of staffing at the Alexandria Fire Department presents a war with two fronts for city officials. They need to protect the residents with a department already stretched beyond capacity while trying to extend services to thousands of new Department of Defense employees.

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TWO YEARS LATER, firefighters are still waiting for backup. Currently, none of the city’s fire stations have the minimum staffing outlined in the Routley report. A federal grant paid for 12 new recruits, but they won’t be ready for at least a year. Even then, they’ll be able to provide minimum relief. The coming months will see city leaders break ground on the new $15 million fire station in the Eisenhower Valley. And a coalition of developers has offered to construct a new $10 million station at the intersection of Beauregard Street and Sanger Avenue in exchange for increased density, a deal that could be jeopardized by resistance to increased density in the West End.

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SSSAS boys soccer team off to 7-2 start.

By Jon Roetman
Gazette Packet

Two days after beating rival Episcopal and improving its record to 6-1, the St. Stephen's & St. Agnes boys soccer team found itself facing a two-goal deficit early in the first half of its Sept. 30 matchup with Landon. How did the Saints fall behind so quickly? “We were 6-1 [and] we were cocky,” said Amato. “I’m proud of my team,” he said. “I’m proud of how we fought. The first 10 minutes, we came out flat. That kind of [determined] how the game was going to go. ... I’m not happy we lost, but it was a wake-up call.” The Saints bounced back to beat St. Albans, 1-0, on Oct. 4. Through the first month of the season, SSSAS has outscored its opponents 15-5 en route to a 7-2 record.

Fifth-year head coach Bo Amato credits his team’s winning ways have brought credibility to the program. “I look at the hips and when he puts the ball down, look where he’s looking first,” Amato said, “He takes the pressure off the back of his line or they sit inside their box and ask their defenders to come back all the time.”

Huddleston’s talents were on display against Landon when he saved a penalty kick. “I look at the hips and when he puts the ball down, look where he’s looking first,” Huddleston said about his strategy behind the goal. “When I got here we certainly didn’t have [credibility],” Amato said. “We were the doormat of soccer in Northern Virginia. ... My first year here we lost 13 or 14 games. I had never lost that many games in my life. It was acceptable [but] the kids got used to not liking it.

“I think everybody can deal with losing. The key is if you can go in the dressing room after and look in the mirror. If you gave your best then losing’s OK. But when you don’t leave your best on the field, frankly, you should have never put a shirt on. You just wasted your time; you wasted your parents’ time with all the money that’s being spent. It’s just a waste.”

While Huddleston hadn’t been pressured as much this season, Amato has high praise for his senior goalkeeper. “What he does extremely well is he comes out of his line better than any keeper I’ve ever seen in my entire life as a coach,” Amato said. “He takes the pressure off the back four. I’ve seen some keepers, they sit on their line or they sit inside their box and ask their defenders to come back all the time.”

Amato said Parker Patterson, Oliver Milone and James Bull have also been standouts. Guidry and Bull each have a team-high three goals.

“If it should be my ball, and [Bull is] two yards behind me,” Amato said, “he’s going to find a way to make it his within the rules of the game.”

SSSAS will travel to face Bullis at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 6.

TC Football Falls To Lake Braddock

The TC Williams football team lost to Lake Braddock, 31-14, on Oct. 1, giving the Titans four consecutive losses since beating Wakefield in their season opener. TC is now 1-4, including 0-2 in the Patriot District.

Bishop Ireton Football Remains Unbeaten

The Bishop Ireton football team defeated Pope John Paul the Great, 35-0, on Oct. 1, improving its record to 5-0. The Cardinals have outscored their opponents 159-55 this season.

Against Pope John Paul, quarterback PJ. Zingler completed 9 of 14 passes for 220 yards and three touchdowns. Malcolm Westbrook had five receptions for 156 yards and two touchdowns and Merid outscored their opponents 159-55 this season.

On the ground, Brandon Williams-Price totaled 87 yards in three carries and scored a touchdown. Moses Webb also had a rushing touchdown. Defensive, Justin Paige had two interceptions. Westbrook and Webb each had one. Hudson Sullivan led the Cardinals with eight tackles and Patrick O’Connell finished with six.

Ireton will travel to face Flint Hill at 4 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 7.
**Well Being**

The Doctor Will See You [Right] Now

Concierge medicine offers greater access to physicians and less time in crowded waiting rooms.

By Marilyn Campbell

Gazette Packet

A t one point in her medical career, Dr. Sandy Ibrahim of Fairfax County saw about 25 patients per day. Each patient got less than 15 minutes of her time, even for a physical examination. Ibrahim had little time to develop a doctor-patient relationship, which she said is an essential component of quality health care.

“I put out fires the best I could in the time I had,” said Ibrahim.

In 2008, Ibrahim joined PartnerMD, a membership medical practice with an office in McLean. She now spends a minimum of 30 minutes with each patient during routine office visits and 90 minutes for a physical exam.

“I can sit with them one-on-one, really listen and learn about them,” she said.

Ibrahim is part of a medical trend called concierge medicine. Here’s how it works: patients join a concierge medical practice by paying a membership fee that typically ranges from $900 to $3,600. In exchange, they avoid long waits in crowded waiting rooms and spend more time with their physician during office visits. Their physical exams are more thorough than in many traditional practices and include in-depth screenings and tailored education for disease prevention. Same-day or next-day appointments are also common. In practices such as PartnerMD, patients even have 24/7 access to the physicians and medical staff, including their doctor’s cell phone number and e-mail address.

“Patients [are not] just another medical chart,” said Ibrahim. “Because I have more time to devote to each patient, I can dig deeper into their symptoms.”

Tom Blue, executive director of American Academy of Private Physicians, said that annual exams in a concierge medical practice are more likely to provide early detection of diseases, which can lead to more successful treatments.

“[Concierge medical practices] are able to deliver a more current and modern approach particularly to disease prevention than traditional practices [in part] because [the services] don’t hinge on what isn’t reimbursed [by insurance companies],” said Blue. Most concierge practices accept insurance, and the membership fee is specifically for services that are not covered.

Blue said that although no official tracking of concierge practices is available in the Washington, D.C., area, he estimated that there about 200. Among the largest and most well-known companies offering such services are MDVIP and Privia Health.

Concierge medical practices offer benefits for doctors, too, like a caseload reduction from as many as 3,000 to as few as 600 patients. Dr. Janice Ragland, M.D., a family practice physician with Herndon Family Medicine and former president of the Virginia Academy of Family Physicians says that fewer patients mean a stronger doctor-patient relationship.

“We have so much more paperwork to do because of the insurance companies,” said Ragland, who has chosen to remain in a traditional practice. “Unfortunately, some of the doctor-patient relationship gets lost.”

The salary of family physicians, who are among the lowest-paid doctors, can increase when they transition to a concierge practice. “Often [doctors] have extremely significant debt that they’ve incurred through medical school, and they are looking at how they can make the amount of money they need to pay their bills off,” said Ragland.

Concierge medicine came about in 1996, but the focus on finding innovative strategies to improve doctor-patient relationships is much older. In 1948, executive health programs emerged as a way to benefit both patient and physician. Since that time, other executive health clinics have sprouted up around the country including locally at Virginia Hospital Center in Arlington.

Like in concierge practices, patients pay a fee to join and get extensive, personalized physical examinations that include tests running the gamut from electrocardiograms and stress tests to CT scans and bone density tests. The tests are all performed in one appointment, and the doctor delivers the results to the patient at the end of the session.

“They do in one [visit] what you would need four or five visits to different physicians to accomplish,” said Dr. M. Anthony Casolato, M.D., medical director of Executive Health at Virginia Hospital in Arlington.

“We have so much more paperwork to do because of the insurance companies. Unfortunately, some of the doctor-patient relationship gets lost.”

— Dr. Janice Ragland, MD, Herndon Family Medicine
Announcements

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**Volunteers of America**

Mary Marshall Residence in Arlington will be opening in late October. This new Assisted Living property will house 52 seniors. We are seeking applications for the following positions:

- **Housekeepers full & part time – must**
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Well Being

Dr. M. Anthony Casolaro of Virginia Hospital in Arlington says executive health clinics allow patients to get efficient, personalized attention and early detection of diseases, which can lead to more successful treatments.

More Access

From Page 32

While concierge services replace traditional primary care doctors, executive health services are meant to work in concert with a primary care doctor. Rates at Executive Health at Virginia Hospital in Arlington start at $2,200.

“It is really designed for people [for whom] time is [the] biggest constraint,” said Casolaro.

One such person is Marc Wallace, an Arlington business owner who says he was dissatisfied with the hurried pace of the physical examinations he received from his primary care doctor. At the suggestion of a friend, he tried Executive Health at Virginia Hospital Center.

“I was able to ask [the doctor] any question and not feel pressured like he had to run off to see somebody else quickly,” said Wallace.

Some health care experts say that such personalized services cater to the elite and put additional stress on an already overburdened health care system. Baby Boomers begin turning 65 this year and will require increased medical care. At the same time, the American Academy of Family Physicians says the number of medical students entering primary care is declining, with the current environment driving them into subspecialties like radiology and anesthesiology.

“The med student who is choosing family practice now is pretty much in the single digits per year,” said Len Nichols, Ph.D., director of the Center for Health Policy Research and Ethics at George Mason University. “We’re not even replacing the [family practice doctors] we have, and we don’t have enough now.”

Nichols said the field of concierge medicine is not yet large enough to pose a serious threat to the health care system. In fact, he said there are aspects of the model that health policy experts would be wise to emulate. “I certainly wouldn’t want to nip this innovation in the bud,” he said. “We need to figure out ways to make the clinician’s life more rewarding, and this is one of them.”
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“QUOTE” SEE WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA!
“Gave this dealership a great rating because it was the greatest experience I have ever had at a dealership. John McMillan was exceptional as a salesman. He was able to answer every question and he made me feel like I was special as a buyer. It was truly a great experience and again I cannot say enough about John McMillan, he is truly an asset to Alexandria Toyota.”

Jack Taylor’s ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA 3790 JEFFERSON DAVIS HWY ALEXANDRIA, VA 22305

4.9 / 5 RATING

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McLEAN/Ballantree Farm

Located in prestigious Ballantree Farm, this estate home features an elegant entry level with a grand center hall, formal living and dining rooms; a two-story great room, beautiful mahogany-paneled library, and gourmet kitchen, all of which open to decks and porches overlooking the pool and terraces below. Extraordinary quality of craftsmanship and attention to detail offers luxurious living on four levels of incredible elegance and comfort. Offering seven bedrooms, five and a half baths, five fireplaces and a four car garage, this house is stunning! Showed by appointment only.

Kate Patterson
703.627.2166
www.katepattersonhomes.com
MLS ID# FX7609229

SOUTH ALEXANDRIA 22306

South ALEXANDRIA 22306

Essence of Elegance
Five-bedroom home set on 3/4 acre gated oasis, lush landscaping, crested slate patio, expansive pool, jacuzzi, and deckling provides the perfect escape. 5,650 SF interior is the perfect balance of openness and classic details; chef’s kitchen, great room, six baths, beautiful craftsmanship, well planned and masterfully executed to deliver an entertaining gem.

Chris Robinson
703.898.9922
www.robinsonriggs.com
MLS ID# FX7698868

ALEXANDRIA/Warwick Village

Beautifully Renovated
Welcoming, three-bedroom, two-full-bath, brick townhouse in popular Warwick Village offering elegant kitchen with quartz counters and breakfast bar, open floor plan with living and dining room combo, warm hardwood flooring, spacious rec room and lots of extra storage. Fantastic location, close to shopping, dining, Metro, and all the fun on “The Avenue.”

Jen Walker
703.675.1566
www.jenwalker.com
MLS ID# AX764087

ALEXANDRIA/Cameron Station

Breathtaking Views!!!
Stunning, three-bedroom, three-bath, luxury! Gourmet kitchen, spacious hardwood floors in living and dining rooms, and huge Palladian windows! 22-foot ceilings in master suite, spa bath and walk-in custom closets! Second level loft with enormous walk-in closet! Commuter shuttle to and from Van Dorn Metro. Cameron Station, one of Alexandria’s most sought-after neighborhoods, with 42-acre park, fitness centers, pool, coffee shop, dry clean, and retail too! Minutes to malls and Harris Teeter shopping!

Terri Neff Meinin
292.256.2163
www.terrijohnson.com
MLS ID# AX764097

ALEXANDRIA CITY

Bike to BRAC
This chic, updated home in a quiet, peaceful area is in turn-key condition. Five levels of perfection. Separate living and dining rooms, four bedrooms, two baths, large family room, large rec room, all rooms large. Wood floors sparkle, pretty paint, immaculate yard, two-year-old deck and fenced rear yard, brick porch, steps, and walkway.

Joanne Gunn
703.786.1586
www.joanne Gunn.com
MLS ID# AX7649398

OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA

$1,450,000

One-of-a-kind penthouse in Alexandria home with sweeping views of DC monuments and historic Old Town with an open floor plan offering generous room sizes. Fully updated with gourmet kitchen, custom lighting and sound, master bedroom with luxury bath and steam shower, beautiful baths. Huge wrap around balcony and 24 parking spaces.

Christine Ketetic
703.626.3841
www.christineketic.com
MLS ID# AX766946

OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA

$259,900

Perfect Starter Home
Smart, stylish, two-bedroom condo just off the GW Parkway in North Old Town. Completely updated from top to bottom. This home has everything you are looking for in a convenient location. Walking distance to the GW trails and Old Town shopping and nightlife. Building includes pool and fitness center.

Jessica Richardson
703.864.3438
www.jessicairichardson.com
MLS ID# AX758978

ALEXANDRIA

$399,999

Preston Corner Unit with Balcony
Beautiful, two-bedroom, two-bath condo with two garage parking spaces. Open floor plan, hardwoods throughout, granite and ceramic in kitchen. Building amenities include fitness, party room, rooftop deck, and extra storage. Great Potomac Yard location close to Metro and National Airport.

Joe Lydon
571.216.8713
www.joelydon.com
MLS ID# AX7478789

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