Members of the Special Forces Association Chapter XI Kevin Knapp, Wallace Johnson, George Huff, Lynn B. Mariano and Ray Oden gather at the The Captain Rocky Versace Plaza and Vietnam Veterans’ Memorial on Veterans Day, Nov. 11. The memorial honors the 67 men from Alexandria who either died in Vietnam or remain missing in action.

Honoring Veterans’ Service, Sacrifice

Brig. General (USA, ret.) John W. Nicholson Sr., a West Point graduate and friend of Rocky Versace, opens up his keynote address with the first of many personal stories of how his life crossed with Rocky Versace’s through college and in Vietnam. Nicholson was part of three rescue attempts while Versace was known to be alive and held captive during the Vietnam War.

In tribute and recognition of service, a Green Beret is placed in front of the replica of the Rocky Versace Memorial state.

Eminent Domain Preliminaries

City, Boat Club lay out arguments in parking lot dispute.

By Jeanne Theismann
Gazette Packet

In a likely rehearsal of arguments to be made at next week’s public hearing before City Council, the Old Dominion Boat Club and the City of Alexandria made presentations before a standing room only crowd of more than 100 people Nov. 7 to discuss the potential use of eminent domain to seize the club’s parking lot in Old Town. According to Deputy City Manager Mark Jinks, the use of eminent domain may be necessary to seize the half-acre waterfront lot in order to implement public access to the Potomac River at the site city planners hope to develop as Fitzgerald Square, a park-like area that includes plans for an ice skating rink and additional water taxi docks.

“The city’s goals and the boat club’s goals remain far apart,” said Jinks, who described years of attempts to negotiate a resolution with the club.

Held in the Sister Cities conference room at City Hall, the two and a half hour meeting was called by the Waterfront Commission in an attempt to better understand the outstanding issues between the parties before weighing in with a recommendation of its own at a public hearing scheduled for Nov. 19.

After taking questions from commission representatives, members of the public were allowed to ask questions of Jinks and Boat Club Board of Governors president Eric DeSoto.

In his remarks to the commission, DeSoto outlined the club’s offer to provide a public walkway.

Brig. General (USA, ret.) John W. Nicholson Sr. shares a story with Rocky Versace’s brother Dr. Stephen Versace.

Transportation Visionary Murdered

Police find body of Ron Kirby with multiple gunshot wounds at his house in Rosemont.

By Michael Lee Pope
Gazette Packet

Rosemont became the scene of a murder this week when one of the region’s leading transportation experts was found dead in his home on Elm Street. Alexandria police say Ron Kirby, 69, died of multiple gunshot wounds.

“Rosemont is a very safe neighborhood,” said Ashley

See Kirby. Page 7
Open Sunday, November 17, 2-4 pm
So You Can be Home for The Holidays!

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Exquisitely maintained home! Marble foyer entrance. The renovated kitchen offers granite counters, stainless steel appliances and new cabinets. Deck located off the kitchen. Living room has a gorgeous bay window and family room a cozy gas fireplace. All bathrooms have been updated. Master with full bath and walk-in closet. Amazing finished lower level with den, recreation room, fifth bedroom and bar. Walk-out to patio and large quiet yard. Located near Interstate access, area schools, Old Town and more! Offered at $1,095,000.

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Remembering Inman

The past few weeks have been difficult for members of the Alexandria City Council, who have been mourning the loss of former Councilwoman Lois Walker and former Vice Mayor Mel Bergheim. This week brought yet another loss, former Vice Mayor Marlee Inman, the first Republican woman elected to the Alexandria City Council.

“Our prayers and condolences are extended to the Inman family,” said Mayor Bill Euille during Tuesday night’s council meeting, calling for a moment of silence in her honor.

First elected to the City Council in 1979, Inman became vice mayor in 1985. The following year, she resigned to get married and move to South Carolina.

“She was a pioneer of Republican politics in the city,” said Chris Marston, former chairman of the Alexandria City Republican Committee.

Delinquent Taxpayers

As the old saying goes, there’s only two certainties in life, death and taxes. At Alexandria City Hall, there’s one more certainty. Those who don’t pay their taxes will find themselves in trouble.

This week, members of the Alexandria City Council authorized City Manager Rashad Young to advertise delinquent tax listings greater than $1,000. According to a list released by city officials, Marpech Investment Group on Colvin Street has the largest unpaid bill, owing Alexandria more than $137,000. Other delinquents on the list include Soung or Eun Lee on South Fayette Street ($43,000), Juanite Lyles and Thomas Owen on Duke Street ($35,000) and A.J. King Properties ($34,000) on King Street.

Childish Ideas

Do you have an opinion about what should happen to the children of Alexandria? City officials want to hear from you.

A draft edition of the Children and Families Master Plan has been posted to the city’s website, and Alexandria leaders want to hear from citizens. The public comment period comes at a time when the Alexandria School Board is seeking to hire a new superintendent of schools, yet another process that involves public input. Alexandria leaders say they want to hear from residents on both issues, and they say issuing feedback is as easy as sending an email.

“I would encourage people to do so,” said Councilman Tim Lovain during Tuesday’s City Council meeting.

Headcount at Schools

Speaking of Alexandria children, the final enrollment numbers for this year are in — and they are showing yet another increase in enrollment for the city’s crowded classrooms. The total is 13,562 students, an increase of 530 individuals.

“The good news is that overall, our projection was under 0.97 percent,” said Councilman Justin Wilson, who serves on the long-range educational facilities group. “So we were pretty much right on target.”

The numbers show a slight decrease in the number of kindergarten students entering the system, a surprise to school officials who have seen those numbers steadily growing in recent years. On the flip side, ninth grade enrollment was larger than expected.

“So what you’re saying is that kids are not going to Kindergarten,” joked the mayor. “They are going right into the ninth grade.”

“They are so advanced, they are skipping right to ninth grade,” responded Wilson.

— Michael Lee Pope

NEWS

Dry Mouth

When Cheesetique became so popular that owner Jill Erber expanded from a retail operation to a restaurant, she didn’t realize that her wine tastings would become outlaw affairs. But that’s exactly what happened. A few months ago, Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control chief operating officer Curtis Coburn issued a letter informing wholesale wine and beer licensees that they are not permitted to participate in tasting events.

“At a recent meeting attended by wine and beer wholesale licensees, the question was addressed to members of the bureau’s compliance unit concerning the legality of wholesale licensees participating in wine dinners sponsored by retail licensees,” Coburn wrote. “Those in attendance of this meeting were advised that wholesale licensees or their employees where not permitted to participate in these types of events.”

Since that meeting, a firestorm has erupted in the wine community. Retail outlets such as Wine Planet in Del Ray are fine. But a growing number of restaurants that also have retail operations are the target of regulatory agents. Here in Alexandria, that list includes Cheesetique, Society Fair and Grape + Bean. Unlike wine shops or grocery stores, these establishments run afoul of 1930s-era legislation designed to prohibit alcohol consumption. “We are committed to ensuring that there is equal access to these opportunities,” said Kristian Havard, director of government affairs for the Virginia Hospitality and Travel Association. “This certainly is an initiative of high importance for us.”

VIRGINIA’S LIQOUR laws date to the end of prohibition, when the state created a monopoly on the sale of distilled spirits, which can be purchased only in state-owned institutions. That’s when a series of rules were created to limit alcohol consumption. One of the rules, for example, was that restaurants were forbidden from mixing wine and spirits. That made sangria illegal until state Sen. Adam Ebbin (D-30) introduced legislation to change the rules. “It was clearly an antiquated law that needed to be done away with,” said Ebbin, who is now involved with the effort to change law regulating wholesale sales.

Ebbin is working with Del. David Bulova (D-37) and Del. Rob Krupicka (D-45) to change the existing law to provide more flexibility. Draft legislation is still being crafted at this point, but the general idea is to allow establishments such as Cheesetique, Society Fair and Grape + Bean to allow wine tastings without fear of a regulatory crackdown. “A number of these places have been breaking the law for years, quite frankly,” said Krupicka.

“Fixing it requires a change in state code.”

CHANGING THE COMMONWEALTH’S liquor laws can be challenging, though, as Ebbin’s experience with sangria proves. Conservative legislators from across Virginia frequently oppose any legislation that might provide more opportunity for people to drink alcohol. Then there’s potential opposition from wineries and retail establishments that have a competitive advantage under the current law.

“It’s a twofold fix,” said Havard. “We have to fix it in the General Assembly, and then once we have the legislation we also work with the ABC board to ensure that the regulations properly interpret the legislation.”

Changes to Virginia liquor laws often involve balancing the interest of three distinct groups — producers, distributors and retailers. Each has its own business interest in any proposed legislative change, and each would likely have lobbyists closely monitoring the conversation. That’s why legislators are trying to be proactive to figure out how a bill might be crafted to gain support. “Tastings blur the lines between producers, distributors and retailers,” said Krupicka. “If not managed properly, folks might feel like they are not being treated properly.”

Regulators crack down on wine tastings at retail establishments that have restaurants.

Celebrating Farm to Table Week

Students at George Mason Elementary School took turns harvesting sweet potatoes from the outdoor classroom gardens last week as part of “Farm to Table Week.” After digging up the bright orange potatoes from the garden plot, the students washed and dried the potatoes. On Nov. 7, the sweet potatoes were roasted and each student was able to sample a taste during lunch.

The Children’s Gardens at Alexandria City Public Schools are outdoor classrooms where students extend their learning to the natural world. Children learn about plant needs and plant parts while tracking the growth of vegetables.

— Michael Lee Pope

— Wendy Sparrow

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— Michael Lee Pope

— Wendy Sparrow
**News**

**Keeping Kids Warm**

Firefighters distribute 2,200 coats to children in need.

*By Jeanne Theismann
Gazette Packet*

Future First Lady of Virginia Dorothy McAuliffe joined Fairfax County Fire Chief Richard Bow-ers Oct. 30 at Penn Daw Station 11 as the Firefighters Coats for Kids program.

“We started this in Northern Virginia and now it has spread to over 50 other fire departments and unions throughout the country.” Spearheaded for several years by Bailey and members of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, this year’s coat drive is the third since joining forces with the Pennylvania-based nonprofit Operation Warm and focused on distributing coats that were made in the U.S.A.

“By collecting and purchasing coats that were made in America, we helped save over 200 jobs in the U.S.A.,” Bailey said.

Primo’s Restaurant provided food for the dozens of retired firefighters and volunteers who gathered before dawn to sort through the coats and prepare them for distribution to representatives of 60 area schools and nonprofit organizations.

Additional sponsors of the coat drive include Local 2068, Progressive Firefighters of Fairfax County, Kilroy’s Restaurant & Sports Bar, Apple Federal Credit Union, Fire & Rescue Retirement Association, Fairfax County Federation of Teachers, Service Employees International Union-VA 512, Rotary Club of Tysons Corner, Nationwide Credit Corp., Promax Realtors, ACT for Alexandria, Modern Tech Solutions, Alexandria Pest Services and Rutherford of Alexandria.

“This is a wonderful program,” said ACT for Alexandria Executive Director John Porter. “Combined with Operation Warm, Coats for Kids has exceeded all expectations in providing coats to children in Alexandria and throughout Fairfax County.”

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9:00am to 11:00am
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Www.stmschool.org

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People

Laura Lawler, center, is presented the Campagna Center Founder’s Award Sept 24 by the Athenaeum by board chairman Jay Beckhorn and CEO Tammy Mann.

Lonnie Rich, left, accepts the Campagna Center Board Service Award from Jay Beckhorn, chairman of the board of directors, and CEO Tammy Mann.

Campagna Center Honors Supporters

Lawler receives volunteer award.

By Jeanne Theismann Gazette Packet

The historic Athenaeum was the setting for the 2013 Campagna Center Donor Reception that recognized the service of several individuals for their commitment to the organization.

Longtime volunteer Laura Lawler received the Founder’s Award, established in 1987 to honor the dedicated service and commitment of George and Marion Galland. The award recognizes a member of the Campagna Center organization for his or her faithful service.

“Laura has been involved with the Center for decades as a Junior Friend, Supporting Friend, Finance Committee Member, and currently serves as treasurer,” said president and CEO Tammy Mann. “We are very grateful for her dedication and service.”

The Institute for Defense Analysis was honored as the Community Partner of the Year for its nearly eight-year support of the Building Better Futures Program. Building Better Futures provides over 40 tutors and mentors each academic year in support of immigrant and low income students at T.C. Williams High School.

“The program is celebrating 10 years of service and has reached nearly 1,000 young people since its founding,” Mann said. IDA staff members Keith Green and Daniel Wright were on hand to receive the award.

The Board Service Award was presented to Lonnie Rich and Bob Bell, who was unable to attend the ceremony.

For more information on the Campagna Center and its programs, call 703-549-0111 or visit www.campagnacenter.org.
J ustices of the Virginia Supreme Court have rejected the argument City Attorney James Banks outlined during oral arguments back in September that the city has the ability to lease a public alley to a private business. At issue in the case is Wales Alley, which members of the Old Dominion Boat Club say they have a right to use dating back to the 18th century. When members of the Alexandria City Council leased the alley to Virtue restaurant in 2010, the club filed a lawsuit. During oral arguments back in September, the justices seemed to indicate the city didn’t have much of a case.

“Our argument is premised on something that is not correct,” Chief Justice Cynthia King told Banks at one point. “You haven’t told us how the easement gets swept up.”

Banks tried to make the case that the city dedicated the alley a public street by actions if not by explicit action. Under the city attorney’s theory, the private rights was extinguished in the 1970s when city officials began clearing snow, filling potholes and issuing parking tickets. Last week, justices issued an opinion rejecting that argument: “Because the conversion of Wales Alley to a public street did not result in a cessation of the purpose for which the easement was granted, ODBC’s easement over Wales Alley was not extinguished when Wales Alley became a public street.”

THE STORY of Wales Alley dates back to 1789, a few years before Alexandria became part of the original District of Columbia. It was originally called Fitzgerald Alley in honor of Alexandria Mayor John Fitzgerald, one of the major landowners in the city. By 1786, people started calling it Wales Alley when Andrew Wales started selling beer there. Three years later, Fitzgerald and Maryland businessman Valentine Peers divided their holdings, securing a deed that allowed for “free use and passage of the several streets and alleys.”

That deed, now held by the Old Dominion Boat Club, was at the heart of the legal case. For leaders of the Boat Club, the fight to keep Wales Alley open is only one of a series of disputes with city officials, who are currently threatening to use the power of eminent domain against the club to accomplish the goals of the city’s waterfront plan. That ongoing feud was part of the debate in 2010 when a majority of City Council members approved a lease to Virtue restaurant.

“The citizens of Alexandria and the Old Dominion Boat Club spent hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal fees to find out the city attorney was incorrect,” said former Republican City Councilman Frank Fannon, who is a member of the Boat Club. “We need to have a city attorney who will tell the City Council what the law is, not what the majority of City Council members want it to be.”

— Former City Councilman Frank Fannon

Virginia Supreme Court rules against city in fight with Old Dominion Boat Club.

City loses Wales Alley Case

City, Boat Club Lay Out Arguments in Parking Lot Dispute

Representatives of the Old Dominion Boat Club and the City of Alexandria give a presentation to members of the Waterfront Commission Nov. 7 as part of the ongoing debate over the use of eminent domain to seize the club’s Old Town parking lot.

Doug Gosnell said to Jinks in a reference to the popular real estate board game Monopoly, “So you may need to give up Pennsylvania Avenue to get to a resolution that works for everyone.”

The Waterfront Commission will vote on a recommendation for City Council at its regularly scheduled meeting Nov. 19 at 7:30 p.m. The public hearing to discuss the use of eminent domain begins that night at 6 p.m. and documents presented by both sides to the commission are available for viewing at www.alexandriava.gov/Waterfront.
Welcome to the 30th Argyle Ball

Piper Samuel Potter led more than 100 Scottish Country dancers in a grand march to officially open the 30th Argyle Ball on Saturday evening, Nov. 9. The ball was held in the gym at the St. Stephens St. Agnes lower school in Alexandria.

The Argyle Ball is an annual event for members of the Royal Scottish Country Dancing Society, Northern Virginia Branch. This year’s Argyle Weekend hosted a variety of activities for members and guests that included a welcome dance Friday evening, technique and social classes on Saturday before the ball, a potluck brunch on Sunday along with a specialty dance class with Ron Wallace and a fiddle workshop with special guest fiddler from Scotland Paul Anderson. For more information on the dancing society visit http://www.rcds-greaterdc.org/

Bryan and Irene McGee, Maria Ward, Colin Campbell, Ball chair Eva Lanyi, emcee Jay Andrews and dance instructors Elaine Brunken and Ron Wallace.

Photos by Louise Kraft Gazette Packet

A Reward for Serving

Operation Enduring Opportunity benefits veterans.

By Phillip Johnson Gazette Packet

On a chilly Tuesday morning, Nov. 5, U.S. Navy veteran Wade Franklin opened up the doors of his new small business at 3033 Wilson Blvd. in Arlington. He and his staff usually greet the incoming customers of the veteran-owned and operated UPS store with a smile and courteous customer service, but today was different. Instead representatives from various agencies were there to mark the anniversary of the launch of Operation Enduring Opportunity.

Like most veterans coming out of the Armed Forces, Franklin was faced with a transition from military to civilian. In these difficult economic times, with the exception of Starbucks, UPS and a few others, employment in the private sector that provides both competitive pay and benefits is a precious commodity. For many, the military is one of the few good options; one gets a traditional pension after a 20-year career, and there are several options for those serving as few as six years. The economic downturn has placed these benefits on the chopping block as well. Some programs, which benefit veterans like Wade Franklin, may not even exist in a few years time.

"It’s an excellent opportunity for those transitioning, it’s a resource to educate," Franklin said, referring to the variety of programs offered for veterans.

U.S. Navy Veteran Wade Franklin owns and operates a UPS store in Clarendon thanks to the program VETFRAN.

Franklin doesn’t receive a pension from his military service. There are benefits, other than a pension, that provide the support needed for veterans to stay afloat and move forward, including the new G.I. Bill, the program that provides veterans and their families with a paid pathway to higher education and certifications, and VETFRAN to name two.

"I learned about this program called VETFRAN, and it was an opportunity to work for yourself, it educates you on what franchising is and the programs offer incentives as well," Franklin said. "The incentive I have is that my franchise fee was waived and that expense, See Program, Page 32
More than 300 guests turned out Nov. 2 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Stop Child Abuse Now (SCAN), raising a record-breaking $95,000 for child abuse prevention programs.

Held in the atrium of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, the 11th annual Toast to Hope featured a special check presentation to SCAN founder Dave Cleary by board alumni and former executive directors who collectively donated more than $25,000 to honor SCAN’s 25th anniversary.

Dave and Carol Cleary and The Katz Family were lead sponsors of the event that featured tasting samples from more than 12 local businesses including Tempo Restaurant, Dishes of India, Virginia Imports and Forge Brew Works. Other sponsors included Burke & Herbert Bank, Creative Elegance Interiors, McEnearney Realtors and Diversified Construction & Handyman Services. Wendy Albert and Tempo Restaurant received the evening’s Culinary Award, which was voted for by attendees and presented by Domin- ion Power. “An investment in SCAN is an investment in a child’s future,” said SCAN executive director Sonia Quinonez, who noted that all proceeds will benefit SCAN’s child abuse and neglect prevention programs, including parent education, public awareness and the Alexandria/Arlington Court Appointed Special Advocate Program. For more information, call 703-820-9001 or visit www.scanva.org.
Proof Every Vote Matters

Elections have consequences, including close races.

Tuesday morning, a full week after an Election Day that included races that were more suspenseful than anticipated (and also many races that were forged conclusions), we are probably more than a month away from certifying the winner of the Virginia Attorney General race.

At press time, the State Board of Elections reported, unofficially, that Mark Herring (D) had 1,103,610 votes with 49.89 percent of the vote; Mark Obenshain (R) had 1,103,493 votes with 49.88 percent of the vote. The 5,152 write-in votes are huge in a race that at one point had Obenshain ahead by 15 votes.

The process of canvassing or verifying the vote has been revealing, including a malfunctioning voting machine that had more than 2,000 votes uncounted in Fairfax County, a voting machine in Richmond that hadn’t been counted at all and many smaller errors. Human error and computer error are to be expected.

It will make a difference which man is elected as Attorney General. The current Attorney General, Ken Cuccinelli, demonstrated the influence that office can exert on many fronts, from academic freedom and scrutiny to the challenge of health care reform to implementation of environmental regulations to investigations of the household staff of the Governor's mansion. Del. Tom Rust (R) won reelection by just 57 votes, with 50.1 percent of the vote over Jennifer Boysko with 49.74 percent. Del. Barbara Comstock (R) won reelection with 50.64 percent of the vote over Kathleen Murphy (D) who received 49.19 percent, a margin of less than 500 votes. All results are still unofficial.

Consider another close race, in November 2007: then state Sen. Ken Cuccinelli (R-37) won re-election by less than one-half of a percent point, with an edge of just 92 votes out of 37,185 ballots cast, beating Democrat Janet Oleszek. Approximately 32 percent of registered voters in the 37th District cast ballots at the polls in that election.

Retiring Del. Jim Scott was elected in 1991 with a margin of a single vote. Just a few of many examples that prove that every vote really does matter.

— Mary Kimm,
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Letters to the Editor

Eminent Domain Affects All

To the Editor:

Next week the Alexandria City Council will hold a public hearing to discuss eminent domain on a private property owner in Alexandria. This should be a concern for every property owner in Alexandria institution with 750 members.

The Old Dominion Boat Club has owned this property since the 1930s and has been paying its property tax bill since then to fund our city government. Property owners represent less than 50 percent of the population of the city and pay the majority of the bills that the City Council continues to incur.

The facts are simple: The Boat Club owns the land. The city wants it, and can take it with your tax dollars. The club is willing to work with the city on improvements but wants to retain ownership and do a long term deal so a future City Council does not come and try to take their remaining land.

Last year 75 percent of Virginia voters supported a Constitutional Amendment for stronger eminent domain laws to protect property owners from the abuse of government. Unfortunately the current City Council, due to partisan politics and changing election dates to eliminate opposing views, is on the verge of being the first municipality in Virginia to test the new eminent domain laws.

Next week's hearing is not about the Old Dominion Boat Club. It is about the abuse of power and overreach of the Alexandria City government. If the City Council will do this to a prominent Alexandria institution with 750 members, it will do it to any property owner whose property they covet. If you are concerned with the actions of this City Council being led by an aggressive city attorney, please attend and speak at the hearing on Nov. 19. The meeting commences at 6 p.m. at City Hall. If you are not able to attend and speak, please voice your concerns online by going to Alexandriava.gov/Council or calling City Hall, 703-746-4500.

Sunny O’Malley,
Alexandria

TC Advances To Playoffs

To the Editor:

Last week you published a letter from an enthusiastic but not well-informed T.C. fan about last Saturday's football game between the Titans and West Potomac High School. (The writer incorrectly said both teams had identical 6-3 records. Not so! T.C. was 6-3, but West Potomac was only 4-5.) I am happy to correct myself. With a fine 24-14 win, the Titans, now 7-3, advance to the playoffs for the first time since 1991.

That’s the good news. The bad news is that the Titans play South County down at Lorton this Friday night; Nov. 15, at 7:30. Back on Oct. 12 South County beat the Titans in a well-played barn-burner at Parker-Gray Stadium. Come on down. I’m sure the Titans will continue to make us proud.

— Mike Oliver
k.mike@comcast.net

Senior Services Recognized as One of the Best

Senior Services of Alexandria celebrated its designation as one of the best community-based charities in the 2013-14 edition of the Greater Washington Catalogue for Philanthropy - a Guide to Giving with a special appreciation luncheon at Fort Myer’s Officer Club on Nov. 6. SSA’s President Gregory Murphy, Esq. highlighted ways that SSA serves Alexandria’s senior population. For more, visit www.catalogueforphilanthropydc.org.

SSA’s Deputy Director Donna Walker James and Mayor Bill Euille.

U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (left) and SSA’s President Gregg Murphy.
OPINION

To Congress: Protect the Charitable Deduction

… Or Alexandria will suffer.

By John Porter
Executive Director
ACT for Alexandria

The recent fiscal turmoil in Washington serves as a poignant reminder of the important strength and stability of America’s charitable sector. When political indecision forced the stoppage of many programs and services, nonprofits, once again, stepped up to help those in need in communities throughout the country. Community foundations, like ACT for Alexandria, were part of this lifeline.

As the government returns to normal and as we celebrate Community Foundation Week, Nov. 12-18, it’s important to be reminded of the value of both community foundations and nonprofits in general to our nation’s success.

That said, Congress is about to consider federal tax reform that could cut or limit incentives for charitable giving, specifically the charitable tax deduction. That choice has broad ramifications that could hurt our community and thousands of people who rely on programs and services provided by our nonprofits.

Let’s be clear. The charitable deduction is not about donors — it’s about what donors’ dollars do to aid those in need. Elimination or reduction of the charitable deduction will have significant consequences for our community. Consider these:

❖ For Alexandria’s Underserved (the homeless, battered women, hungry children): Nonprofits continue to face an increased demand for services — became more dramatic with the recession and recent government shutdown — and with dwindling dollars to assist with this demand. They are asked to do more with less. ALIVE!, a local agency which provides food to Alexandrians in need, noted a significant increase in people in need of food from a pre-recession average of 1,600 people per month to over 2,100 people per month in 2013 — a 35 percent increase. At the same time, the cost of food has grown substantially for ALIVE! mainly due to the decrease of free items from the USDA food program which must now be purchased.

❖ For Alexandria’s Workforce: The nonprofit sector in Alexandria employs more than 10,000 people, almost 11 percent of Alexandria’s workforce. Statewide, nonprofits employ nearly 20 times as many workers as the state’s utilities industry, five times as many as the state’s information industry and three times as many as the state’s finance and insurance industry.

❖ For Alexandria’s Economy: Nationally, nonprofits — some of the largest are based right here in Alexandria — generate billions each year in economic activity through goods, services and wages. Nonprofits are a major economic force in our community. Statewide, nonprofits generate nearly $1.3 billion in state and federal tax revenue.

❖ For Alexandria’s Future: If the charitable tax deduction were reduced or eliminated, nonprofits will lose their ability to effectively provide food, shelter, educational support, health services and more — all vital components of a thriving community. Conservative estimates indicate that even limiting or “capping” the charitable tax deduction could drastically reduce charitable giving by $5.6 billion each year nationally. Other estimates are twice that amount. Either way, dramatic reductions in charitable giving would seriously impede the ability of nonprofits that provide crucial “on the ground” services to those most in need in our community.

It’s clear. Millions of Americans depend on a network of highly effective, compassionate organizations across the country that provide jobs, economic development, food, shelter, places of worship and countless other services. Nearly all depend on charitable giving for their survival.

The 2012 Giving USA report states that more than 80 percent of the nearly $229 billion in individual philanthropy was from taxpayers who itemized their charitable contributions — and receive a charitable deduction. Without this incentive, would they give? Would they give as much? One thing is for certain — lawmakers shouldn’t experiment with the charitable tax deduction when so much is at stake.

John Porter is the executive director of ACT for Alexandria, Alexandria’s community foundation.
The Last Frontier of Civil Rights: Adults with Developmental Disabilities

The Beatley Central Library at 5005 Duke St., will host a discussion on the lives of today’s adults with developmental and intellectual dis-
abilities on Wednesday, Nov. 20 at 2 p.m. The discussion will focus on the concept of person-
centered care, what Department of Justice rules and the latest civil rights case mean for Virginians with developmental disabilities and what it means to live, work, play and worship in the community and be part of the commu-
nity.

Speakers include Paul Weater, one of the founders of Sheltered Homes of Alexandria and currently regional executive director of Servicesource and Bernice Lewis, director of ID Residential Services for the City of Alexandria.

Living Life Their Way

By Mary Anne Weber
Chair, Anti-Stigma Hope
Campaign of the Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria

I n August a judge in Newport News made history when he ruled that a woman with Down Syndrome can live the life she wants. It’s been 50 years since President John F. Kennedy signed the two laws that were to begin the revolution in mental health care, 45 years since Virginia began the system of Community Service Boards to oversee men-
tal health care in communities, nearly 40 years since President Gerald Ford signed the Education for All Handicapped Children Act, popularly known by advocates as pub-
lic law 94-142, yet the struggle to recognize adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities as citizens with rights like ev-
eryone else still goes on.

That war, like every civil rights war, has been fought on three fronts in the legisla-
tory, despite the many textbooks that give
tions growing from Bristol, England, reached her des-

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Despite the fierce opposition of many school officials and citizens to having chil-
dren with disabilities in their schools and despite neighbors rallying against group homes and treatment centers in their neigh-
borhoods, things did change. Today the great majority of people with developmen-
tal disabilities live in their communities not in institutions. It started with the law but also with the stubbornness of mothers and fathers who said no to the experts and in-
sisted on caring for their children at home.

They argued with educators who desired that they were not “babysitter” edu-
cated their neighbors and formed their own advocacy associations. While some states had had “special education” in place since the turn of the 20th century, if not earlier, others had to change their systems to ac-
commodate a new world.

We now have a generation of adults who have lived with their families, gone to public schools for the most part, taken part in recreation programs and camps, although often segregated, gone to concerts, plays, movies and restaurants, even played sports. But that is not enough.

In too many cases, their lives have been segregated. They have been educated in separate classrooms, sometimes separate schools. Recreation is separate as are camps, sports, even vacations. Not that this is al-
ways bad. It is just that a child outgrows training wheels so those with disabili-
ties grow up to be adults with wants, needs and dreams of their own.

All too often they are thwarted. Employ-
ment prospects are often limited. Sheltered workshops may not offer marketable skills and often pay sub-minimum wages. They can be isolating and a resident can move from group home to sheltered workshop and back again without ever interacting with residents in the community. They may not be consulted as to what they want to do with their day, what they want to eat or wear or what to do for fun.

One day we might be able to say this for this. The old philosophy was that people of limited in-
tellectual ability were simple, childlike and must be treated like children and told what was good for them. When institutions in the 1960s and ’70s and beyond were under court orders to empty out, the group homes were larger and run like mini-institutions often because those who ran and staffed them had worked in institutions. They were not mean or abusive or uncaring, they just ran their facilities for the sake of the insti-
tution and the staff, not the people who lived there.

In the beginning it probably even worked. Those coming to the group homes had been in institutions. Now they lived in newer, prettier, quieter places, they might have their own room or just one roommate instead of sleeping on award with a bed and locker their only possessions.

But there was that new generation who grew up with mom and dad and brothers and sisters, who went to public school and who were taught to choose. They insisted on a say in what they did, where they lived, the books they read, the movies they watched. They were not happy in a regi-
mented group home or regimented activi-
ties. And then in Virginia along came Jenny Hatch who said no to the group homes she was put in, no to the jobs. She wanted to find her own job and she did. Eventually it went to court and Jenny won.

She wasn’t the first to say no. There was a young woman in another state who just like Jenny had been brought up to be inde-
pendent. She said no to a group home and got to share an apartment with two other girls, the same kind of thing, any young woman just out of school might do. She wasn’t so successful at a job. Her ser-
vice agency found her one stocking shelves, two bus rides away from her apartment, two hours a day of travel for a four-hour job.

One day she came from the bus stop she saw a sign for help in a florist’s window and went inside to talk to the couple who owned the place. They were impressed with her knowledge of flowers and her sense of design and color and offered to teach her whatever she needed to know. She was hired on the spot and went home to call her mother to announce the change. She had a job that paid better, was walking dis-
tance from her home and a place she could learn something. No one could argue with that.

In other cases, parents annoyed with the limited possibilities, found employment with family friends or relatives or in one case quit their jobs and their own business so their adult daughter could have a job that made use of her skills.

All of these changes would remain anec-
dotes, isolated incidents if it weren’t for an-
other change. Along with new laws and court decisions came a change in attitude, an acceptance that “... (It was a) so-

The Wizard live in city residential pro-
grams that assist adults with intellectual disabilities to develop community relation-
ships and connections. The Shooting Starks is a team of staff from the Department of Community and Human Services coached by
Director Michael Gilmore.

Bellefonte Wizards
Vs. Shooting Stars

Come see the Bellefonte Wizards as they take on the Shooting Stars of the Depart-
ment of Community and Human Services for the fourth annual basketball game at the Cory Kelly Rec Center, 25 West Reid Ave., on Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. The Wizards will attempt to add to their three-year winning streak while the Stars will try to average their losses and finally send Coach Gilmore home as a winner of the Gilmore cup.

The Wizards live in city residential pro-
grams that assist adults with intellectual disabilities to develop community relation-
ships and connections. The Shooting Starks is a team of staff from the Department of Community and Human Services coached by
Director Michael Gilmore.
Kirby Murdered

From Page 1

Hildebrandt, spokeswoman for the Alexandria Police Department. “There’s relatively no crime there.”

Kirby, a longtime Alexandria resident, was director of transportation planning at the Washington Council of Governments. A relative discovered the body on the first floor of the house shortly after noon on Monday and called the police, who arrived on the scene and began investigating. After an autopsy on Tuesday, the cause of death was ruled homicide. Police say Kirby died of multiple gunshot wounds, although they won’t say how many. They also won’t say where in the house his body was discovered.

“That’s part of the investigation,” said Hildebrandt.

Kirby is being hailed as a “visionary” by friends and colleagues for his work on transportation issues, specifically his advocacy of multi-modal solutions to the region’s traffic problems. Kirby guided the Transportation Planning Board’s work for more than 26 years.

“He was both a visionary on what this region could become through smart growth and strategic transportation improvements, and an expert who gained the confidence of elected officials to make it happen,” said U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8) in a written statement. “His behind the scenes work and sage advice saved Washington area commuters a lifetime of avoided congestion and traffic delays.”

Friends and colleagues say they are devastated by the loss.

“His deep knowledge and wise counsel assisted local, state and national officials in reaching consensus on the major transportation issues over the years,” said COG Executive Director Chuck Bean. “More importantly, he was a trusted colleague and a dear friend to all of us at the council and his associates around the region.”

At the beginning of Tuesday night’s City Council meeting, Mayor Bill Euille called for a moment of silence to honor the slain transportation official.

“Probably every member on this dais, through our activity and involvement with COG, has had an opportunity to work side-by-side with Ron Kirby,” said Euille. “So we extend condolences to his family and friends and COG staff.”

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A Night for Seuss’s Hats and Artwork

P &C Art Galleries in Alexandria is presenting “Hats Off to Dr. Seuss!” in celebration of the 75th anniversary of Dr. Seuss’s second book, “The 500 Hats of Bartholomew Cubbins.” Dr. Seuss’s hat collection is being exhibited now through Nov. 18 at the gallery. An opening night reception with Bill Dreyer, the curator of the exhibition, was held Saturday, Nov. 2. Many who attended wore large, funny, and colorful hats in honor of the whimsical children’s writer. This exhibition also features Dr. Seuss’s art collection, a series of estate-authorized works adapted from Ted Geisel’s original drawings, paintings and sculpture.

Photos by Sally B. Macklin
Gazette Packet

People

Dr. Suess Curator Bill Dreyer speaks with guests.

P&C Art Gallery in Old Town displayed paintings by Dr. Suess.

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Alexandria Gazette Packet  November 14-20, 2013  15
**Open Sunday 2-4**

In the heart of Plymouth Haven, this charming colonial features five bedrooms, 3.5 baths, two car garage, main level master, professional chef's kitchen, two offices, stone patio, private back yard and a separate apartment.

- $1,375,000

8701 Stundish Road, Alexandria, VA 22308

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**Jefferson Park Perfection**

Impeccable renovation from top to bottom in Jefferson Park. Welcoming porch and flagstone entry. Outside entertainment area with fire pit and TV. Five bedroom, 3.5 bath designed with tasteful perfection inside and out.

- $1,175,000

609 Malcolm Place, Alexandria, VA 22302

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**Open Sunday 2-4**

Designer touches throughout this stunning move-in ready home. Beautiful 3 level colonial with 4 bedrooms and 2.5 baths on fully fenced lot in peaceful Mt. Vernon. Features include new gourmet kitchen, baths, open floor plan, main level bedroom, level and hardwood floors throughout.

- $839,000

9336 Booth Street, Alexandria, VA 22309

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**Spacious in Waynewood**

Wonderful opportunity to purchase a classic colonial in Waynewood. Great street in a great neighborhood. Large rooms throughout, wonderful eat in kitchen, four bedrooms, three full and one half baths on three levels with one-car garage and large yard.

- $819,900

8811 Firecrest Place, Alexandria, VA 22308

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**Open Sunday 2-4**

Spacious, split foyer in sought after Riverside Gardens. Great location and ready for immediate move-in! New carpet, new roof, updated kitchen and baths, large deck off the kitchen overlooking the large, lush backyard.

- $669,000

8417 Riverside Road, Alexandria, VA 22308

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**Open Sunday 2-4**

Beautiful new construction only steps to Fort Hunt Park and Potomac River. Five/six bedrooms, five full baths. Bedroom/den/library with bath on main level. High ceilings and in-law suite on lower level, two fireplaces and deck.

- $1,195,000

8911 Charles Augustine Dr, Alexandria, VA 22308

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**Captivating River Views**

Beautiful villa with panoramic views of the Potomac. Sited on a hill with idyllic privacy, this home features authentic Mediterranean architecture, patio, terraced gardens, flagstone terrace, high ceilings, spacious rooms and incredible attention to detail. 3BD 4.5BA & 2 car garage.

- $1,850,000

7608 Southdown Road, Alexandria, VA 22308

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**Convenient to Metro**

Completely remodeled kitchen with gas range, SS appliances, tall cabinets & mineral jet countertops. New carpet and freshly painted. Master with attached bath and walk-in closet, 130 sq ft balcony. Fees include 2 parking spaces, storage unit, fitness center, water and gas. 3 BD /2BA

- $304,000

51 Skyhill Road, Alexandria, VA 22314

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**Potomac River Views**

This extraordinary French Country style home is the epitome of elegance and comfort. 8500 sq ft. on 61 acres with spectacular views of the Potomac River. Impeccable attention to detail. Six bedrooms, 4 full & 3 half baths, 3-car garage.

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Phyllis Patterson
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**Jefferson Park**
$1,175,000
605 Malcolm Place, Alexandria, VA 22302
A new top to bottom. Freshly painted and offers timeless appeal. 3BR/3.5BA, and the kitchen you’ve always dreamt of. Furnished, family room. Screened porch.
Phyllis Patterson
703-518-0338

**Waynewood**
$819,900
8811 Firecrest Place, Alexandria, VA 22306
Gorgeous center hall colonial home located on a picturesque street in Waynewood. This beautiful 2 level home has 4 huge bedrooms, family room + screen in porch.
Phyllis Patterson
703-518-0138

**NEW LISTING**

**Belle Haven**
$810,000
6188 Edgewood Terrace, Alexandria, VA 22307
What a gift. A 2nd level master. Updates done. This fabulous property has been transformed! Updated kit., w/inlaid flrs., updated, finished deck. See 388/2/2A. Golf ready for your touches.
Edward Pagetti
703-518-0138

**Mason Hill**
$799,900
1723 Hollinwood Drive, Alexandria, VA 22307
Beautiful Center Hall Colonial in Mason Hill. This home has been updated inside & out. Chef’s gourmet kitchen, 4BR/3.5 remodelled BA. Professionally landscaped yard.
Chris DeFreitas
703-408-3068

**Braddock Heights**
$799,000
3337 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22302
Newly built Colonial w/ 2CG. All new top of the line stainless steel appliances, granite & finishes. Conveniently located near Old Town, F.C. Williams, & commuter routes.
The York Group
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**OPEN SUN 1-4PM**

**Old Town**
$729,000
770 Wolfe Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
GORGEOUS! This charming clapboard Colonial townhome boasts original floors, built ins, original beams and an inviting deep front porch. Recently priced at $729,000.
Donna C. Winstead
703-518-0138

**Riverside Gardens**
$669,000
6477 Riverside Road, Alexandria, VA 22308
Beautiful, turn-key home is situated at Riverside Gardens! New roof, attic fans & heat, new heating. Newer W/D, windows, updated kitchen 3BR/2.5 BA + master suite.
Phyllis Patterson
703-518-0138

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**Sun Up**
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3451 Sun Up Way, Alexandria, VA 22309
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**New Alexandria**
$499,000
1213 Olde Towne Rd, Alexandria, VA 22307
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Lydia Seward
703-288-0522

**Carlyle Towers**
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1811 Jameson Avenue 504, Alexandria, VA 22314
Resort in Old Town! 1 Car Parking, Huge courtyard, great amenities, gym, pool, tennis, easy commute to DC.
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**Hiddenbrooke**
$360,000
7860 Rolling Woods Court 103, Springfield, VA 22153
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The Alexandria "Giving Tree" program began 23 years ago by the Agency of the Alexandria Old Town Civic. The program is one way of giving back to the Alexandria Community. Each year the Alexandria Public Schools are sponsored to identify a number of families in its system that are in great need and a Holiday Wish List is provided for each child. Contributors consist of locals, games, books, clothing, and monetary donations to provide for the family. With your help we can give these children and their families a great holiday.

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**$550,000 Alexandria "Pretty in Pink"**  

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### Alexandria Gazette Packet

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Creating a Feast for the Eye

By Marilyn Campbell
Gazette Packet

While a menu of turkey and gravy will satisfy the belly this Thanksgiving, a well-designed centerpiece that reflects the warm hues of fall will be a feast for the eyes.

From vivid floral arrangements that spring from gourds to tables piled with seasonal produce, local floral designers say that when it comes to creating Thanksgiving table décor as tantalizing as the meal itself, the options are vast.

Charles Gang, owner of Helen Olivia Flowers in Old Town Alexandria, and his team of designers often create colorful combinations of flowers and fruit in rich hues. “As far as fall arrangements, we’re (using) fruit like apples and pears, we’re seeing mini pumpkins in arrangements,” he said.

In fact, Gang suggests creating arrangements using full-sized pumpkins as vases. “We’re doing a lot of rustic hydrangeas, a lot of roses in deep orange and germini in a variety of colors like orange and violets,” he said.

Floral designer Laurie Diver, of Conklyn’s Florist in Alexandria and Arlington, often uses glass cubes and bubble vases as a receptacle for her arrangements. “Flowers in orange, gold and maroon are great for fall,” she said. “I also like to use hydrangeas that are green tipped with burgundy edges and lilies in rust, yellow and orange.”

David Hicks, owner of Conklyn’s, doesn’t shy away from unconventional flowers. “We have a wholesale shop that is open to the public,” he said. “Two or three times per week, we import flowers from South America like kangaroo paws [a tubular flower] that come in bronze and rust and cottage yarrow that come in bronze and yellow.”

Another surprise for fall, says Diver, are tulips. “We usually don’t see them again until spring, but now we have an assortment of parrot tulips in orange, yellow or a combination of both with tattered edges that look very artsy.”

Great Falls-based designer Alison de Wit of Distinctive Floral Designs, who isn’t afraid to add a harbinger of spring to her autumn arrangements either, said, “A lot a spring flowers are available from Dutch markets.”

She also combines traditional flowers with modern varieties. “You can combine a traditional hydrangea with a charreuse spider chrysanthemum for a bright and unusual floral combination,” she said.

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— Charles Gang, owner of Helen Olivia Flowers

Creating a Feast for the Eye

Local designers share ideas for a striking Thanksgiving table.

Charles Gang, owner of Helen Olivia Flowers in Old Town Alexandria, creates fall centerpieces using full-sized pumpkins as vases.

See Makeover, Page 21

Kitchen Gets Monumental Makeover

Local designer brings style and ingenuity to Alexandria kitchen.

By Marilyn Campbell
Gazette Packet

Two Alexandria food enthusiasts will have a new space where they can perform culinary magic this holiday season.

The owners of the 1930s Alexandria home enjoyed cooking, but found it cumbersome in their tiny kitchen, so they decided to expand their home. They created a larger kitchen with an open floor plan and abundance of space for family and friends to gather.

“Making the kitchen functional while looking good and complementing the age of the home were the keys,” said Nadia Subaran of Aidan Design in Bethesda, Md., who the homeowners selected for the task. “The owners enjoy cooking so that was always top of mind when designing the space.”

Subaran’s challenge was to create a kitchen with modern functionality that met the homeowners’ culinary needs and simultaneously respected the architectural integrity of the original home. The designer installed maple cabinetry clad with Brookhaven’s Edgemont recessed panel doors, painted antique white and trimmed with decorative crown molding.

A massive, ebony-stained oak island topped with Typhoon Gold granite dominates the new kitchen. Subaran created work areas as well as a bar top for interest. “Connecting the work stations with the is

See Makeover, Page 21

A repurposed, dark hood centers the back wall of this Alexandria kitchen, designed by Nadia Subaran of Aidan Design.

Nadia Subaran of Aidan Design created this Alexandria kitchen using warm-hued granite counters and antique white-painted maple cabinets.
Hi Neighbor – Market’s Up and Fall is Here!

"According to a recent national poll, 53% said they believe now is a good time to begin improving the look and feel of their homes." - Houzz & Home 2013

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Laurie Diver of Conklyn’s Florist, in Alexandria and Arlington, often creates arrangements with orange, yellow and gold flowers nestled in glass cubes.

Makeover

From Page 20

land and eating areas is the perfect combination of function and form," she said.

Covering the DCS range is a recycled metal hood wrapped in plywood and painted black. To create visual movement, the designer chose Trapunta subway tile in biscuit for the backsplash and Churchill Ridge ceramic tile flooring in ash.

Subaran said that structural issues, often found in older homes, created a few challenges, so appliances were installed to appear built in.

The original kitchen became the butler’s pantry, featuring open shelving, a second refrigerator and a sink with a limestone mosaic tile backsplash.

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“Shiloh Rules” by Jeanne Theismann

Byline: Gazette Packet

November 14-20, 2013

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

In battlefield satire, no one is civil.

Byline: Gazette Packet

November 14-20, 2013

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

E-mail announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Photos and artwork are encouraged. Deadline is Thursday at noon.

ONGOING

Life Drawing. Del Ray Artisans offers a range of open life drawing sessions to hone figure drawing skills. Drop-in with your supplies to draw live models. Fee: $8-12. View the calendar at www.TheDelRayArtisans.org.

The West End Farmers Market will run Sundays from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. through November. Located at Ben Brennan Park, browse food, crafts and more. Visit www.westendfarmersmarket.org.

Photography Workshop. 10 a.m.-noon on 105 N. Union Street. Photographers and enthusiasts of all skill levels are invited to share work, ideas, and questions at this free workshop held on the last Sunday of each month, except December. No reservations. Call 703-683-2205.

Book a Librarian. At the Charles E. Beatty Jr. Central Library, 5005 Duke St. for help with research or to better understand the library’s databases and resources. Make an appointment by calling 703-746-1751.


Encore Chorale. Mondays 10:30 a.m.-noon at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Dr. Register now for Encore Chorale’s fall season. The group of singers, ages 55 and up, practice classical and holiday songs to prepare for December performances. $25 tuition. Visit encorecreativity.org or call 301-261-5747.

Metro Club After-School Program. From Sept. 9-June 2014, the Metropolitan School of Arts presents an after-school program for grades 1-6. The program is located at both the Lorton studio at Workhouse Arts Center, 9517 Workhouse Way and in Alexandria at 375 Bailey Drive. Programs will focus on the arts, including music, dance, theater, yoga and academics, as well as designated homework time. The program will run Mondays, 1-6 p.m., and Tuesday-Friday, 3-6 p.m. Tuition runs from $130-150. Visit www.metropolitanarts.org.

Art Exhibit. “Sacred Earth, Healing Water” by Anne Bouie at Schleisenger Center Margaret W. & Joseph L. Fisher Gallery, 2001 N. Beauregard St. Runs through Nov. 11. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday and during performances. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.


Art Exhibit. See “Before never be seen hats from Del Ray’s private collection” along with pets and sculpture from the Art of Dr. Seuss Collection. Runs Nov. 2-27 at P&O Art Gallery, 212 King St. Visit www.pcarl.com.

Theater Performance. “Shiloh Rules” by Doris Baizley that takes no prisoners in a cleverly written and performed spoof of the Civil War reenactment craze as all of its major participants fight in the forecasted Battle of Shiloh in 1862. The show is performed through Dec. 21. With authentic costumes and set design by Ayala-Bush, lights by Chris Hardy and sound by Sean Doyle, the Port City Playhouse creative team cleverly immerses the audience in this send-up of the Civil War era. Visit www.portcityplayhouse.org.

Art Exhibit. “Sacred Earth, Healing Water” by Anne Bouie at Schleisenger Center Margaret W. & Joseph L. Fisher Gallery, 2001 N. Beauregard St. Runs through Nov. 11. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday and during performances. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

Art Exhibit. “Shiloh Rules” by Doris Baizley, the second part of “A Salute to the American Voice.” Performances are Thursday-Saturday, Nov. 8-9, 15-16, 22-23 and Sunday, Nov. 19 at 8 p.m.; Saturday matinees Nov. 16, 23 at 2 p.m. All performances are at Port City Playhouse, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. $18/adult; $16/senior, military and student; $14/group of 10 or more. Visit www.portcityplayhouse.org.

Theater Performance. “Sacred Earth, Healing Water” by Anne Bouie at Schleisenger Center Margaret W. & Joseph L. Fisher Gallery, 2001 N. Beauregard St. Runs through Nov. 11. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday and during performances. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.


Art Exhibit. See “Shiloh Rules” at Multiple Exposures Gallery in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Juried by Tom Beck, the exhibit showcases fine art photography and will run through Nov. 24. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

Art Exhibit. Through November, see Jene Fountaine’s work at Humly Meadows Park. Hours are Monday, Wednesday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday from noon-5 p.m. Visit www.jenafountaine.com for more.

Art Exhibit. See “Del Ray Dozen Invitational Photography Show” at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. A unique show that ranges from landscapes to portraits and a little bit of everything in between and the select photographers approach their craft in different ways—as traditional film shooters, digital image-makers, darkroom junkies, print makers, and experimentalists. Exhibit runs Nov. 1 through Dec. 1. For more information, visit www.DelRayArtisans.org.

Art Exhibit. Photographer Everett Clark presents “Gutes in the Air” from Nov. 7 through Dec. 2 in the Art League at Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. The exhibit will reveal how Richmond, Va., past and present intertwine. Free. Hours are Monday-Wednesday and Friday-Saturday from 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thursdays from 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; and Sundays from noon-6 p.m. Visit www.thethreat league.org or 703-683-1780.

Art Exhibit. See “Portent” in the Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St., from Oct. 24 through Dec. 8. The works attempt to visually come to terms with, reflect or represent the the select photographers approach their craft in different ways—as traditional film shooters, digital image-makers, darkroom junkies, print makers, and experimentalists. Exhibit runs Nov. 1 through Dec. 1. For more information, visit www.DelRayArtisans.org.

Art Exhibit. See “Photographers at the Factory” Nov. 1 through Dec. 31 at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. The exhibit celebrates FotoWeekDC. Hours are Thursdays 10 a.m.-9 p.m., all other days from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Photographs will line the half walls and in multiple studios. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

Art Exhibit. Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery presents “Holiday Sizzle” in Studio 18 at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Exhibit starts on Nov. 9. Additional items will be added Dec. 9 and the exhibit closes Jan. 5. Free. Some items will be for sale. Visit www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com or 703-548-0955.

Art Exhibit. Artist John Gascoot of Studio 4, 218 N. Lee St., suite 103, creates an art exhibit to honor the life journeys and unique character of individuals. It will be on display through photo gallery hours are Thursday-Saturday, noon-7 p.m. and Sunday from noon-5 p.m. by appointment only. Visit www.studio4oldtown.com for more.

Art Exhibit. See “Salute to the American Voice” at the Athenaeum, 404 N. Union St. Celebrates the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. Visit www.athenaeum.gv.org or 703-548-0955.

Art Exhibit. Artist John Gascoot of Studio 4, 218 N. Lee St., suite 103, creates an art exhibit to honor the life journeys and unique character of individuals. It will be on display through photo gallery hours are Thursday-Saturday, noon-7 p.m. and Sunday from noon-5 p.m. by appointment only. Visit www.studio4oldtown.com for more.
At the Library

Beale Library, 5005 Duke St. Call 703-746-1702.
Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Call 703-746-1705.
Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Call 703-746-1704.
Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Call 703-746-1703.
Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us.

FRIDAY/NOV. 15
Movie Matinee, 4 p.m. at Burke Branch Library. Children in grades 1-8 can enjoy a free movie.

SATURDAY/NOV. 16
Discussion and Demonstration. 2 p.m. at Beale Library. Warren Brown will discuss his book “Pie Love” and follow up with a pie crust demonstration, tasting and book signing. Free. 

International Games Day. 3 p.m. at Burke Library. All ages can enjoy games in all types of categories, from board games to video games and more. Something for everyone. Free.

SUNDAY/NOV. 17
Journaling Workshop. 2 p.m. at Beale Library. Join for a “Personal Journaling for Personal Growth” workshop led by Gwen Mayes of Writing Without Weight. Free. 703-746-1742 to register.

Sunday Matinee. 2 p.m. at Beale Library. Call for title. Free.

MONDAY/NOV. 18
Little One-Dees. 10:30 a.m. at Beale Library. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy stories and more. Registration required.

Baby Time. 11 a.m. at Duncan Library. Songs, fingerplays and bounces for babies up to 11 months. Free.

Baby Rhyme Time. 11:30 a.m. at Beale Central Library. Children up to 11 months with adult can enjoy rhymes and lullabies. Free.

Read, Sing & Play Baby. 4 p.m. at Barrett Branch Library. Children up to 11 months can enjoy stories and more. Free.

Deputy O’Hara and His K-9 Partner. 3:45 p.m. at Burke Library. Learn how they work together as a team. For children in grades K-8. Free.

Biography Book Club. 7 p.m. at Beale Library. Call for title. Free.

Duncan Poetry Society. 7 p.m. at Beale Library. Bring your favorite poems or ones you’ve written and discuss. Free.

TUESDAY/NOV. 19
English Language Workshop. 10 a.m. at Beale Library. All levels workshop. Free.

Stories and Songs. 10 a.m. or 11 a.m. at Duncan Library. Children 1-4 can enjoy stories and more. Sign up half-hour before. Free.

Mother Goose Time. 10:15 a.m. at Barrett Branch Library. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy games, rhymes and more. Free.

Time For 2a. 10:30 a.m. at Beale Library. Children age 24-36 months can enjoy stories and more. Free.

Tuesdays Tots. 11 a.m. at Burke Branch Library. Children ages 2-3 can enjoy stories and more. Free.

Stories to Grow On. 11 a.m. at Barrett Branch Library. Children age 2 and up can enjoy stories and more. Free.

Baby Rhyme Time. 11:30 a.m. at Beale Central Library. Children up to 11 months with adult. Free.

Game Night. 7 p.m. at Beale Library. Children ages 6-12 can play games against friends or meet new people to play against. Free.

Craft Night. 7 p.m. at Barrett Library. Learn how to knit, crochet or sew or get help with a project. Beginners welcome. Must bring own supplies. Free.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 20
Mother Goose Time. 10:15 a.m. at Barrett Branch Library. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy games, rhymes and more. Free.

Time For 2a. 10:30 a.m. at Beale Library. Children age 24-36 months can enjoy stories and more. Registration required.

Baby Rhyme Time. 11 a.m. at Burke Library. Children ages 0-18 months can enjoy music, movement and more. Free.

Stories to Grow On. 11 a.m. at Barrett Branch Library. Children age 2 and up can enjoy stories and more. Free.

Survival at the Edge of Space. 3:30 p.m. at Duncan Library. Children can learn how high altitude pilots and astronauts survive at the edge of space and beyond. Adults welcome if space available.

Paws to Read. 5:30 p.m. at Burke Library. Children in grades 1-4 can read to friendly dogs. Registration required. 703-746-1773 or e-mail mncguire@alexandria.lib.va.us to register for a 15min slot.

Family Story & Craft Night. 7 p.m. at Beale Library. All ages can enjoy stories and a craft. Free.

Book Discussion. 7 p.m. at Duncan Library. Discuss “The Innocents Abroad” by Mark Twain. Free.

THURSDAY/NOV. 21
Mother Goose Story Time. 10 a.m. at Duncan Library. Children ages 12-24 months can enjoy stories and more. Sign up half-hour before. Free.

Story Time. 10:30 a.m. or 3 p.m. at Beale Library. Children ages 3-5 can enjoy stories, activities and more. Free.

Story Time. 11 a.m. at Duncan Library. Children ages 3-5 can enjoy stories and more. Free.

Little One-Dees. 11:15 a.m. at Beale Library. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy stories and more.

Story Time. 4 p.m. at Barrett Branch Library. Children ages 3 and up can enjoy games, rhymes and more. Free.

Paws to Read. 5:30 p.m. at Beale Library. Children in grades 1-4 can read to friendly dogs. Registration required. 703-746-1702 x 45.

Pajama Party. 7 p.m. at Burke Branch Library. Children ages 3-7 can come dressed in their favorite outfit/pajamas and listen to stories. Free.

Great Books Discussion Group. 7 p.m. at Beale Library. Discuss a selection from “The New Organist” by Francis Bacon. Free. Call Bill Scouros at 703-931-3559.

Speed Dating. 7 p.m. at Beale Library. Find your literary soul mate. To register call 703-746-1773.

Knit Nite. 7 p.m. at Beale Library. Children ages 9-18 can learn to knit. Supplies included. Free.

FRIDAY/NOV. 22
JFK Film Screening. 2 p.m. at Beale Library. Commemorate the 50th anniversary of Kennedy’s assassination with a film screening. Free.

Children’s Theater of the Duncan Library. 4 p.m. at Duncan Library. See “The Wizard of Oz Meet Alice in Wonderland,” written, directed and produced by the children. Free.

SATURDAY/NOV. 23
Gobble Up a Good Book Thanksgiving Story Time. 10:30 a.m. for children ages 4 and under or 3:30 p.m. for children ages 5 and up at Duncan Library. Enjoy stories, songs and more. Free.

Saturday Stories. 11 a.m. at Beale Library. All ages can enjoy stories and songs. Free.

Paws to Read 1 p.m. at Burke Branch Library. Children in grades 1-6 can read to a furry animal for 15 minutes. Register by e-mailing mncguire@alexandria.lib.va.us or 703-746-1773.

SUNDAY/NOV. 24
Sunday Matinee. 2 p.m. at Beale Library. Call for title. Free.

MONDAY/NOV. 25
Baby Time. 10 a.m. or 11 a.m. at Duncan Library. Songs, fingerplays and bounces for babies up to 11 months. Free.

Story Time. 10 a.m. or 7 p.m. at Duncan Library. Children can enjoy a story and then draw pictures and write letters to service members currently deployed. Free.

Baby Rhyme Time. 11:30 a.m at Beale Central Library. Children up to 11 months with adult can enjoy rhymes and lullabies. Free.

Teen Movie. 4 p.m. at Duncan Branch Library. Children in grades 6 and up can watch a movie. Free.

World Short Story Discussion Group. 7 p.m. at Burke Branch Library. Call Carol at 703-746-1779 for title.
Toasting Our Town

The Historic Alexandria Foundation, the organization known for issuing plaques to historically and architecturally preserved buildings throughout Alexandria, is hosting its Toasting Our Town fundraiser Nov. 16, 7-9 p.m. at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street. The wine tasting event will feature selections from Grape + Bean. Silent and live auctions will also be a highlight at a vacation cottage on Cape Cod, dinner in a historic home and a duck hunting trip. Tickets are $75 and proceeds will benefit the Historic Alexandria Preservation Fund, which, among many other projects, provides grants to local history applicants. Call 703-549-8811 or visit www.historicalexandriafoundation.org.

Friday, December 22

FRIDAY/NOV. 22
Tea performance. 7:30 p.m. at Bishop Ireton Garwood Whaley Auditorium, 201 Cambridge Road. See William Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream." $10/adult; $8/senior, student. Tickets sold at the door. Visit www.bishopireton.org or 703-751-7606.

SATURDAY/NOV. 23
Christmas Bazaar. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at St. Mary's School, 400 Green St. Features more than 60 vendors specializing in arts, clothing and gifts. There will also be a bake sale, Christmas cafe, games, prizes, book sales and more. Visit www.smaryschoolchristmasbazaar.com.


Saturday, December 24

Magic Show. 7 p.m. at Bishop Ireton High School, 201 Cambridge Road. See a performance by International Magician Jeanne Theismann. Visit www. JeanneTheismann.com for tickets.

FRIDAY/NOV. 29
Shop Local. More than 50 independent book stores open early with shopping deals. Participating stores will offer discounts starting at 6 a.m. Also enjoy free parking during the day and restaurants opening early with discounts and more. Visit www.blackfridayalexandria.com for a list of participating businesses.

Saturday, December 29

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 701 Mount Vernon Ave. The Seldom Scene & Dry Branch Fire Squad will perform. $35. Visit www.thebirchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

Tuesday, December 4

Theater Performance. 10:30 a.m. at W-3 Theatre at the Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Arts on the Horizon presents "Drumming with Dishes: The Holiday Edition." $8/child and adults. Visit www.artsonthehorizon.org for tickets.

Wednesday, December 4

Theater Performance. 10 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. at W-3 Theatre at the Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Arts on the Horizon presents "Drumming with Dishes: The Holiday Edition." $8/child and adults. Visit www.artsonthehorizon.org for tickets.

Magic Show. 7 p.m. at Bishop Ireton High School, 201 Cambridge Road. See a performance by International Magician Jeanne Theismann. Bring a canned food item or toy that will be donated to the Alexandria Citadel of the Salvation Army. Visit www.alexandracitysalvationarmy.org.

Thursday, December 5

Theater Performance. 10:30 a.m. at W-3 Theatre at the Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Arts on the Horizon presents "Drumming with Dishes: The Holiday Edition." $8/child and adults. Visit www.artsonthehorizon.org for tickets.

Friday, December 6

Holiday Open House. 6:30-9 p.m. at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Enjoy food, refreshments and music while browsing items for purchase. Door prizes will be given. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

 tfcwizard10101010
Greetings!
The Alexandria Symphony Orchestra continues its 70th anniversary “Dreamers and Visionaries” season on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 16 and 17 at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center with “To Transform”—a program featuring composers and artists whose music was—and is—designed “to transform” the cultural landscape around them.

The ASO and I are very proud to welcome renowned violin virtuoso, Sarah Chang—a one of the foremost musicians currently performing on the global stage—as she performs Max Bruch’s famous “Violin Concerto No. 1” for our “To Transform” concerts. The Alexandria Symphony Orchestra honors Sarah Chang as a “dreamer and visionary” in her own right who seeks to change the world through her music.

In 2006, Ms. Chang was honored as one of 20 Top Women in Newsweek magazine’s “Women and Leadership, 20 Powerful Women Take Charge” issue. In March 2008, Ms. Chang was honored as a Young Global Leader for 2008 by the World Economic Forum (WEF) for her professional achievements, commitment to society and potential in shaping the future of the world.

The ASO and I are also delighted and honored to be presenting acclaimed conductor Emil de Cou as guest conductor for this special concert. Maestro de Cou is familiar to many of you through his popular Wolf Trap National Symphony Orchestra concerts and for his years of distinguished service as Associate Conductor of the NSO. This promises to be unforgettable music making!

I will be returning to the ASO stage as pianist and conductor for our Feb. 15 and 16 program, “To Be Passionate” featuring Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue. The ASO’s Nov. 16 and 17 “To Transform” program features a full, varied and transformational musical offering.

One of our program’s highlights is Aaron Copland’s “Billy the Kid” suite. Copland stated that he saw his mission as expressing “the deepest reactions of the American consciousness to the American scene.” The Depression years inspired Copland to create a new kind of music—music that simultaneously expressed and actually helped to define the “American Spirit.”

Copland’s music possesses the extraordinary ability to conjure in listeners—American and world-fellow Americans. And actually helped to define the “American Spirit.” A kind of music—music that simultaneously expressed and transform us as individuals—inevitably conjuring sorrow, loss and reconciliation.

Michael Giacchino is one of the leading contemporary proponents of an “American sound,” and his infectious musical spirit has been promulgated throughout the world through his award-winning television and film scores. As a special treat on it’s “To Transform” program, the ASO will perform a selection of Giacchino’s score from the film “Up.” It is music that expresses a beautifully profound and simple vision of the true meaning of life—the power each of us possesses “to transform” ourselves and the world around us.

We have decided to make this momentous season a celebration, not only of our years together, but of Dreamers & Visionaries—of what we, at the ASO, strive to be.

As a conductor, I am so proud of the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra’s achievements as it has grown from a small community orchestra to become one of the region’s most acclaimed fully-professional arts organizations. The Washington Post said of our “Rite of Spring” performance last season at the National Gallery of Art that it was “perhaps the most exciting heard here in years.” It is our ability to dream, and strive to be.

As a composer, the Dreamers & Visionaries theme has great personal significance for me as well. The music I write stems from my desire to create change has great personal significance for me as well. The music I write stems from my desire to create change in the way that people hear music in relation to their world, music that, well, at the risk of sounding grandiose, changes the world.

I want to inspire and challenge us to make our lives and world a better place. That may indeed sound ambitious, but the composers featured on our Dreamers & Visionaries season accomplished just that! They were audacious enough to strive to make a difference in the world—and they succeeded.

See you at the concerts!
Open for Business

TTR Sotheby’s opens Old Town offices.

More than 100 people from the business and real estate community turned out Oct. 23 to celebrate the grand opening of TTR Sotheby’s International Realty offices at 400 S. Washington St. in Old Town.

Located in the building once owned by the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce, the new offices are also next to the historic Alexandria Academy, a building endowed by George Washington in 1785 to educate orphan children.

“We’re very excited about these new offices,” said longtime Alexandria Realtor Cindy Golubin. Entertainment in the courtyard was provided by Karen Lovejoy and The Lovejoy Group.

Managing Partner of TTR Sotheby’s International Realty Group offices at 400 S. Washington St. in Old Town.

Karen Lovejoy and The Lovejoy Group entertain in the courtyard of the new TTR Sotheby’s International Realty offices at 400 S. Washington St.

Megan Beyer, Cynthia Vance, Cindy Golubin and Michael Rankin celebrate at the Oct. 23 reception of TTR Sotheby’s International Realty Group offices at 400 S. Washington St. in Old Town.

Alexandria Economic Development Partnership CEO Val Hawkins, right, mingles with guests at a reception celebrating the opening of TTR Sotheby’s in Old Town.

TTR Sotheby’s and longtime local Realtor Cindy Golubin, right, poses for a photo with friends and family members at the Oct. 23 reception.

Business

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

THURSDAY/NOV 14
Low Vision Resource Group. 1:30 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5805 Duke St. Kevin Osborne, MD, Adult Services Manager, will be talking about eReaders and other mobile devices. Free. 703-746-1702.

Business Tax Reform Task Force. 6 p.m. City Hall, Sister Cities Room. With new Board of Zoning Appeals Hearing. 7:30 p.m. City Hall, Council Chamber, 301 King St. Contact Peter Leiberg, 703-746-4666.

FRIDAY/NOV 15
Transit Commission Retreat. 8:30 a.m. Alexandria Transit Company Board Room. Contact Steve Sinding. steve.sinding@aalexandriava.gov, 703-746-4047.

Life Line Screening. Located at Del Ray United Methodist Church, 100 E. Windor Ave. Screenings identify potential cardiovascular conditions such as blocked arteries and irregular heart rhythm, abdominal aortic aneurysm, and hardening of the arteries in the legs, which is a strong predictor of heart disease. A bone density screening to assess osteoporosis risk is also offered and is appropriate for both men and women. Packages start at $159. All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. Call 1-877-237-1287 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com. Pre-registration is required.

SATURDAY/NOV 16
Discussion. 4 p.m. at Alexandria House, 400 Madison St., Drake Room. Michael Jawer and his co-author Marc Micozzzi, MD, PhD, argue that paranormal perception — apparitions, telepathy, poltergeist experiences — also arises from process feeling. Free. Visit www.emotiongateway.com for more.

Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser. Held at Applebee’s, 6310 Richmond Highway. Hosted by Mount Vernon Evening Lions Club. $7/adult; $5/child. All proceeds will be used for community projects. Old eyeglasses and hearing aids will be collected for recycling.

Bike Donation. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Burgundy Farm Country Day School, 3700 Burgundy Road, will partner with Bikes for the World to collect, repair and donate bicycles to community development programs. Drop off used bicycles in the middle school parking lot (the first parking lot visitors will see). Middle school students will accept donations and manage repairs with a team of adults. Visit www.burgundyfarm.org or americarecyclesday.org for more. Contact Doug Fishman 703-960-3431 or dougf@burgundyfarm.org.

City Council Public Hearing. 9:30 a.m. City Hall, Council Chamber, 301 King St.

Tech Zoo Demo. 2 p.m. at Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Enjoy a hands-on workshop to test eReaders or bring your own device to learn how to download eBooks and audiobooks for free. Free. 703-746-1704.

SUNDAY/NOV 17
Affordable Care Act Talk. 3-5 p.m. at AAUW, 200 Cameron Station Blvd. Two panelists will present their views on the act. Free. Hosted by Alexandria and Mount Vernon branches of AAUW. Call Danielle Beach for more information, 202-494-9796.

See Bulletin, Page 32
Donald DeLuca

Donald P. DeLuca, 80, of Alexandria, died in his home on Monday, Nov. 4, 2013. Originally from Syracuse, N.Y., Don was the loving son of the deceased Carmen and Angelina DeLuca of Syracuse, preceded in death by brother Robert J DeLuca, and wife Mildred, of Syracuse, survived by brother Richard C DeLuca, and wife Mary, of Binghamton, N.Y. Don was a graduate of Christian Brothers Academy and Le Moyne College, in Syracuse, N.Y.

Don DeLuca was a popular and admired physics teacher at Bishop Ireton High School in Alexandria. A natural teacher, his enthusiasm for understanding was exceeded only by a love for his family and students. The “Old Man in the Hat” was always willing to give extra and took great pride in watching his students grow and achieve their potential. Don came late in life to teaching and was blessed to have found his true calling.

Devoted and proud father of Lauren E. Brogdon and her husband Clint Brogdon of Centreville, Va., and David L. DeLuca and his wife Meghan Gay of Alexandria. Loving grandfather to Matthew Rebeiz and Nathan Brogdon.

A reception was held at Bishop Ireton High School on Friday Nov. 8. A funeral mass was held at St. Louis Catholic Church in Alexandria on Saturday, Nov. 9. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Bishop Ireton High School for the future creation of a scholarship fund in Don’s name.

Col. Martin John Egan, Jr

Colonel Martin John Egan, Jr., died March 25, 2013 in Alexandria from congestive heart failure. Colonel Egan was born Oct. 1, 1932 in Stamford, Conn., the son of Martin John Egan, Sr., and Margaret Tormey Egan.

Marty graduated from Stamford High School, where he was president of his class. He was also a member of the drama club, where he relished playing the role of Nanki-Poo in Gilbert and Sullivan’s, “The Mikado.” He became interested in golf when he caddied on local courses while in high school; it was a sport he enjoyed throughout his life.

After high school Marty attended Villanova University where he served in the Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps, graduating in 1954 with a bachelor of science degree. He was then commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps where he served for over 26 years.

During his distinguished aviation career as a Marine fighter pilot, Colonel Egan flew A4 and A6 fighter attack aircraft; his callsign was “The Hawk.” His outstanding service was recognized with many awards and decorations, including the Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star with Combat V, 23 Air Medals, the Meritorious Service Medal, and the Joint Service Commendation Medal. He flew over 275 combat missions during the Vietnam War, many over North Vietnam. The Republic of Vietnam honored him with its Gallantry Cross, Meritorious Unit Citation and Campaign Medal with device. Colonel Egan also served in Japan, commanding a fighter aircraft squadron at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni. After attaining his master’s degree at the Navy Post Graduate School, he completed his military career at the Pentagon where he was in charge of officer assignments for the U.S. Marine Corps, then retiring in 1980.

After retirement, Marty embarked on a real estate career, working with several companies in Old Town Alexandria. He enjoyed golf, travel (particularly to Ireland), and socializing with friends in Old Town Alexandria and D.C. His love of nature was reflected in the many plants he nurtured and the uncanny communication he had with a regular menagerie of wildlife he fed from his back porch. Marty was very generous to those in need and quietly assisted those wildlife he fed from his back porch. Marty was very generous to those in need and quietly assisted those in need.

Colonel Egan was preceded in death by his parents and brother Harold Egan. He leaves behind siblings Rita Maureen Egan Hubert of Seattle; Joshua Egan Breland of Auburn, Wash.; James Edward Egan of Honolulu; godchildren Lauren Rhoades and James Goff; as well as many friends. The funeral at Ft. Myer will be at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2013. Donations are welcome to the Marine Corps Scholarship Fund in Don’s name.

Volunteers Make Repairs

Rebuilding Together Alexandria teamed up with Fannie Mae volunteers on Oct. 30 to make updates and repairs for residents of the Arlandria Chirilagou Housing Cooperative, a majority of whom are Latino and many of whom own their co-op. Volunteers painted (above), installed bike racks, and delivered energy efficiency kits (at right).

Seminary Valley

Just returned from a trip to Normandy, France, where Pat got to head up a meeting about tolling technology and got to explore a region that includes Alexandria’s sister city, Caen. We were able to visit the D-Day sites, including American Cemetery, just opened after being closed for the government shutdown. So moving, and just in time for Veterans Day. I was only able to pass through Caen, on my way to Bayeaux to see the tapestry, but it is on my list for next time.

We had to follow the World Series far enough north, and it got me wondering how the Valley’s resident MLB star, Alec Grosser, fared this year as a minor league prospect with the Atlanta Braves. Going to MLB.com, I found that Alec pitched in 10 games (29 innings) for the Braves team in the Rookie Gulf Coast League, striking out 23. His overall win-loss record was 1-3. The 2013 T.C. Williams grad’s overall ERA was a respectable 2.15.

Some of you are Facebook aficionados, and long-time Seminary Valley residents should know that there is a group on that site dedicated to Francis C. Hammond High School Alumni. The folks who post in that group are a close-knit bunch and the very regular posts include photos, connection requests, reunion information, remembrances and “life updates” of the alumni. One recent post is about a 1963 Danish exchange student; another posted photos of numerous Hammond memorabilia. So nice that these memories and connections can flourish in cyberspace.

Have you heard of the city’s Flora Project? The Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities’ Horticulture and Natural Resources Section has surveyed Alexandria’s flora and has developed a number of reports that gardeners and nature lovers might find interesting. In “Vanishing Flora of Washington and Vicinity,” we find that Charles Samuel Rafinesque explored our area in 1826, leaving a considerable catalog. Some of the most detailed information about local flora is included in surveys of the close-by Winkler Preserve.

As recently as 2009, surveys and historical collections in Alexandria yielded a total of more than 800 native vascular plants (including infraspecific taxa and hybrids) representing 366 genera and 128 families. If you participated in the Holmes Run Park Cleanup a few weeks ago, you probably encountered invasive plant species, including garlic mustard, ground ivy, Japanese stiltgrass, porcelain berry and autumn sweetwater clover. You can also go to www.alexandria.gov and head to the department’s page.

This year’s fall leaf collection starts this week (on or about Nov. 13), with the second and third passes on Dec. 4 and Dec. 23, respectively.

Mia Jones

Taylor Run

NEW RECTOR

The Right Reverend Susan golf, Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of Virginia, conducted a service of celebration for a new ministry to induct the Reverend Charles C. McCoy, Jr., as the new rector for Emmanuel Episcopal Church.

The Reverend Jonathan Bryan was the litanist, Beth Boland and Sarah Orndorf were the lectors, Brian Fitch was the organist and Beth Boland was the coordinator for the celebration. During the induction Nancy Kuhn, as lay reader, presented a Bible. Bishop Golf then presented a vessel of water, Christina Bartley, president of the Altar Guild, presented a stole, Judy Bryan presented the Book of Common Prayer, Nancy Dugan, representing the Inreach Committee, presented a vessel of olive oil, and Vonda Delavie presented the keys of the church.

The Reverend John Hortum, Dean of Region IV, presented the Constitution and Canons of the church. Michelle Vaughan, head of the Christian Education Committee, presented a tippet. Lola Beggs and Bob Carrigher, co-chairs of the Search Committee, presented gifts of bread and wine. Acolytes were Torrence Delawie, John Dresen, Hannah Buckman and Henry Watson. Hamilton Beggs carried the banner in the procession. Meredith Wade and Christina Bartley organized the reception. Others attending the service were Pat and Chuck Mills, George Tuttle, Gudrun Callahan, Jim Brady, Moina Ratliff, and Barbara Harslem.

Lois Kelso Hunt
Educational Internships

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EMPLOYMENT

DEADLINES

Zones 5, 6 ............................... Tues @ 11:00 Zones 1, 3 ............................. Tues @ 4:00 Zone 2 ............................. Wed @ 1:00

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**21 Announcements**

**Environmental Policy Commission Public Information Meeting on New Stormwater Regulations**
Monday, November 18
Where: City Hall (City Council Room 1101), 301 King Street
The City of Alexandria’s Environmental Policy Commission (EPC) hopes residents will attend a public information meeting to learn more about the proposed new Stormwater Control Ordinance and Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance documents. That are designed to meet state regulations and water quality pollution reductions required by federal regulations.
For more information on the City’s Environmental and Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance visit: www.alexandriava.gov/Environment http://www.alexandria-va.gov/Environment. To provide comments, contact Claudia Hamblin-Kahrik, Watershed Program Administrator, Office of Environmental Sustainability, 250 South Fairfax Drive, Alexandria, VA 22314. Members with questions can email ASCOelec-tcasting at a meeting held on Dec. 3, 2013, 8:30-9:00 AM at 2012 to elect the President Elect, four seats on the Board of Directors, and two seats on the Nominating Committee for service beginning June 2, 2013. Members wishing to provide oral presentation at the meeting should contact Claudia Hamblin-Kahrik at Claudia.Hamblin-Kahrik@alexandria-v.a.gov or 703-740-6055.

**21 Announcements**

**LEGAL NOTICE**
Notice is hereby given to members of the NY, nonprofit, American Society of Clinical Oncology to sell or manufacture CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine establishment is applying to receive a license to serve alcoholic beverages. Application is due on or before April 1, 2013.

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**21 Announcements**

**Fairfax Water Notice of Water Rate Public Hearing**
At 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 12, 2013, Fairfax Water will conduct a public hearing on its proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges. The hearing will be held in Fairfax Water’s offices at 8970 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax, VA.
The proposed changes, to be effective April 1, 2014, include the following:
1. An increase in the Availability Charge from $3,850 to $3,950.
2. An increase in the Local Facilities Charge from $9,500 to $9,750.
3. An increase in the Service Connection Charge from $1,050 to $1,090.
4. An increase in the Account Charge from $35 to $36.
5. An increase in the Quarterly Billing Service Charge from $9.20 to $9.40.
6. An increase in the base Commodity Charge from $2.29 to $2.42 per 1,000 gallons of water.
7. An increase in the Peak Use Charge from $5.34 to $5.50 per 1,000 gallons of water.
8. An increase in the Fees for Use of Fairfax Water Fire Hydrants to include the increase in the Commodity Charge and Peak Use Charge.
9. An increase in the Installation of a Sewer Use Meter Charge from $44 to $50.
10. An increase in the Returned Payment Charge from $17 to $20.
The proposed changes can be viewed on our Web site at http://fairfaxwater.com/rates/index.htm. Those wishing to speak at this hearing or desiring a copy of the proposed changes should call Ms. Eva Catlin at 703-289-6017. Interested parties also may submit written comments to PublicInformation@FairfaxWater.org or mail written comments to Fairfax Water, Public Hearing Comments, 8970 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax, VA 22031.
All written comments must be received by close of business on Wednesday, December 11, 2013 to be included in the record of the public hearing.

**Letters**

**FROM PAGE 12**

God. To them, a Day of Thanksgiving was purely religious. Their first recorded religious observance of Thanksgiving was held in 1623 in response to a providential rainfall.**

Virginians have another tie to our modern Thanksgiving celebration. Alexandria’s famous son George Washington issued his first annual proclamation on Oct. 3, 1789, by calling for day of public thanksgiving, fasting (not fasting) and prayer on Thursday, Nov. 2, for the many blessings God had bestowed on our country, asking pardon for our national transgressions, and seeking His aid in our future endeavors. Later governors and presidents continued this tradition of setting aside a day for thanksgiving.

It is appropriate for us to celebrate today, like our predecessors, with attendance at a thanksgiving service to God as well as feeding and feast with family and friends.

Virginia is proud to tell our story and claim our heritage as the first English-speaking people to celebrate a public thanksgiving for our personal blessings as well as to those to our community and nation.

Ellen Latane Tabb
Alexandria
Richard Abell
Mount Vernon

**Win-Win Solution**

To the Editor:
The City Council is now seriously considering using its power of eminent domain to take the parking lot owned by the Old Dominion Boat Club at the foot of King Street on the Potomac River.
I support the council taking this step, if it is necessary, but I don’t believe it should be necessary.
There is at least one compelling reason for removing the parking lot. The area where the lot is located is an exceptionally interesting historic area of Alexandria. Indeed, it is a key part of this port city’s story. To keep a surface parking lot in that location in perpetuity — even if it was reduced in size, as the city proposed last summer — would be an affront to all who care about Alexandria’s proud history.

There is a simple solution to this controversy, one that would benefit the boat club and the public. It was proposed in the first draft of the city’s waterfront plan, but then dropped.

City staff had proposed moving the club’s parking lot to the ground level of a new restaurant/retail building that would frame a redesigned Waterfront Park — a site immediately adjacent to where the lot is now located.

Thus, the club would still have a convenient and secure parking area.

The city also offered to give the club a portion of the tax revenues from the restaurant and retail use, money that the club could use, for example, to pay for repairs or renovations of its clubhouse.

The boat club never gave a public response to this potential win-win solution. Perhaps the city could sweeten the offer in some way. It would be worth it.

Bill Hendrickson
Alexandria

**Participate In Smokeout**

To the Editor:
Thursday, Nov. 21, marks the 38th annual Great American Smokeout sponsored by the American Cancer Society. The Smokeout encourages smokers to use the date to make a plan to quit, or to plan in advance and quit smoking that day. By quitting — even for one day — smokers will be taking an important step towards a healthier life — one that can lead to reducing their risk of cancer and other tobacco-related illnesses.

Tobacco use and exposure to secondhand smoke remain the leading causes of preventable or premature death and disease in the U.S.

Surveys consistently show that over 70 percent of smokers say they are “ready to quit” and about 50 percent have a quit attempt each year. However, only a small percent are successful due to the lack of easy access to effective cessation services. Such access is all the more difficult for residents of affordable housing since most are low-income and many are uninsured or underserved.

The City Council should be congratulated for its recent action that will soon provide residents of affordable housing with easy access to effective and affordable comprehensive smoking cessation services (including counseling, nicotine replacement and pharmacological therapies). This action, coupled with its initiative over two years ago in placing smoke free signs in all city-owned parks, playgrounds and bus shelters, are a few ways in which the City Council honors the Great American Smokeout every day of the year.

Richard E. Merritt
And Ripley Forbes
Co-Chairs, Alexandria Coalition for Clean and Smoke Free Air

**More Deficit Spending**

To the Editor:
Beyond the reasons the Alexandria Council of Human Service Organizations’ Fay D Slotnick’s op-ed ("Expand Medicaid to Help Hard-Working Alexandrians," Gazette Packet, Nov. 7) gave for Virginia to expand Medicaid under ObamaCare, she failed to mention one: Virginia would join Medicaid and more money more readily would flow into the coffers of some human service organizations which today are not getting it or would have to jump through more hoops to get that money from other sources.

Approximately half the states have de- clined to join ObamaCare’s Medicaid expansion. Although the federal government “promises” to cover all the costs now and 90 percent “forever,” the federal government cannot realistically afford to do so.

See Letters, Page 30
Time To Be Thankful
To the Editor:
Awe...the beauty of the holidays, a Thanksgiving-time full of autumn leaves throughout the city, a season of fashion and sense of warmth.
We capture moments full of laughter and conversations. We all have our own manner of speaking — sometimes without a word spoken.
I recently had a brief conversation with a gentleman, whom I respect, with a beautiful family and do keep in mind for the holidays. As a volunteer activist I try to make my best effort to reach out to help those in need receive supplies, food, clothing, etc. from charitable organizations. Yet I found myself a little speechless a few weeks ago.
I said to the gentleman: “I didn’t place your name on the Thanksgiving basket list, but will for Christmas.” The reply was: “I saw you talking to the lady without any children. I was wondering why you didn’t ask me if we needed or wanted a Thanksgiving basket?”
That’s where I had to just listen without a word for a bit. Then I just stated nicely my list was full and often the same people receive baskets each year. Since so many are in need, I give others a chance to receive even without any children. Let’s be thankful for what we do have and all the little blessings throughout the holidays. Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Geri Baldwin
Alexandria

Letters

Fiscally Irresponsible
To the Editor:
Sometime soon when Citizens for an Alternative Alexandria Waterfront under Andrew MacDonald’s leadership wanted to buy some of the Washington Port Company’s waterfront property for green open space, this idea was met with heaps of scorn. How ridiculous, how fiscally irresponsible to suggest buying such expensive land at the river’s edge, the proponents of the now enacted waterfront plan said. The owners of that land wanted to sell it and eventually did so for an undisclosed price. Now Mayor Eulille and that same group of waterfront plan proponents want to acquire a large part if not all of the Old Dominion Boat Club parking lot for construction of an open paved plaza at the end of King Street. The boat club does not want to sell its parking lot so the mayor is threatening to use eminent domain. He also says that the boat club is being unreasonable and stubborn in refusing the city’s offers. That would be true only if there were ample parking for all visitors to the waterfront. All of us who live in the Alexandria know that parking in that area is extremely hard to find. The boat club is a private entity which collects dues from members. Part of what the members receive for their dues is a boat launch at the shore line next to their parking lot and the convenience of adjacent park- ing. Not having to circle the area looking for a parking spot that may not exist anywhere within walking distance to the club is an important amenity. If the City Council decides to go forward with eminent domain, Alexandria will have to pay for whatever is taken from the boat club. That price will ultimately be determined by a court, probably after both the club and the city spend pay significant legal fees over what each side as already spent.

As I understand the law the Virginia General Assembly passed recently, the subject of an eminent domain taking is entitled not just to the worth of whatever land was taken, but compensatory damages, if its ability to carry on its usual operations is diminished. The argument that it cannot operate successfully without its parking would certainly be available to the boat club. I foresee our city spending a great deal of money on a small piece of property at a time when the city is facing many fiscal challenges. It would be fiscally irresponsible.

Let the boat club be a good neighbor by replacing its chain length fence with one acceptable to the Board of Architectural Review for the Old and Historic District. At the same time, the boat club should replace its asphalt parking lot with one with a pervious surface. In the age of global warming, either an asphalt parking lot or a paved plaza at the water’s edge is obscene.

Katy Cannady
Alexandria

Tiny Dancers Receives Accolades

Tiny Dancers, located on S. Washington Street in Old Town, has been voted “Best Ballet or Dance Studio” by readers of Washington Family Magazine. In addition, Tiny Dancers was previously named among the “Best in Virginia” by Virginia Living Magazine and “Best of NoVa” by Northern Virginia Magazine. The company offers a literacy based curriculum designed for children ages 2-12. See www.tinydancers.com.
TC Football Ends 22-Year Playoff Drought

Titans will travel to face South County in opening round of regionals.

By Jon Roetman
Gazette Packet

T.C. Williams head football coach Dennis Randolph sensed the potential for a letdown prior to his team's regular-season finale against West Potomac on Nov. 9.

The Titans already had a historic achievement under their belts — qualifying for the postseason for the first time since 1990. Would they approach this game with focus and passion or rest on their laurels?

"Today, I was a little disappointed in our approach to the game," Randolph said afterward. "Before the game ... I think there was a little bit of that. 'We're in, maybe that's enough.'"

A second-half shutout by the TC defense helped the Titans avoid entering the playoffs on a sour note.

T.C. Williams defeated rival West Potomac 24-14 on Saturday afternoon at Parker-Gray Stadium. The victory gave the Titans their first seven-win season in more than a decade and eliminated the Wolverines from the playoff hunt.

T.C. Williams, which this season snapped a 22-year playoff drought, enters the VHSL's 6A North region power points poll and will travel to face No. 8 South County in the first round of regionals.

"It's special," Clarke said. "It feels great. All the credit goes to the guys. Avery Williams said. "It's why I'm here. It has nothing to do with us making the playoffs. It feels great. All the credit goes to the guys. They've worked extremely hard over the last three years. Guys working out in the weight room, traveling up and down the East Coast going to camps, working on their technique, understanding the fundamentals of the game. They deserve this."

The defense played a major role in Saturday's victory over West Potomac. The Wolverines tied the score at 14-all when quarterback D'Mornay Pierson-El reached the end zone on a 3-yard run on the final play of the first half, but West Potomac didn't score the rest of the game.

The greatest challenge facing the Titans on Saturday was finding a way to contain Pierson-El, who is committed to the University of Nebraska as a slot receiver and kick returner. TC finished with 10 sacks and limited Pierson-El to a pair of first-half touchdown runs.

Linebacker Kevin Perry led TC with 17 tackles, two sacks and a forced fumble. Jeremy Wahyudi had 11 tackles and two sacks, and Kyreem Walton had 10 tackles, two sacks and a forced fumble.

"He's a great player," Walton said about Pierson-El. "He showed why Nebraska picked him up. He showed his DJ potential. ... You've got to actually buzz your feet with him. ... You've got to actually watch him because any move, he'll take advantage of any space."

TC running back Lamont Whiteside rushed for 121 yards and a touchdown against West Potomac.

Football: T. C. Williams senior Philip Tyler carries the ball against West Potomac on Nov. 9.
Photos by Louise Krafft/Gazette Packet

T.C. Williams running back Lamont Whiteside rushed for 121 yards and a touchdown against West Potomac.

Football: T.C. Williams linebacker Kyreem Walton (27) tackles West Potomac receiver R. Marquis Saldana during the Titans' win.

T.C. Williams running back Lamont Whiteside rushed for 121 yards and a touchdown against West Potomac.
Program Benefits Business-Oriented Veterans

Jeanne Hulit, acting administrator of the Small Business Administration, and Steve Caldeira, IFA president & CEO of the International Franchise Association, posed for pictures and signed an agreement signifying a newfound commitment of their organizations to veterans. According to representatives in the MOAA, SBA and the IFA, it doesn’t matter what Congress or the Department of Defense are doing with retiree benefits, important that those in the private sector pick up the slack and show their appreciation for veterans and their role in rejuvenating the economy.

Part of the goal of these programs is bridging the gap between those who have dreams and those who have access to capital. After WWII, veterans became the driving force behind an emerging U.S. economy. They continue to this day, as of 2013, veterans own and operate 2.5 million small businesses in the U.S. and have created 6 million jobs, according to figures released by the Small Business Association on Tuesday.

“Exactly. This problem doesn’t really tend to affect those receiving a retirement or pension as seriously because most higher ranking officers and enlisted these days tend to have a bachelor’s degree and many by the time they pass 20 years have a master’s,” said retired U.S. Army Col. Bob Norton, deputy director for government relations at the Military Officers Association of America, referring to the difficult transition to civilian life that many service members face. “Its really the guys who served tours in Afghanistan and are coming back, those who served say six or seven years — and women are at risk as well, being that many military personnel are single parents — or those in the age bracket 18-24, they are the ones most at risk.”

The unemployment rates for those between the ages of 18-24 are high. According to the 2010 Census, the unemployment rates for those 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 were 25.9 and 15.5 percent. It’s an employer’s market, or a labor surplus, so times are especially hard for those trying to start out in any career.

“They aren’t asking for a handout, just an opportunity to show their skills,” Norton said. “They may be a world class expert and might have no idea how needed they are in a given industry. These programs provide them with the ability to get those civilian certifications that make all the difference in success. Some veterans come out and don’t know what’s out there, so we are here to make sure that there are those there to be mentors to the young men and women.”

Federal programs, which are vital to the success of veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families, are in danger of being limited or even eliminated all together. “In particular on the G.I. Bill, I am a supporter of the idea that it’s a bad idea to have two G.I. Bills,” Norton said, referring to the Montgomery G.I. Bill, applied to those retiring in the last decade, and the new Post-9/11 G.I. Bill. “I think the new one is miles and miles ahead of the old one and definitely does more to support our veterans. But, it is more expensive.”

Organizations like MOAA are focused on fighting to preserve the rights of veterans, and what is one of the few hopes for job security and secure retirement that remains in the U.S. economy.

“This is when we are really at our best,” Norton said. “There’s nothing we can do better than to acknowledge the service of veterans.”

Bulletin Board

From Page 26
MONDAY/NOV. 18
Open House, 9 a.m. at Saint Rita Catholic School, 3801 Russell Road. Learn about the elementary and preschool through tours and presentation. Visit www.saintrita-school.org for more.

TUESDAY/NOV. 19
Waterfront Commission, 7:30 a.m. City Hall, Room 2000, 301 King St. Contact Jack Browand, jack.browand@alexandriava.gov, 703-746-5504.
City Council Special Meeting and Public Hearing, 6 p.m. City Hall, Council Chamber, 301 King St. Contact 703-746-4500.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 20
Alexandria Works! Coalition Meeting, 10 a.m. JobLink, 1900 Beauregard St. Contact Dennis McKinney, 703-746-5874.
OPINION

Living Life Their Way

FROM PAGE 12

“What do you want? What do you dream of doing? What do you see in your future?”

The same kind of questions that any young adult might be asked. The questioner has to remember that if he or she doesn’t get an answer, that doesn’t mean there isn’t one. It may mean the person needs to think about it, maybe figure out steps along the way and maybe, most importantly, feel safe enough and comfortable enough to say what they really want.

Their first choices on what they want to do and where they want to live may not work out. They may want to make a change, just like anyone else. They need to know they have a right to make mistakes, just like everyone else.

The whole point of person-centered thinking is that there are individual solutions for individuals.

Housing can not just be a choice between group home or independent apartment, jobs must be more than rote work, and leisure activities offer the same variety that anyone might pursue.

To learn more about what is possible, what is good and what is still wrong, about life for today’s adult with development disabilities, come to the workshop on Nov. 20 at 7 p.m. at the Beatley Library, 5005 Duke Street.

BUSINESS NOTES

The Inova Joseph Viar Jr. and Bonnie Christ Cancer Center – Alexandria was recently presented with the 2012 Outstanding Achievement Award by the American College of Surgeons’ Commission on Cancer. The award acknowledges cancer programs that achieve excellence in providing quality care to cancer patients.

Boston Medical Group has opened in Alexandria. The clinic will offer treatments for sexual dysfunction. Call 888-740-5163 or visit www.bostonmedicalgroup.com.


The Metropolitan School of the Arts Studio in Alexandria has started its Training for Turkey adult fitness program now through Nov. 28, offering unlimited adult fitness classes for $50. Metropolitan School of the Arts will host a Thanksgiving Day MetroBarre and Yoga Class on Thursday, Nov. 28 to bring in the holiday. Packages can be purchased at www.metropolitanarts.org.

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Local Author Produces Children’s Book ‘David Has a Purpose’

When asked what do they want to be when they grow up, many children will recite a long and varied list of occupations from doctor to rocket scientist. Alexandria resident and first-time author Inir Raissa Some’s new children’s book “David Has a Purpose” helps children to see that they, like the main character, have a God-given purpose.

“I want every parent to know that their child has a purpose in life and I think it’s important that they help them to fulfill that purpose,” she said. The book was released this fall and is available through Tate Publishing and Enterprising (www.tatepublishing.com), Amazon and Barnes and Noble.

She drew most of her inspiration for the book from her own faith and her family’s interaction with her church, Action Chapel Virginia at 6295 Edsall Road. “Bishop Kibby Otoo has been very encouraging and supportive. In fact, he is expecting me to write even more books,” she said. Some is actively involved in the children services, dance team and other activities at Action Chapel.

Being a mother, she knows the importance of guiding her two children, Nelsa and Lucio, in finding and fulfilling his or her God-given purpose.

“Some of the best advice that I can give them is to look at what they are good at whether it is painting, singing or dancing and to God for his guidance,” she said.

“Even though this is her first book, Some said the greatest challenge was finding a publisher and other issues dealing with the publishing process. It took her six months to complete and publish the book.

One of her favorite hobbies includes thinking up new ideas for stories and plays. She is already working on a new children’s book featuring David where he learns more about God and all of his creations.

During her spare time, she also enjoys listening to music and watching movies and cleaning or organizing. Even though she is a fairly new resident, she really enjoys Old Town. “I love Alexandria, most people in this area are very friendly and respectful. You have all kinds of stores and restaurants in this area, Old Town Alexandria is alive,” she said.

Some has a bachelor’s in business administration from Strayer University.

Playfest Sold-out

Students, staff and community members performed in front of packed audiences both nights and shared their dreams, their disappointments and their unwillingness to accept dreams deferred for the Playfest at T.C. Williams Black Box Theatre this past weekend.

In 2011, the Playfest made its debut in the city at the Lee Center for the Performing Arts in Old Town and featured local playwrights Shanelle Gayden and Jaason Ellis. This year there were more students involved in the production of the festival from the selection of the playwrights to the stage management.

TC Satellite students and staff were featured in the scenes dealing with teen pregnancy, legislation deeming homeboys as terrorists, struggling with identity, difficult relationships and the love of language.

Playfest was made possible by the support of Interim Superintendent Dr. Alvin Crawley, Deputy Superintendent Dr. Madye Henson, Dr. James Wilson (principal of TC Satellite Campus), Morning Bishop (founder), Larry Trice, Leslie Jones, Hope Bachman, Shawn Thorpe (Center for the Arts K12), Gary Ayers, Brittany Hinton, Anderson Jarreau, Anthony Pullen, DayQuon Henderson, Jaylen Lervere, Ghaida Elsher, Danielle Stewart, Lerene Olliverrie (stage manager), Laura Olliverrie, Tayler Boykin and Bryanna Williams.

After each show, the actors gathered to share their creative process with the audience. Excerpts will be performed again during the BTE’s Coffeehouse at the Leavel Center on the Georgetown University campus, Nov. 18, 7 p.m.
You Have Saturdays Off
That’s Exactly Why We Don’t!