

# Alexandria Gazette Packet



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SERVING ALEXANDRIA FOR OVER 200 YEARS • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

OCTOBER 14, 2010

## Controversy Along The Waterfront

Small-area plan must strike a balance between competing visions.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria's waterfront used to be the city's front door, welcoming ships to what was once one of the most thriving ports on the Eastern Seaboard. In later years, the waterfront would become the city's back door, burdened with heavy industrial use and parking lots. Now city planning officials are on the verge of releasing a draft small-area plan that would dramatically reshape the waterfront. But residents are at odds with planning officials over several key details, putting the waterfront plan in the crosshairs of a debate about the future of Alexandria.

"As it currently exists, the plan has no soul," said Poul Hertel, who was president of the Old Town Civic Association when the waterfront planning process began. "There's nothing tying it all together. It's just a patchwork of separate spaces."

One of the biggest sticking points is a proposed building that would be constructed in Waterfront Park. The new structure would accommodate parking for the Old Dominion Boat Club, which would free up that area for a new proposed dock at the foot of King Street. Plans call for the building to include one or more restaurants as well as flood mitigation. But many Old Towners say Waterfront Park should be preserved, and that Old Dominion Boat Club members should park somewhere else.

"I'm appalled," said Pat Troy, who uses the park for an annual Irish Festival. "They are using the dispute with the Old Dominion Boat Club as a ploy to take the park away, and I think that's a terrible idea."

Another sticking point is the future of two waterfront warehouses, which are currently used to ship large rolls of newsprint. City officials are anticipating that the current owner will want to sell the two Robinson Terminal sites which flank the north and south ends of Old Town. The concept plan calls for two hotels at the Robinson Terminal sites, but some neighbors are concerned that hotels might be too big and too exclusive. Others welcome the new hotels as a potential boon for business.

"I'm for anything that will make the waterfront more vibrant," said Bob Lorenson, owner of the Virginia Shop. "And that means construction of hotels, restaurants, parking garages and parks."

**THE FIRST PUBLIC FORUM** on the waterfront planning process were conducted last spring. Those were followed by a series of walking tours and community meetings. Planning officials visited New York City in August 2009. The concept plan was issued in May, and negotiations with the Old Dominion Boat Club have been ongoing. Because the key to the plan is the proposal for a new pier at the foot of King Street, city officials must strike some kind of deal with the Old Do-

SEE WATERFRONT, PAGE 16



### In Memory of Fallen Firefighters

The ceremonial unit of the Alexandria Fire Department begins the presentation of colors at the department's annual memorial service and wreath-laying ceremony at Ivy Hill Cemetery on Friday, Oct. 8.

MORE PHOTOS, PAGE 16

PHOTO BY LA SHAWN AVERY-SIMONS/GAZETTE PACKET

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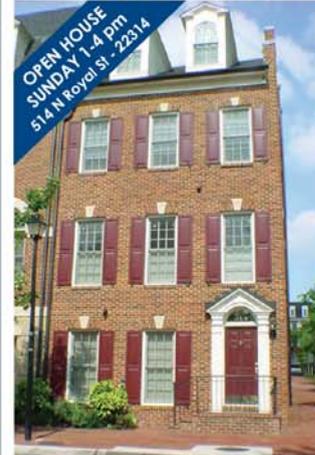
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## Euille Returns

After stumbling on a Metro platform earlier this month, Mayor **Bill Euille** was out of commission for a few days following surgery on his right knee. Now the mayor is off painkillers and back on the job, presiding over Tuesday's City Council meeting from City Manager **Jim Hartmann's** seat, allowing him maximum legroom to stretch out. He even used Deputy City Manager **Michele Evans' leopard-print footstool** to get through the night.

"I'm back," Euille announced Tuesday night after putting his crutches down. "And I feel good."

The mayor warned that he would not be keeping the same hectic schedule however. No more kissing babies or cutting ribbons, at least for now. And the mayor's social events have been taken off the public schedule. Euille will preside over City Council meetings and attend to official business, even though his cast prevents him from driving for the foreseeable future.

"To be honest, I'm a little bored," Euille admitted in the elevator after Tuesday night's meeting. "I could never be retired."

## Quartered in Market Square

La Cuisine owner **Nancy Pollard** wanted to bring an image of **François Ravaiillac** to the Market Square protest of parking meter fares Tuesday night. That's the Catholic zealot who murdered **King Henry IV** of France in 1610. The government responded by repeatedly torturing Ravaiillac before pulling him apart with four horses galloping in opposite directions.

"We're being quartered to death," said Pollard, referring to pocket change rather than medieval torture. "There are a lot of empty parking spaces in Old Town."

When the new fiscal year started in July, parking meter fees spiked 75 percent. Spaces that once required \$1 an hour now require \$1.75 an hour, making many retailers and homeowners anxious. Many businesses say sales have been sluggish, and they blame the drastically increased need for quarters as the chief culprit. Meanwhile, some homeowners are concerned that drivers will take residential spaces instead of forking over added pocket change.

"This is putting a lot of pressure on homeowners in Old Town," said **Cindy Smith**, who lives on Payne Street and participated in the Market Square protest. "People are doing anything to avoid the new parking meter fees, and that includes parking on my street."

The solution, according to those who organized the rally, is for city officials to take immediate action. Parking meter fees should be reduced to what they were before the increase during the holiday shopping season, they say. Several said they are fine with the rates going up, as long as the new multi-space meters make it easier than carrying around a roll of quarters just to do a little shopping.

"They way things are now, it's hurting our business," said **Kim Putens**, owner of Bloomers and Bella Cara on Upper King Street. "Everybody is rushed and frustrated."

## Compromise Targeted

Former Del. **Marian Van Landingham** (D-45) wasn't able to get much traction for her proposal that would have created a new city department to oversee operations at the Torpedo Factory Art Center. And she would have preferred to maintain the dominance of the Torpedo Factory Artists' Association. But if the Alexandria City Council members absolutely insist on creating a new governing board, then she's fine with a modification offered by Councilman **Rob Krupicka** Tuesday night.

"It's definitely an improvement," Van Landingham said on her way out of City Hall. "This is the most acceptable option that's also looks like it's possible."

The compromise would remove voting powers of the so-called "ex officio members," which many artists opposed as a weakening of their participation on the governing board. In addition, Krupicka suggested, a member of the Arts Commission should be added to the new governing board. That brings the composition to five artists and five City Council appointees.

"In my view, that creates a balance on the board," said the councilman.

New articles of incorporation and by-laws are on the docket for Saturday's public hearing.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

## NEWS



PHOTO BY MICHAEL LEE POPE/GAZETTE PACKET

**Superintendent Morton Sherman opens the door to one of the new early childhood classrooms at John Adams Elementary School, which are housed in modular units constructed over the summer.**

# Opening the Door to Early Childhood

**City expands pre-Kindergarten opportunities to families without other options.**

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**O**ne in four children walk into John Adams Elementary School without what educators call a "quality preschool experience." That puts these children at a considerable disadvantage right out of the gate, leaving them struggling to understand the basics while their classmates are moving ahead at a rapid clip. For decades, federal money has gone to help offer a pre-Kindergarten experience to a few. But Head Start has a waiting list that continues to grow, and federal restrictions limit which families can participate.

Enter Alexandria City Public Schools. Now the city government has entered the traditional realm of private pre-K providers by opening the new Early Childhood Center on the first floor of the newly renovated John Adams Elementary School. Although the target demographic is families that don't have access to programs, school officials want to open the doors to families that might not qualify for Head Start to create a diverse population. Alexandria Superintendent Morton Sherman says previous school administrators made a mistake by letting the city handle pre-K rather than taking their own initiative.

"In 1999, Arlington made the right decision and Alexandria made the wrong decision," said Sherman while leading a tour of the facility this week. "For a long time, we have suffered because of that decision."

Sherman says the school system hopes to expand early childhood centers in the coming years, similar to the way Arlington since 1999. One of the innovations this mode of pre-Kindergarten offers is a sense of continuity. Unlike a traditional pre-K program, this center exists at the same building where the students will enroll in Kindergarten. That creates a sense of alignment that's absent in most programs, housing the city's new preschool with the Head Start program administered by the Campagna Center.

"It's an inclusive model," said Principal Gene May. "We're trying to house them all in one place so that we can get some common goals and common direction so that we are all working toward preparing kids for Kindergarten."

**"We know that there's a huge waiting list to get into pre-K. So the more we can offer programs, we can hopefully get all children in Alexandria into a pre-K program."**

— School Board Chairwoman  
**Yvonne Folkerts**

**EDUCATORS AND** city leaders are united in their support for early childhood education, and years of studies have shown the importance of the first five years of life. But the goal of expanding early childhood education has remained an elusive goal for Alexandria, where about 25 percent of students still walk into the first day of classes without the ability to count or spell. Statistics show the disparities tend to become more exaggerated after the first day of school.

"The achievement gap starts in the first five years of life," said Councilman Rob Krupicka, who is also a member of the Virginia School Board.

Now the school system is taking an active role in closing that gap rather than leaving it for the city to

SEE EARLY CHILDHOOD, PAGE 9

BUSINESS MATTERS

## A Future So Bright

There's something about the way **Charlotte Hall** wears those ever-present sunglasses. The Potomac Riverboat Company vice president wears them during City Council meetings, and while directing traffic along Union Street. She wore them while advocating for the creation of the King Street Trolley and helping move the Alexandria Convention and Visitors Association from a backwater city office to a thriving public-private partnership.

"She wears them well," explained Potomac Riverboat Company owner **Willem Pollack** during a keynote speech honoring Hall's contribution as Business Leader of the Year for 2010.

Each table at the fete received a handful of dark sunglasses emblazoned with the logo of Alexandria automotive mogul **Jack Taylor**. The dark shades had a classic design, reminiscent of the kind **Tom Cruise** wore in the 1983 smash hit "Risky Business," although the sides of the sunglasses came in a variety of fluorescent hues advertising Jack Taylor Toyota. Several speakers poked fun at her car, known as the "land yacht," her looming stature and her persistent nature.

"She leaves no tracks," explained longtime friend "Mango" Mike Anderson. "She never forgets anything."

Hall took the podium wearing those trademark dark shades to accept the award and, characteristically, took the opportunity to lobby for action. "If we're lucky, we'll see Landmark Mall redeveloped," said the statuesque Business Leader for 2010. "And maybe a revitalized waterfront."

## Hangover Doldrums

Alexandria's economy is sluggish and struggling to recover from the global financial meltdown, according to the latest monthly financial report issued to City Council this week. In the economic update, budget officials acknowledge that the commercial real-estate market remains "in the doldrums," and that the city's residential real-estate market is currently "in the economic equivalent of a hangover" from the expiration of a homebuyers' tax credit. "A three-month trailing average of sales tax collections are well below last year's collections," wrote City Manager **Jim Hartmann** in the latest economic update. "Unemployment rates are higher, with the most extreme increases in the most advanced economies that experienced a crisis."

Alexandria's unemployment rate is at a staggering 4.9 percent. Although that's half the national average, it's also double the rate a few years ago. The good news is that **Uncle Sam** remains the region's top employer, creating a measure of stability in Alexandria's job market. Another bright spot in the economic report is revenue from the city's meals tax, which turned positive in May. And average room rates have increased from \$129 in July 2009 to \$148 in July 2010.

"As measured by tax collections," Hartmann concluded, "Alexandria's economy presents a picture of a gradually improving economy."

## Transition at Campagna

One of Alexandria's most prominent nonprofit businesses is looking for new leadership now that president and CEO **Karen Hughes** has announced she'll be leaving Alexandria for Texas in December. Hughes, who has been in the corner office of the nonprofit's historic South Washington Street address since November 2006, has decided to move her family back to Dallas. That's where she has family members that can help raise her newly adopted preschool son.

"It's very difficult to leave Alexandria," Hughes explained during the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce Business Awards. "But once a Texan always a Texan."

During her time at the nonprofit, which runs the federally funded Head Start program, Hughes tried to steer the organization toward a tighter focus on its core mission. That meant disappointing some volunteers by canceling the Toast of Alexandria after 26 years. Hughes also arranged for a significant portion of funding for the 40th anniversary of the Scottish Walk to come from the city's sister city Dundee.

"Be careful when you are surfing on your iPad," Hughes warned the chuckling captains of industry last weekend. "I was not looking for a job, but I found one."

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

## BUSINESS



**Lisa Greey, Katie Finch and Dawn Wullschleger get ready to taste their free cupcakes outside Alexandria Cupcake Oct. 9.**



**Cate Cox, 4, digs into a cupcake from Alexandria Cupcake during the Oct. 9 grand opening celebration.**

PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

## Cupcake Craze

Alexandria Cupcake on King Street celebrated its grand opening Oct. 9 with a ribbon cutting and free cupcakes. "This is the only place we considered opening a shop," said owner Kathy Taylor, who along with partner Adnan Hamidi concoct the sweet treats. "We are excited to be a part of the Alexandria business community."

## Reception for Artfully Gifts & Chocolate

BY GALE CURCIO  
GAZETTE PACKET

**W**alk into the Prince Street branch of Virginia Commerce Bank and one may notice that things are a little brighter in the bank lobby. Adorning the walls are several pieces of artwork by Eric Nelson.

A longtime customer of Virginia Commerce Bank, the bank has given Nelson an opportunity to display his work for customers to view and purchase.

The bank also hosted a reception for Nelson and Rob Kingsbury as part of a pre-launch for their new store, Artfully Gifts & Chocolate. Originally Artfully Paper and Kingsbury Chocolates, the duo have closed their Artfully Paper location in Del Ray and will be opening in the Carlyle complex near the King Street Metro in a few weeks. This will be their third location, in addition to ACKC Cocoa Bar in Del Ray and downtown Washington.

The new store, Artfully Gifts & Chocolates, will carry Kingsbury/ACKC brand chocolates in addition to all of the stationery and gift items.

For those who are not yet familiar with Kingsbury's works, he is known for handmade chocolates, truffles, fudge, sugar creams, triple nut clusters, cashew toffee, Fleur de Sel Caramels and licorice.

Guests at the reception sampled several of Kingsbury's creations, among them, chocolate-covered



**Rob Kingsbury welcomes guests, along with Alexandria Mayor Bill Euille and Alexandria Vice-Mayor Kerry Donnelly.**



**Board members Margaret Evans-Joyce and Carolyn Winters from Little Theatre of Alexandria enjoy what Virginia Commerce Bank CEO Peter Converse has to say to the crowd.**

PHOTOS BY GALE CURCIO/GAZETTE PACKET

mangoes, chocolate and pear-flavored shooters and mocha mousse-filled waffle cones.

Artfully Gifts & Chocolate will be located at 506 John Carlyle Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Visit [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and

search for for Artfully Gifts & Chocolate to follow updates in their opening.

*Gale Curcio is an independent writer and public relations consultant in Mount Vernon.*

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## BUSINESS

# New Consignment Shop Opens

Buy, sell, trade and consign at Labels Exchange

Looking for stylish, name brand shopping without the guilt? Check out Labels Exchange — a new consignment shop on Mount Vernon Avenue in Del Ray.

A visit to Labels Exchange will satisfy serial shoppers with an array of trendy, gently-used and moderately priced apparel, shoes and accessories. Owner Monique Drummond says her goal is to create an atmosphere of “guilt-free” shopping by carrying high quality designer and name-brand clothing she finds at rummage and estate sales as well as through consignment.

“I personally hand-pick and inspect all items for quality, cleanliness and style,” Drummond said.

The merchandise is a combination of vintage, current and even new items that Drummond describes as “previously owned but with the original tags still on.”

Labels Exchange carries men’s and women’s fashions. Styles range from trendy and chic to classic and formal. A recent visit to the store found familiar names like Tommy Hilfiger, Banana Republic, Ann Klein, Ann Taylor and Tahari. Accessories included



SANDY LEVITZ LUNNER/GAZETTE PACKET

**Labels Exchange is a convenient source for local theaters to find period costumes. Owner Monique Drummond shows off an early 20th century dress — the type of vintage clothing that area theaters might purchase for use in a period production.**

high-end designer handbags like Gucci and Fendi, along with a delightful collection of hats, shoes and jewelry.

Located at 2417-B Mount Vernon Avenue, Labels Exchange shares space with Blueberry Art Gallery and owner Shawn Meyers. For information about consigning and to set up an appointment, call 703-836-2211.

— SANDY LEVITZ LUNNER

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PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET



**Lori Williams signs copies of her new CD at the MetroStage launch party Oct. 11.**

**Lonnie Rich, Donnan Wintermute, Marcia Rich, Carolyn Griffin and Adron Krekeler celebrate the launch of Lori Williams' CD at MetroStage Monday night.**

## And All That Jazz

**R**ecording artist Lori Williams launched her debut CD, "Healing Within," with a standing-room only concert at MetroStage Oct. 11. Guest artists included Sylver Logan Sharp, Allyn Johnson and Divine Order and dancer Rita Burns. Williams performed songs from her CD

that ranged from R&B to jazz and included a cover of Bonnie Raitt's "I Can't Make You Love Me" to a soaring version of "Amazing Grace."

"It's such an honor to host an event like this," said MetroStage Artistic Director Carolyn Griffin. "What a gift Lori has given everyone with this CD."

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PEOPLE

# By George!

There's a mouse in the house ...

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Many a ball has been held in honor of George Washington at Gadsby's Tavern over the years, but come Oct. 23, Alexandria's most famous mouse gets to host the honors.

"What better way to introduce children to the rich history of Alexandria than where it all started," said Cheryl Shaw Barnes, author of the children's series of books that includes Alexander, the Old Town Mouse. "This will be a fun way for children to learn and enjoy a ball of their own."

In Barnes' Alexandria-based book, Alexander M. Mouse takes children on an adventure tour of Old Town as he searches to find a costume for the Mousequerade Ball at Gadsby's Tavern. To celebrate Barnes' latest book, "Cappy Tails," Gadsby's Tavern is hosting its own Mousquerade Ball for children, followed by the traditional masquerade ball for adults that evening.

"Kids will be able to make their own costumes or masks and I'll do some reading from my books," Barnes said.

A self-taught artist who was born and raised in Alexandria, Barnes founded VSP Books in 1992 with her husband Peter, the senior Washington correspondent for Fox Business News. Together they have co-authored more than 25 best-selling books, including "Woodrow, the White House Mouse" and "House Mouse, Senate Mouse," as part of their "Mice Way to Learn About Government" series.

"We try to use historic places to make the learning experience entertaining and fun," Barnes said. "I spent two years working on 'Cappy Tails,' which teaches kids about the U.S. Capitol."

**Author Cheryl Shaw Barnes will appear at Gadsby's Tavern Oct. 23 as part of the 'Mousequerade Ball' for children.**

Capitol officials contacted Barnes to do the book in conjunction with the opening of the new Capitol Visitors Center.

"The most challenging part of all my books, but especially 'Cappy Tails,' is duplicating the magnificent architecture of these amazing buildings," said Barnes, who is known for her detailed and colorful illustrations. "I dedicated the book to [artist] Constantino Brumidi, who spent 25 years creating the murals in the Rotunda, so children will ask 'Who's he?' and learn something more."

In 2002, Barnes was asked by First Lady Laura Bush to illustrate the White House Christmas program and in 2004 she and Peter won the 2004 Capital Book Award for their work in promoting literacy and civic education.

"Alexandria has always been my first inspiration," Barnes said. "I still love what I do and hope I can be a part of inspiring children by the amazing history that is all around us."

For more information call 703-746-4242 or visit [www.GadsbysTavern.org](http://www.GadsbysTavern.org).

CRIME BRIEF

## Police Investigate Bank Robbery

Alexandria Police are investigating a bank robbery that occurred Friday, Oct. 8 at the Virginia Commerce Bank, located at 1414 Prince Street.

Around 5:45 p.m., a man walked into the bank and approached the teller. He handed the teller a bag, demanded cash and brandished a handgun. The teller complied. The suspect fled the bank with an undisclosed amount of cash. No one was injured. The suspect is described as a black male, 5 feet 9 inches with a

thin build. He was wearing a black baseball cap, dark gray or black hooded sweatshirt and black jeans. The investigation is ongoing.

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to call the Criminal Investigations Section of the Alexandria Police Department at 703-838-4444 or the Crime Solvers tip line at 703-838-4858.

Detectives would like to remind witnesses that they can remain anonymous.

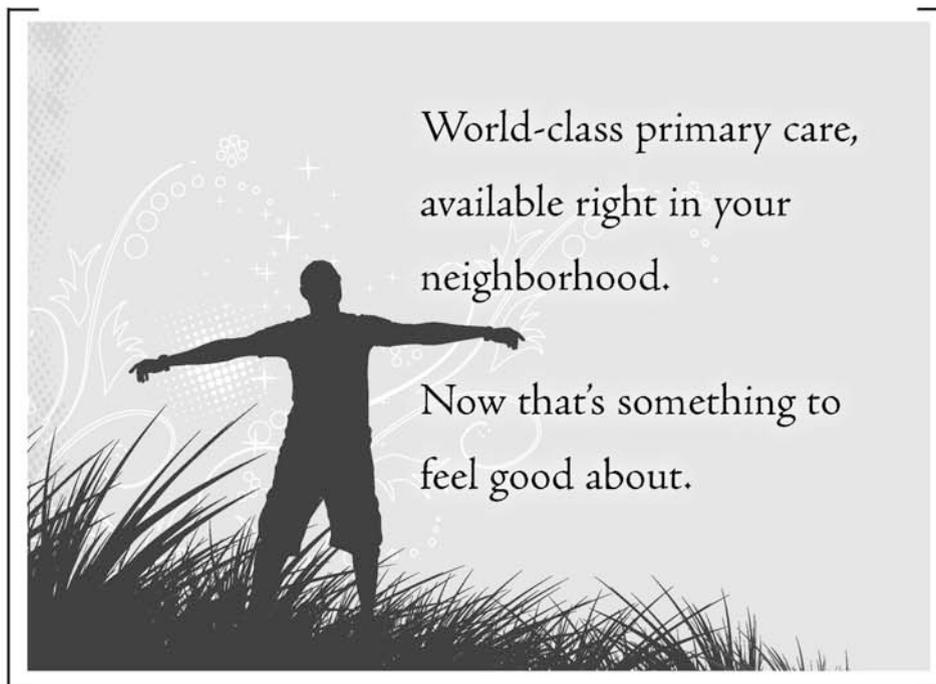
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## NEWS

### Scouts Retire Old Glory



Cubmaster Paul Cannon for local Packs 141 and 821 performed a retirement ceremony of the U.S. flag flown at the Mirant Potomac River Generating Station on Sept. 11. Employees at the power station took notice that the flag displayed was badly worn and needed to be replaced with a new flag. During the ceremony, the scouts cut the flag into smaller pieces but preserving the blue star field. Preserving the blue star field is a symbol that one should never let the union of the 50 states be broken. The remnants of the old flag were then incinerated and the ashes disposed. After a moment of silence, the raising of the new U.S. flag completed the ceremony.

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### OBITUARIES

#### William Douglas Tynan

William Douglas Tynan of Elk Grove Village, Ill., died on Oct. 1, 2010 at Manor Care in Elk Grove Village. He was born on Aug. 18, 1918 in Mt. Vernon, N.Y. to Edward and Catherine (nee Dennehey).

He graduated from New Rochelle High School and was one of five brothers to serve in World War II, in his case, as a member of the U.S. Navy. Following the war he moved to Meriden, Conn. and worked for Pratt and Whitney Aircraft.

He was survived by his wife, Frances (nee Szymanski); his daughters, Mary Anne (the late Christopher) Weber of Alexandria and Frances (Allan) Belmont of Arlington Heights, Ill.; his sons, Edward (Edie) Tynan of Springfield and William Douglas (Kay) Tynan Jr of Del. He is also survived by 11 grandchildren; Rachel Trigg of Alexandria; Douglas and Sean Weber of Alexandria; Deborah Tynan of Richland, Wash.; David Belmont of Park Ridge, Ill.; Dr. Daniel Belmont of Chicago; Lesley Belmont Glaze of Carmel, Ind.; Patrick Tynan of Portland, Ore.; Ted Tynan of Richmond, Va.; Philip and Caroline Tynan of Delaware and eight great-grandchildren.

Funeral Services were Oct. 9, 2010 from 9 a.m.



Frances Szymanski Tynan and William Douglas Tynan

until time of Prayer Service at 10:30 a.m. at the Glueckert Funeral Home, Ltd., 1520 N. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights. Interment at St. Michael Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be given to Wounded Warrior Project, 7020 AC Skinner Parkway, Suite 100, Jacksonville, FL 32256.

#### Frances Szymanski Tynan

Frances Szymanski Tynan died Oct. 11, 2010, at Manor Care in Arlington Heights, Ill. She was born Aug. 15, 1916 in New Britain, Conn., the third of six children born to John and Mary Anne Szymanski (nee Kolodi.) She graduated from New Britain High School and the Danbury (Conn.) Hospital School of Nursing in 1936. She worked as a registered nurse in various hospitals in New York and Connecticut and also worked as a private duty nurse. She was married to William Douglas Tynan on June 30, 1940 in New Rochelle, N.Y. They were married 70 years. William Douglas died on Oct. 1.

She is survived by her daughters, Mary Anne (the

late Christopher) Weber of Alexandria and Frances (Allan) Belmont of Arlington Heights, Ill.; his sons, Edward (Edie) Tynan of Springfield and William Douglas (Kay) Tynan Jr of Centerville, Del. She is also survived by 11 grandchildren; Rachel Trigg of Alexandria; Douglas and Sean Weber of Alexandria; Deborah Tynan of Richland, Wash.; David Belmont of Park Ridge, Ill.; Dr. Daniel Belmont of Chicago; Lesley Belmont Glaze of Carmel, Ind.; Patrick Tynan of Portland, Ore.; Ted Tynan of Richmond, Va.; Philip and Caroline Tynan of Delaware and eight great-grandchildren.

Funeral Services will be held Saturday, Oct. 16 at Glueckert Funeral Home in Arlington Heights, Ill. Arrangements are still pending.

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# NEWS

## Opening the Door to Early Childhood

FROM PAGE 3

accomplish. The new center is situated in a new modular unit with two classrooms, part of an expansion of the facility that also include new classrooms for Head Start. School Board members agreed to pay for most of the operation at the center, although state money will pay for a quarter of the cost.

“We know that there’s a huge waiting list to get into pre-K,” said School Board Chairwoman Yvonne Folkerts. “So the more we can offer programs, we can hopefully get all children in Alexandria into a pre-K program.”

**SCHOOL OFFICIALS** acknowledge that city facilities have been used to offer pre-K programs for years, including Head Start programs at various city schools. Yet the traditional model of preschool involves little coordination and cooperation with Alexandria City Public Schools, creating a disjointed system that can create roadblocks for some students. Sherman says the new center will centralize a series of programs that were scattered throughout the city.

“Sometimes our Head Start programs were not connected to our own pre-K programs, so we put them all in one section of the building to have a connection among the services,” said Sherman. “We’ve concentrated our services and we’ve gained greater efficiency by doing so.”

In a traditional setting, preschool teachers never communicate or even meet the Kindergarten teachers of their students. But a growing set of research shows that model is flawed. By failing to create lines of communication between preschool teachers and Kindergarten teachers, school officials are unable to take advantage of knowledge about various learning styles and specific needs.

“This is the kind of sharing that is possible with a preK-3rd approach, especially a preK-3rd school,” said Lisa Guernsey, director of the Washington-based Early Education Initiative of the New America Foundation. “There’s so much more opportunity for a positive feedback loop, where teachers, parents and school leaders are all talking together about children’s progress through their earliest years.”

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# OPINION

## October: Breast Cancer Awareness Month

### Early detection still means self-exams, doctor exams and mammograms.

If you are a woman with no family history of breast cancer, chances are you heard the chatter that resulted from the report on mammograms and self-exams from the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force about a year ago with one ear. For many women, the message delivered was that it doesn't matter so much that you've missed the time for your next mammogram, or that checking your own breasts is really a waste of time.

Whatever the recommendations for women in general, remember that there is just one person in charge of your healthcare, and that person is you. If you have a family history of breast cancer, it is never too early to talk to your doctor about how to approach your preventative care. All women age 40 or over should talk with a doctor experienced in breast health about when to begin screening mammograms and how often to have them. When it comes to what is best for your breasts, knowing your own breasts and what feels normal is a low-tech, low-cost measure.

In 2008, more than 182,000 U.S. women were newly diagnosed with breast cancer, and more than 40,000 women's deaths resulted from breast cancer. There are also significant disparities along economic and ethnic differences. For example, the 5-year breast cancer survival rate is 69 percent for black women, compared with 85 percent for white women.

Nevertheless, the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force came out with recommendations at the end of 2009 that women have mammograms every other year beginning at age 50, and recommended against teaching women to do breast self exams. The recom-

mendations were rejected by many doctors who specialize in breast health.

In particular, the recommendations against breast self exams were based on studies of more than 388,000 women in Russia and China. In comparing breast self-examination with no intervention, the studies found no difference in breast cancer mortality between the groups, (587 deaths in total). The women who were taught breast self exam in these studies had almost twice as many biopsies (3,406) with benign results than did the women in the control group (1,856). The reviewers' conclusion:

**EDITORIAL** "At present, breast self-examination cannot be recommended."

It's true that unnecessary biopsies are not a positive outcome. But you have to ask yourself whether you think population based studies of women in Russia and China should determine whether you should check your own breasts.

In January, 2009, I found a lump in my breast that I knew immediately was not normal. A coworker's diagnosis of breast cancer had prompted me to have an overdue mammogram seven months before I found the lump, and that mammogram was perfectly normal. The mammogram after I found the lump showed the difference, a glowing spot that led the radiologist to say he would be "very concerned." The biopsy of the lump confirmed the concern, I had an early but aggressive breast cancer. Like most women who are diagnosed with breast cancer, I had no family history of it.

My treatment, which included removing the tumor, and undergoing chemotherapy and radiation, wrapped up eight months later, just more than a year ago. I had excellent care; I'm

### Alexandria Walk to Fight Breast Cancer

**SATURDAY, OCT. 23.** The Walk along Eisenhower Avenue in the City of Alexandria is for walkers, runners, children, wheelchairs, dogs and strollers, with a choice of 1.5K, 3.5K, or 5K. Registration begins at 6:30 a.m. The Walk at 8 a.m. More than 5,000 Alexandria women, uninsured or underinsured, have received mammograms through Walk to Fight Breast Cancer. See <http://alexandriava.gov/Women> for registration, to make a contribution and more.

cancer free. I don't object to being called a survivor, but I don't think of myself that way. I'm a woman who was treated for breast cancer, and that's behind me now.

Most days, it doesn't cross my mind. (Yes, there is an extensive protocol of follow-up that I follow.)

But I can tell you that if I did not find that lump, if I waited two years for my next mammogram, my outcome would very likely have been different.

So I share my experience during breast cancer awareness month and in the weeks leading up to the Komen Race for the Cure in June, not because the experience defines me, but because I know how easy it is to put off a mammogram, how easy it is to miss months of self-checks, and because I know, early detection really can save lives. Your life.

My life.

Building awareness and funds for screening and treating women who otherwise might not have access to care is another important outcome of breast cancer awareness month. A woman's race or economic status in the United States should not affect her chances of surviving breast cancer, but they do.

MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

## Sticker Shock: Providing Alcohol for Minors

BY ALLEN LOMAX  
CHAIR, SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION COALITION OF ALEXANDRIA

Halloween and the holiday season are moving closer on our calendars and thus, a time of parties and celebrations is near. This is also the time when adults, older siblings, friends and even strangers are tempted to purchase beer, wine coolers and other alcoholic beverages for underage youth. Some parents even turn a blind eye to parties in their homes where alcohol is available to teens.

Alexandria residents need to prepare for a shock — a Sticker Shock. On Saturday, Oct. 23, as part of Alexandria's Sticker Shock campaign, teams of youth and adults, sponsored by the Sub-

stance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria (SAPCA), will place STOP stickers on multi-packs of beer, wine coolers and other products in stores throughout Alexandria. The stickers tell adults: "Know the Law: It is illegal for any person 21 or older to purchase or provide alcohol to minors. Fines are up to \$2,500 or one year in jail."

These penalties for adults can derail careers and reputations, but the real damage is to the safety, health and futures of Alexandria's youth. Horrific collisions in which teens given alcohol by adults are killed or severely injured, sometimes for life, remind us of the dangers of providing alcohol to minors. In addition there is a

SEE A WARNING, PAGE 12



**Immigration Forum** The Old Presbyterian Meeting House hosted a program Sept. 21 on Immigration Awareness presented by Presbyterian Women (PW) of the National Capital Presbytery, Presbyterian Church (USA), which was open to the public. Barry Londeree, U.S. Rep. James P. Moran's legislative assistant for immigration issues spoke about current problems with the laws, legislative goals and comprehensive immigration reform. Kathy Doan, an immigration attorney and executive director of the Capital Area Immigrants' Rights (CAIR) Coalition spoke about immigrant detention centers in this community and her experiences with detainees in Virginia. The Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, director, PCUSA Office of Public Witness spoke about his experiences in Arizona, the DREAM Act, and AG jobs.

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## OPINION

# October Mentor of the Month

BY FLORIDALMA ORTEZ

**M**y name is Floridalma Ortiz and I'm an 8th grader at George Washington Middle School. I am also a SOHO graduate. SOHO-Space of Her Own is where I met my mentor, Amy Berezdivin. In 2007, after weeks of getting to know all of the mentors at SOHO, Amy and I were matched at an ice skating party. I remember that she came a little bit late that day and I was a little desperate because I was excited to tell her that she was chosen to be my mentor.

My relationship with Amy is awesome! We are a lot alike because our personalities are unique. We are both picky, or as my sister says, "neat freaks." At SOHO we worked to make art for our bedrooms, then our mentors used the art to renovate our bedrooms. One of our projects was making floor cloths. I messed mine up and was very upset. Amy understood. We pained over the whole thing and started over. When Amy fixed up my room, she did exactly what I would have wanted. The room is gorgeous.

Amy and I have bonded a lot and frequently talk. She visits my home. I visit her home. We also bake cookies, shop and do our nails. It's not just with me, my little sister gets to come too. She thinks Amy is interesting to talk to and tells good stories. My mom and Amy talk too. They have in common that they both like to decorate. I can compare them both a lot because they are great influences and people that I look up to. Several months ago, when Amy was pregnant and we hadn't talked in weeks, I called her. "Hi darling," she said, "I gave birth today!" I couldn't believe that out of all of the days I called on that one. Amy has the cutest baby girl.

I know Amy has a lot to say about me, so I asked her and here is what she said:

"It has been said that giving feels better than receiving but like most things in life you can't completely understand until you experience them yourself. Floridalma, I remember when I met you three years ago at SOHO. You were sitting on the floor decorating your supply box and I was trying to get to know you so I asked if you knew what your name



**Floridalma Ortiz with Amy Berezdivin**

meant. You said you didn't and I thought that was a shame, to have such a pretty name your whole life and not know it! 'It means flower girl,' I said, and that simple exchange started our great friendship! Spending time with you every Thursday and working on projects together for your bedroom taught me a lot about you. Initially I learned you were quite the perfectionist and the more bling on something the better!

"Over the years I learned you are a great daughter and sister; family is very important to you. You are one of the most caring people I know. You love science and fashion and you are my favorite person to bake cookies with and go bowling. But what I value most is our great talks while hanging out. Getting to know you and spending time with you over the years has been such a joy; you always put a smile on my face. In the end I think we have both learned giving feels better than receiving!"

My mentor Amy is a magnificent and beautiful person, in and out. I am so lucky to have met her.

*The Alexandria Mentoring Partnership is currently recruiting volunteers to mentor the children of Alexandria. To learn more about the mentoring opportunities in the city, contact Lorelei Coyle at 703-746-4506 or through the website at [www.alexandriava.gov/mentoring](http://www.alexandriava.gov/mentoring). Mentor a child; change two lives.*

## A Warning about Alcohol for Minors

FROM PAGE 10

growing body of evidence of the damage that alcohol does to the still developing bodies and brains of young people. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, youth who begin drinking at age 15 are five times more likely to report abuse or dependence on alcohol as adults than those who first used alcohol at age 21.

Despite the terrible impact alcohol can have on the lives of our youth, alcohol is still too accessible to them. During focus groups that SAPCA commissioned in 2008, students reported that alcohol was "easy" to get. According to an April 2010 survey of Alexandria's youth, 49 percent of the City's 12th grade students reported that over the last year they attended three or more parties where other kids their own age were drinking. The response by 11th grade students was 38 per-

cent - only slightly better. Also, 43 percent of the 12th grade students reported that they had used alcohol one or more times in the previous 30 days.

Adults in Alexandria have the power to change the mindset that drinking alcohol is a "rite of passage for teens," and "it's okay for them to drink, as long as it's in my home." It's time for adults to think twice and refrain from purchasing alcohol for minors.

Working with our partners (Alexandria Community Services Board, Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Affairs, Alexandria Police Department, Alexandria Sheriff's Office, Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, Alexandria Chamber of Commerce, Building Better Futures, and Community Lodgings), SAPCA hopes to send a wake-up shock to all adults in our city with the message that it's simply not OK - and it's against the law - to give alcoholic beverages to our youth.

Visit [www.preventitalexandria.com](http://www.preventitalexandria.com).

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# Liquor Privatization Must Remain Revenue Neutral

BY ALICIA HUGHES  
COUNCILWOMAN, CITY OF  
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## COMMENTARY

A great deal of interest surrounds Governor McDonnell's interest in ABC privatization, which is being advanced to provide a one-time infusion of half a billion dollars to fund transportation. The privatization concept and a preliminary plan passed out of the Commission on Government Reform and Restructuring on a 24-3 vote, which I supported. I note with thanks the many comments I received.

ABC privatization has also been endorsed by the Virginia Transportation Construction Industry, the Alexandria and Virginia Cham-

bers of Commerce and some former Governors of Virginia. According to former Governor Doug Wilder and chair of the 2002 Governor's Commission on Efficiency and Effectiveness, "I endorsed [ABC privatization] then and I do so now." According to former Governor George Allen, "It is simply not the function of government to sell beer, wine, bourbon or vodka ... Worrying about how much revenue the government can keep from liquor sales is a distraction from the larger cost savings of privatization."

But not everyone agrees. According to the Virginia Beer Wholesalers Association and

the Virginia Wine Wholesalers Association, "The [current] plan's biggest gamble ... is ... [it] would have to work flawlessly to generate less revenue than the current system does."

While I agree conceptually with privatization, the latter statement is true, if the currently endorsed plan is not modified to be revenue neutral. Under the current plan, there would be a sale of 19 Virginia-owned ABC stores and a warehouse, an auction of 1,000 retail licenses to the highest bidders and no cap on the number of wholesale licenses sold. Under this combined plan, the generated cash estimate stands at approximately half a billion dollars. However, based on conservative estimates, the privatized operations would provide \$47 million less in revenue to the Com-

monwealth per annum.

Many Commissioners, present company included, want the Governor's policy team to continue working toward a proposal that would be revenue neutral before approaching the General Assembly. While there is broad agreement that the Commonwealth should not be in the retail sales business of distilled spirits and also, a functional understanding that the recommendations of the Commission will result in over a hundred million of dollars of annual saving to the Commonwealth, thereby ensuring a net savings despite a decline in ABC revenue, we still want privatization to stand revenue neutral. To learn more, visit the Commission directly at [www.reform.virginia.gov](http://www.reform.virginia.gov) or reach out to me directly at [alicia.hughes@alexandriava.gov](mailto:alicia.hughes@alexandriava.gov).

# 'Link to Pink' Highlights Breast Health Awareness

BY CHRISTINE CANDIO,  
CEO  
INOVA ALEXANDRIA HOSPITAL



While performing a monthly self breast exam, a 20-something year old woman discovered a round knot in her breast. The knot wasn't one that she had noticed before and seemed like it grew every time she touched it. "Although she was fearful of what the lump was and how it would ultimately change her life, she immediately made an appointment with her physician who directed the young woman to get a biopsy.

Unfortunately, the biopsy confirmed a diagnosis of breast cancer. As she grappled with the next steps, her mother suggested that they seek the help of a breast care navigator at Inova Alexandria Hospital. The

navigator was able to help the family make sense of the diagnosis, provide emotional support, education and assistance in lessening the burden of making doctor appointments, understanding treatment schedules and follow-up consultations.

You see, at Inova Alexandria Hospital, we do more than detect and treat cancer — we edu-

cate. It's through education that we are able to increase awareness and empower our community to take an active role in their healthcare. Inova Alexandria Hospital, along with Inova's other hospitals, have banded together to form the Inova Breast Care Institute, which offers a team of experts for each patient in need of care, from diagnosis through treatment and recovery.

What makes Inova Breast Cancer Institute unique from any other breast cancer

programs are the multiple access points across Northern Virginia and our breast care navigators, registered nurses who are there to guide a patient step-by-step through a cancer diagnosis. Our navigators are specially trained experts of breast disease, as well as the emotional and educational advocates for each and every patient.

The best defense against breast cancer is early detection. Monthly breast self-examinations, along with annual mammograms and exams by your healthcare provider can help detect breast cancer at its earliest, most curable stage.

October marks National Breast Cancer Awareness month and each year breast cancer survivors and supporters help bring awareness to this deadly disease.

Throughout the month, Inova hospitals will be holding a host of events entitled "Inova's Link to Pink," focusing on breast health and breast cancer education.

On Saturday, Oct. 23, breast cancer survivors, community leaders, and supporters from around the region will hit the pavement in the Walk To Fight Breast Cancer. This fundraiser supports the Alexandria Breast Cancer Walk Fund at Inova Alexandria Hospital, which provides free mammograms and other screenings for uninsured women and those with very little health coverage in our city. This annual event is sponsored by The City of Alexandria Office on Women, Women Mean Business, Inova Alexandria Hospital, Comcast, Ultrasound Associates and many generous sponsors from the community.

Let's show our support for all those who continue to fight breast cancer. For more information about Walk to Fight Breast Cancer or other breast health events throughout Northern Virginia visit [invalinktopink.org](http://invalinktopink.org) or [inovabreastcare.org](http://inovabreastcare.org)

# Support Scholarship Fund of Alexandria

BY ARTHUR E. SCHMALZ  
CHAIR, BOARD OF TRUSTEES, 2010-11  
THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND OF ALEXANDRIA

## COMMENTARY

The Scholarship Fund of Alexandria turns 25 this year. Over the last quarter century, the Fund has awarded more than \$7 million of scholarship awards to over 3,300 deserving T.C. Williams graduates. This year alone, the Fund awarded \$355,000 of scholarships to 178 members of the T.C. class of 2010, and provided over \$400,000 in renewal scholarships to prior graduates.

Many of those students could not have afforded college without the Fund's assistance. The Fund's knowledgeable staff members have also assisted countless students and parents navigate the maze of financial aid forms and procedures, helping them obtain financial aid from other sources

that otherwise might have been overlooked.

We should celebrate the Scholarship Fund's substantial accomplishments.

But we shouldn't let the celebration divert our focus and efforts as the nation's economy still reels from the damaging effects of the recent recession. Indeed, the Fund's mission in our community has never been more important. Tens of thousands have lost their jobs, and family incomes, home values and retirement savings have declined significantly. Yet, the cost of a college education is at an all time high. And that cost continues to rise.

So, as our college-bound students need the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria more than ever, the Scholarship Fund, in turn, needs the community's help like never before. The Fund is a grass-roots organization.

It has no large endowment. Instead, we must raise anew each year the vast majority of funds needed to provide scholarship awards.

There are few causes more worthy than helping a young person unlock his or her potential through higher education. And donors can be sure that their hard-earned donations will be used to pay for scholarships, and not overhead expenses. Because of the Fund's extremely low overhead, about 92 percent of donors' contributions go directly to helping our City's public school students.

We are hopeful that our generous and thoughtful community will continue to provide the critical donations of funds and volunteer support necessary for the Fund to help thousands more T.C. Williams graduates pay for higher education over the next quarter century and beyond.

## 'Hope Springs'

To The Editor:

The Alfred Street Baptist Church is one of many resources that provide for those in need. Over the past years it has expanded its service of reaching out to the communities within our area.

The Food Bank is one of its services that assist many families abundantly — with scripture in mind, Isaiah 55:1 "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money;

come ye, buy, and eat." Thanks Mrs. Whitmore and Mr. and Mrs. Suggs for the service through the Brothers Keepers Ministry.

On Sunday, Oct. 24, at 6 p.m., come see "Hope Springs" a must see play— amazing, wonderful, spectacular moments full of hope with a remarkable cast. The ASBC Drama Ministry with the CAYA Drama Team, featuring the Music and Liturgical Dance Ministries, will present an original play by Charnika Louise Hayes. Admission is free.

Gerri Baldwin  
Alexandria

# NEIGHBORHOODS



## Paramedic Discussion

During Taylor Run Citizens Association's National Night Out celebration in August, residents tour an ambulance.

## Old Town

WHAT'S WITH OUR TORPEDO FACTORY? - The bean-counters who have invaded City Hall — elected and otherwise — have not given up on taking over our public gem on the waterfront and turning it into a big, fat cash cow.

One way or another, this bunch seems determined to transform the wonderful and venerable Torpedo Factory into a fast-food joint. Or a shopping center. Or a mall. Or worse. My question to our city leaders is "why?"

You may recall that last summer City Council decided to create a new board to manage the Torpedo Factory and in effect to replace the small group of artists who have been running it for years. Bad move, according to the artists. Former delegate and Factory founder Marian Van Landingham pointed out at a public forum the other day that the new governing board would be heavily weighted by business interests at the expense of the folks who have made the Factory a tourist destination. Van Landingham told those attending the forum, including the Mayor and City Council, there was reason to believe the new governing board would be heavily stacked by bean counters as opposed to artists and related creative folks.

As the Gazette Packet reported on Sept. 30, artists feel that the city was leaving them — and by extension — the future of the Factory in limbo while the matter will be debated this fall.

From the beginning the Torpedo Factory has been "a place of tension," Van Landingham said. "It's an artists studio, but it's also an attraction." That, of course, is the crux of what could be a fierce battle between the bean counters and the artists.

Your hardworking correspondent has been reporting for months that a strong, influential (and generally well-meaning) group in town has had the Torpedo Factory and its management in its sights for a long time. The mantra of this group is that the artists who run the operation are so 1980s. "Let's turn

the place over to some business pros who can reap the City some really big bucks and let the operation join the real world."

As I pondered this argument the other day I came upon the latest issue of the Old Town Crier, the official newsletter of the Old Town Civic Association (of which I'm a member). The new president of OTCA, John Gosling, eloquently touched on this question in his introductory editorial.

John said it better than I can: "... As Old Town residents," he wrote, "we have the right to ask whether this pursuit of tax revenues and new business will overwhelm us. Old Town's historic charm, walkable urbanism and mix of uses are a rare combination worth protecting and conserving. Does the city factor this sufficiently into its planning and development process? The challenge for residential and business alike is to recognize the tipping point, to coin (former OTCA Poul Hertel's phrase), where the essential character of Old Town has been eroded by over-development and over-commercialization."

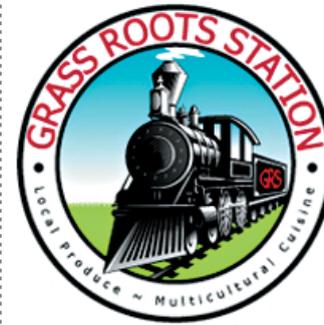
We'll see what happens.

— BOB FELDKAMP

## Seminary Valley

It may be October, but it's time to start planning our holiday shopping. Where better to start than Polk Elementary School, which is hosting its first-ever Holiday Bazaar. PTA president Betsy Wong reports that the event will take place in the school's multi-purpose room on Friday, Nov. 12, from 6 to 8 p.m. The bazaar will feature a variety of goods from Polk parents and outside vendors, as well as a bake sale. The PTA will sell Entertainment Books and Polk t-shirts, as well as \$1 TC Williams t-shirts. And, to top that off, everyone who comes gets a free James K. Polk cookbook. Tables cost \$20; to buy table space

SEE NEIGHBORHOODS, PAGE 17



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Classic Colonial in mint condition! It's ALL DONE! \$60k in recent improvements. 4 bdms +Den / 2.55 ba. Dream kitchen w buttermilk cabinets, granite, stone backsplash and SS appls. HW floors on main/upper lvl, renovated baths, recessed lighting. Screened porch off fam rm opens to flagstone patio landscaped fenced back yard. Lower level w/ designer carpet, media/play rm plus den, storage rm and half bath. New windows, siding, roof, AC ~ \$699,000 more info at [www.PhyllisPatterson.com](http://www.PhyllisPatterson.com)

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 off-street parking spaces and  
 only 3 blocks to Metro!



Donnan C.  
 Wintermute  
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**Old Town**  
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 513 Queen Street, Alexandria VA 22314  
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 2.5 baths, 4 fireplaces and a large back  
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 too!



Bonnie Rivkin 703-598-7788



**Lake Devereux**  
**\$599,000**  
 7000 Dreams Way, Alexandria VA 22315  
 Comfortable and classic colonial on a cul-de-sac. 5 bed-  
 rooms, 2.5 bath, hardwood floors, kitchen  
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Karen Leonard 703-328-7041

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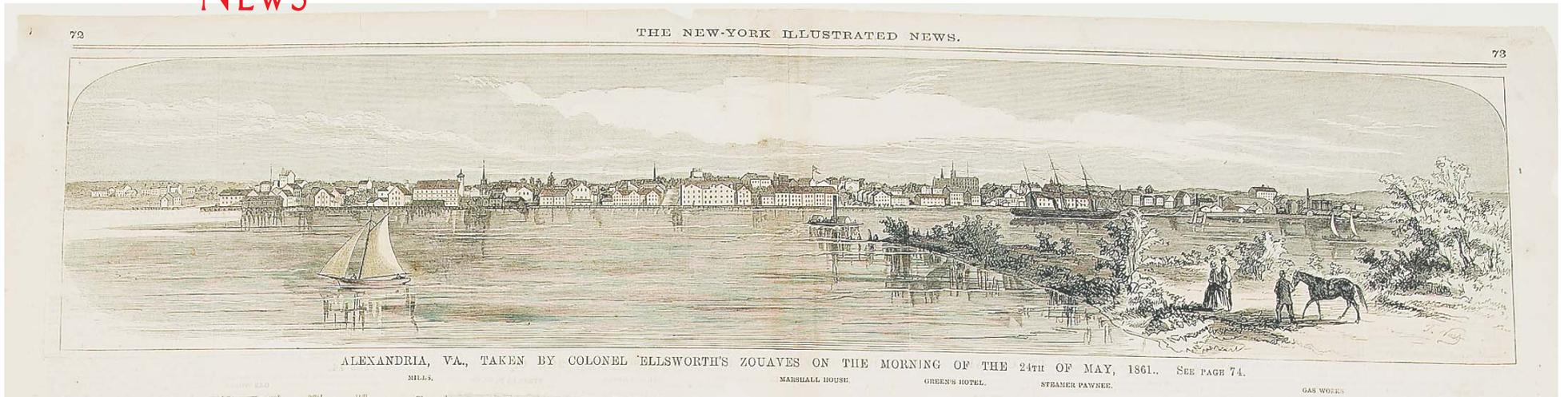


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# Whose Vision Will Reshape the Waterfront?

FROM PAGE 1

minion Boat Club for the plan to work.

Meanwhile, other aspects of the plan are being debated in advance of the draft proposal. One feature that's attracted significant interest is the solution for parking. Planning officials say they would like to work with owners of the city's private garages to open up spaces that are used during the day but are empty at night. Like the potential deal with the Old Dominion Boat Club, the details of how the arrangement would work have yet to be spelled out.

"As we encourage development and tourism along the waterfront, we have to be mindful of parking," said Councilwoman Del Pepper. "It may be that we've already got the parking spaces to accommodate that, but it's something I'm going to keep my eye on."

**THIS HISTORY** of Alexandria's waterfront dates back centuries, beginning around 13,000 B.C. That's when roving bands of hunters used stone tools that have been found in the area, including one discovered in 2007 known as the "Clovis Point" because the first discovery of such a tool was made



LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

**Waterfront Park is one of the key sticking points in ongoing negotiations. The design concept included a new building here that would accommodate parking for members of the Old Dominion Boat Club in addition to one or more restaurants.**

in the 1930s near a New Mexico town known as Clovis. Virginia explorer John Smith made a cameo appearance before a tobacco port became active in the 1730s.

By 1749, the city's streets had been surveyed by a teenage George Washington, and the early version of Alexandria waterfront emerged from the wilderness. That's when Scottish businessman John Carlyle built his wharf along Cameron Street, which is cur-

rently buried beneath a condominium building. Archeological research here has also documented coral from the Caribbean and ceramics from Portugal.

"These artifacts show us trade patterns through the good times and the bad times," said City Archeologist Pam Cressey. "We can see the wide variety of trade partners from around the world."

The city's international trade included the import of slaves from Senegal-Gambia, which is documented at the foot of Queen Street. It also includes the export of slaves by Alexandria's own slave wholesaler, Franklin and Armfield, which was either at the foot of Prince Street or Duke Street. One archeological dig documented a bakery that was later destroyed. Sometimes items remain underneath development, including a wharf and a ship buried under Ford's Landing at the foot of Franklin Street.

"The waterfront should have a unique identity that is grounded in the city's history," according to the goals and objectives section of the Waterfront Concept Plan. "Respect the scale and fine grain of Old Town."

**ONE PROBLEM** city officials are going to have to confront as they finalize the draft

small-area plan, which is expected in the next few weeks, is that the scale and fine grain of Old Town is constantly changing. An 1861 rendering from New York Illustrated shows a waterfront dominated by mills at the outset of the Civil War. Archival photos from the 19th century show African-American neighborhoods now long gone. Later photos show an increasingly industrial use, including many photos of child laborers working at factories along the waterfront.

Today the waterfront is a patchwork of unconnected uses, many of which are not public. One of the major goals outlined in the concept plan now being used to fashion the draft small area plan would connect the public areas along the waterfront into a seamless continuum, allowing strollers to enjoy an unobstructed walk along the Potomac River. Making that happen will require careful negotiation with neighbors, business interests and the leadership of the Old Dominion Boat Club.

"Access to the waterfront as the public realm should be increased and improved," the concept plan states. "Pedestrian connectivity along the waterfront should be continuous."



PHOTOS BY LA SHAWN AVERY-SIMONS/GAZETTE PACKET

**Chief Robert Rodriguez presents the roll call of the fallen firefighters during the Alexandria Fire Department's annual memorial service and wreath-laying ceremony on Friday, Oct. 8.**



**In Memory of Fallen Firefighters**  
Lisa Jones and fellow firefighters solute the presentation of colors.

# NEIGHBORHOODS

FROM PAGE 13

as a vendor, contact Susan Keightley (susank8ley@verizon.net). If you can help with the event, contact Julie Goodale (juliebgoodale@verizon.net).

In other Polk news, the "orange" playground adjacent to the old parking lot is getting a makeover. Polk's PTA is launching a "Pennies for Polk Playground" campaign, with children bringing in pennies and filling their classroom water jug with them. The pennies are for six new pieces of playground equipment that would replace pieces lost during the renovations, when the playground was moved to a different lot. The fundraising goal is \$13,000, with installation tentatively planned by September 2011. The PTA is also pursuing grants and other funding opportunities to replace the existing equipment on that playground. Anyone who wishes to make a donation or is willing to help in any way is asked to contact Polk PTA President Betsy Wong (betsywong@comcast.net).

It is hard to believe that our neighbors in Cameron Station are celebrating their school's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. In honor of Samuel W. Tucker Elementary School's 10th anniversary, the school's PTA has commissioned artist Sean Murphy, Tucker's art teacher, to design an art mural commemorating civil rights activist Samuel W. Tucker and the student body's cultural heritages from around the globe. The mural will be unveiled at a reception for staff, Alexandria

City Public Schools officials, a few elected officials, Audrey Davis from the Alexandria Black History Museum and sole sponsor Covanta Energy on Monday, Oct. 18, at 3:30 p.m. in the school library.

The next BSVCA Quarterly Meeting will take place on Monday, Oct. 25, from 7 to 8:50 p.m., at Beatley Central Library (5005 Duke St., Alexandria). At this meeting, Faroll Hamer, director of the City's Department of Planning and Zoning, will be our special guest speaker. Among other things, she will address key West End development issues, including the BRAC complex at Mark Center, the Beauregard Corridor Plan, the Landmark/Van Dorn Area Plan, and proposed rezoning criteria. The meeting will also feature annual elections of the Board.

It is great to see famed crossing guard Bob Moran back at his post. "Mr. Bobs", as he is known, was on the "disabled list" for about a year with some health issues, but he looks hale and hearty as he shepherds Hammond and Polk students to school. Welcome back!

— MIA JONES

## Taylor Run

Taylor Run Citizens Association will host its annual Fall Halloween Party on Oct. 31, from 3-5 p.m. on West View Terrace between Hilltop and South View Terrace. Food, music, games, children's costume parade, and fun for the entire family.

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# CHRIS WHITE

#1 Long and Foster Agent in Virginia - 2009!



# LONG & FOSTER

ALEXANDRIA/OLD TOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT



Managing Brokers  
Anne Rector & Bill Jourdan

**NEW PRICE! OPEN SUN**

**6515 Princeton Dr**  
\$795,000  
*Classic Colonial - Near Old Town!*  
Spacious home in Belle Haven area. Center hall colonial features open kit w/SS appliances and granite counters, large room sizes, 3 fin levels, 4BRs & 2 car gar. Formal living and dining rooms, family room off breakfast area. Prime "close-in" location. Two tiered deck and seasonal river views. OPEN SUN 10/17, 1-4. GW Pky S, R-Belle Haven Rd; L-Fort Hunt Rd; R-Swan Terr; L-Bluebill; R-Princeton.

**OPEN SUN JUST LISTED**

**8052 Topper Ct**  
\$279,900  
*Three Level Townhouse!*  
Super Value! Three level townhouse for less than the price of a condo! Prime Kingstowne area location. Features include open kitchen and FP. Gas heat, cooking and hot water. 2 reserved parking spaces. Private fenced yard backs to open space. Huge potential for both owner occupants and investors! OPEN SUN 10/17, 1-4. From Beulah, Turn into development onto View Lane; R-High Valley Lane; L-Topper Ct.

**OPEN SUN**

**8709 Gateshead Rd**  
\$579,500  
*Spacious Colonial-Gorgeous Setting!*  
Classic center hall colonial in uniquely beautiful setting. This exceptionally well maintained home is in "move-in" condition. Popular floor plan with open kitchen-family room, 4BR, including private suite. Fin walk-out lower level. Updated kitchen with granite countertops and custom cabinetry. Other features include covered parking for 2 & screened porch overlooking parkland. OPEN SUN 10/17, 1-4. GW Pky S, Past Estate; R-Old Mill; R-Gateshead.

**6423 15th ST**  
New Alexandria  
\$649,900  
BEAUTIFULLY updated colonial on large private lot. Gourmet kitchen with granite counters, wine refrigerator, huge family room with built-in bookcases, 2 fireplaces, patio, hardwood floors and custom trim & moldings throughout. *Appointment only!*

**Klanci Vanderhyde 703.919.4460**

**6422 CYGNET DR**  
Alexandria  
\$519,900  
A PRIVATE, WELL-MAINTAINED and updated home on cul-de-sac offering 4BR/3BA, hardwoods, eat-in kitchen with separate dining room overlooking patio & gorgeous lawn. Family room & den/study/office on main level. The neighborhood is located near Metro and shopping.

**www.BobSkinnerHomes.org**  
**Bob Skinner 703.598.7279**

**OPEN SUNDAY 1-4**

**130 CAMERON ST**  
#CS-110  
*The Torpedo Factory*  
\$325,000  
GREAT NEW LISTING! Lovely 1BR condo w/ updated kit & bath in one of Old Town's most desirable areas. Park your car in the underground garage & bike/walk to the waterfront, The Torpedo Factory Art Center, eateries, City Hall, Saturday Farmer's Market - all within 1 or 2 blks of the unit.

**Norma Gants 703.408.2560**

**NEW PRICE! OPEN SUN**

**7106 Colgate Dr**  
\$535,000  
*Hollin Glen-Super Value!*  
MAJOR PRICE REDUCTION! OWNER WANTS IMMEDIATE SALE. Owners have priced to sell immediately! Spacious home in prime location just minutes from Old Town. Many special features include: updated kitchen, 4 large BRs, 3BAs, hdwd flrs, fin LL, 2 fireplaces, fenced in rear yard with two level deck. Move fast nothing like it at this price in prime "close-in" market! OPEN SUN 10/17, 1-4. GW Pky S, R-Belle Haven Rd; L-Fort Hunt Rd; R-Rollins; L-Colgate.

**NEW PRICE! OPEN SUN**

**7115 Colgate Dr**  
\$755,000  
*Updated and Expanded!*  
Expanded colonial in prime location just minutes from Old Town. Many fabulous features include: exceptionally large room sizes, first floor family room, updated custom kitchen and baths, finished lower level and expanded master suite with luxury bath and cavernous walk-in closets. Stunning custom sunroom overlooks gorgeous pool and grounds. Uniquely fabulous home. OPEN SUN 10/17, 1-4. GW Pky S, R-Belle Haven Rd; L-Fort Hunt Rd; R-Rollins; L-Colgate.

**NEW PRICE! WATERFRONT! NEW PRICE!**

**9516 Mt. Vernon Landing**  
\$1,999,000  
*Waterfront - Major Price Adjustment!*  
Re-Introduction to market! New price on custom waterfront home in spectacular setting with long water frontage and sweeping water views. Many features including: 3 levels with full walk-out water view lower level, 6 bedrooms, open Kit/ Family Room with stone fireplace and dramatic water view deck. Water view master suite features large sitting room with fireplace. Significant cosmetic work just completed. Super Value!

**2031 13th ST, NW #1**  
Washington, DC / \$310,000  
Large 1BR/1BA patio unit, HW, tons of windows, SSA, granite & luxury BA. 1 blk to Metro, shops & eateries.

**1321 OTIS PL, NW**  
Washington, DC / \$589,999  
Spacious townhome - renovated, open flpl, wood flrs, upgraded kit w/ SSA, lux BA & porch/fenced bkyard.

**507 SAINT ASAPH ST S**  
Old Town / Alex / \$799,999  
Tannery Yard 4 lvl TH renovated & upgraded: HW, granite, AC, new windows, patio & roof deck.

**507 St Asaph St South**  
OPEN SUN 1-3pm

**Georgia McLaughlin Patricia Landaeta**  
703.628.4663

**910 PRINCE ST**  
Old Town / Alex  
\$1,100,000  
Stunningly renovated semi-detached 1880 Victorian row house. 3 levels include: spacious bedrms, lavish master BA, walk-in closet, wood flrs, 1 frpl, spacious gourmet kit, sep DR, private outdoor space, 2-car off-st prkg. Perfectly located bet. King St Metro & Potomac w/shops & eateries either way.

**Michael Manuel 703.615.6317**

**NEW PRICE!**

**1204 Hillside Terr**  
\$675,000  
*Stunning Home-Great Price!*  
Unique opportunity-fabulous home in pristine condition with gorgeous lot in premier setting on quiet street in prime Braddock Heights location. Features include: bright, open floor plan, brick exterior, 3BAs, hdwd flrs, oversized gar, and Pella replacement windows. Stunning updated kit w/granite, SS and cherry cabinets. Two tiered deck and patio. Large fenced yard.

**3618 Old Vernon Court**  
\$859,900  
*Stately Colonial-Prime Location!*  
Stately COLONIAL-PRIME LOCATION! Exciting new listing, classic colonial with updated modern floor plan. High ceilings, 3 finished levels, bright, open floor plan, gourmet kitchen, stunning master suite. THIS HOME HAS IT ALL! Fabulous location at the end of quiet cul-de-sac with gorgeous level, fenced yard with irrigation system. Nothing like it on the market at this price!

**3427 Ramsgate Terr**  
\$539,000  
*Like New by Wakefield!*  
Total renovation by area's leading custom builder! This home was stripped to the shell and re-built to the highest standards. Many fabulous features typically found in builder's million dollar custom homes include: stunning gourmet kitchen, custom hardwood floors, thermal windows, main level master bedroom, 3 new baths and finished lower level. New home luxury at re-sale price. Unique opportunity!

**OPEN SUNDAY 1-4**

**1906 BELLE HAVEN ROAD / Alex**  
\$1,709,995  
PRICE ADJUSTMENT for totally renovated 5,400 square feet of luxurious living space. 7BR/5.5BA including nanny suite w/separate kit and entrance. Large private yard. Garage plus parking for 5 additional cars. BRING AN OFFER!

**Suzanne Backus 703.338.3594**

**5904 MT EAGLE DR #906**  
Montebello / \$399,000  
Updated kit, renovated BAs, HW, W/D, lots of storage in this 2BR, 2BA unit with amazing views.

**109 W MONROE ST**  
Del Ray / \$759,000  
patio, updated kit & BAs, HW, FP, chef's kit, HW, plus an apartment storage & new HVAC

**921 CAMERON ST**  
Old Town / \$1,090,000  
Uniquely renovated home including W/D, plus an apartment unit with separate entrance.

**109 W Monroe Street**  
OPEN SUN 1-4pm

**Dayna Blumel Kerry Adams**  
703.597.2252

**CONTRACT!**

**8418 Alyce Pl**  
\$698,900  
*Classic Colonial - Just off Parkway!*  
This is the one you've been waiting for! Rare 4 bedroom, 3 level colonial in Prime Collingwood-Waynewood location. Spacious home features updated eat-in kitchen with stainless steel appliances and granite, 3 finished levels, 2.5 updated baths, 2 fireplaces and large garage. Elegant dining and living rooms. Gorgeous fenced yard with privacy fence and patio on quite cul-de-sac in Waynewood School area.

**CONTRACT!**

**703 Kahn Pl**  
\$1,349,000  
*Fords Landing!*  
Rarely found Henry Model with water views from your living room! Elegant master suite with sitting area and luxurious bath. Cooks kitchen with granite, Jenn-Air stainless steel and abundant cabinet space. 3 Bedrooms plus office, 3.5 Baths, 2 car garage, balcony off dining room and walk out lower level to patio. Absolutely beautiful! Shows like a model!

**CONTRACT!**

**1002 N. Royal St**  
\$568,000  
*Old Town Living!*  
Fabulous 3 bedroom unit in Watergate of Alexandria. Many features include: hardwood floors, bright updated kitchen, separate dining area, sunken living room with fireplace and built-in bookshelves, master bedroom with private bath and gorgeous fenced rear patio. 2 Parking Spaces! Prime location to airport, D.C. and all of Old Town Alexandria.

**1200 BRADDOCK PL #606**  
Alexandria / \$299,900  
Price Reduced! 1BR condo just 1 blk from Metro. HW, full W/D, private balcony, custom closets, garage pkg.

**400 CAMERON STA BLVD #427 / Alex**  
\$349,000  
Price Reduced! 2BR/2BA upgraded, gourmet kit, SSA, W/D, carpet & tile. 2 garage spaces - shuttle to Metro.

**2151 JAMIESON AVE #1104**  
Cariyle Towers / \$437,500  
Price Reduced! 2BR/2BA w/garage prkg + extra storage. Updated, open flpl, enclosed balcony, near Metro.

**Brian Hong Jerry Beamer and Daniel Lusk**  
703.929.5764  
www.brianhongjerry.com  
DanielLusk.LNF.com

**PRICE REDUCED!**

**6026 WOODMONT RD**  
Alexandria  
\$649,900  
CHARMING SINGLE FAMILY HOME in Belle Haven. Located on a quiet street, this 3BR, 2.5BA home is ready for your personal touches. Main level features formal dining room & eat-in kit w/access to the beautifully landscaped backyard. LL family room w/fireplace.

**Klanci Vanderhyde 703.919.4460**



**CHRIS WHITE 703.283.9028**  
www.chrisandpeggywhite.com  
chris.white@longandfoster.com

**400 KING STREET, ALEXANDRIA 22314**  
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# T

ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE



Lyle Lovett performing at the Birchmere.

## Lyle Lovett Reflects On The Birchmere

On any given night a star might be born at the Birchmere, notes its website. Alison Kraus, Shawn Colvin, Jerry Jeff Walker, Mary Chapin Carpenter, Vince Gill and, of course, Lyle Lovett are just a few of the artists that played the Birchmere before they were widely known artists. They are all considered good friends of the Birchmere and vice versa. In a recent telephone interview from his home in Texas, Lyle Lovett recalled the early days and why he still likes to play the Birchmere.

**When I told Gary and Michael I thought it would be great to talk with one of the performers that played the Birchmere before being famous, they both thought of you.**

A: I'm happy to talk about the Birchmere because it's just one of the best listening rooms anywhere in the world. It really is. It was Guy Clark who introduced me to the Birchmere back in 1985 I guess. Guy invited me to go there with him and open for him one weekend. I was in Nashville and I flew from Nashville to D.C. with Guy and we just had a great time.

**They said the next time you played the Birchmere, they co-headlined you with Mary Chapin Carpenter because you had both just come out with records.**

A: No, that wasn't it at all. The next time they booked me — and it was after my first record came out — I was scheduled to play solo. In those days I couldn't afford to bring the guys who usually played with me on the trip.

I remember having this conversation with Gary and

SEE LYLE LOVETT, PAGE 21

# The Birchmere: America's Legendary Music Hall

A cradle for new talent, a legacy for Gary Oelze.

BY SANDY LEVITZ LUNER  
GAZETTE PACKET

It's a long way from Nashville, but for more than 40 years, the Birchmere has been a local attraction turning out international stars.

"I mean people like Vince Gill, Lyle Lovett, Mary Chapin Carpenter, Alison Krauss — all these people played here before they even had records," Gary Oelze recalled. "And most of them still remember ya' you know. Like Lyle or Vince, I can call them at home if I wanted to. Lyle comes on a regular basis. Vince has been here a couple of times in the last couple of years.

"We fell in love with this little girl Elizabeth Cook and we brought her in and everybody loved her," Oelze bragged recently.

"And I said to her the next time we bring you in you're gonna be headlinin' and she didn't believe me," he smiled. "She's just really catching fire."

According to Oelze, the most exciting part of the Birchmere for him and Michael Jaworek who heads the Birchmere's booking office, is finding new and young talent.

Discovering and nurturing new talent, it seems, has always been a thrill for Oelze.

Oelze was fresh out of the service when he bought the Birchmere in April of 1966. Back then, the Birchmere was just a joint located behind the village of Shirlington.

"In those days, Four Mile Run had the industrial park and all," Oelze recalled. "So, I had a great lunch business, and evening business was all the young families out of Fairlington and Clarendon. So, for a few years it was just a neighborhood bar and restaurant."

Around the late 1960s, says Oelze, the area started undergoing a dramatic transformation.

"Everyone was discovering Woodbridge and Dale City, and all these young families was moving out, so my night business was changing," the Owensboro, Ky., native noted.

His solution to rebuild the evening business was to offer music. And by the early '70s, Oelze introduced a taste of his native Kentucky to the Birchmere with blue grass music. He lured the band The Seldom Scene away from their home club in Bethesda. They played the Birchmere every Thursday night for more than 20 years.

"That sort of legitimized the Birchmere as a real music venue," Oelze said. "Just about every musician that played in the area would stop by to catch The Seldom Scene, and most would sit in. People like Emmy Lou Harris



SANDY LEVITZ LUNNER/GAZETTE PACKET

**Gary Oelze reads the dedication on a Platinum Album given to him by Alison Kraus, one of the many young talents he helped over the years.**

and Linda Ronstadt. And it's grown from that.

"I often say if it weren't for The Seldom Scene, there wouldn't be a Birchmere. I was just a kid 44 years ago. If I'd've visualized

**"So there we were at midnight going, 'Well, this is easy.' Little did I realize."**

— Michael Jaworek

what's going on now back then, it probably wouldn't have happened. It's been a real learning process."

Oelze seems to have a second sense when it comes to the music that touches people's hearts. He likes to point out that even though he's had partners and other input over the years, the music was always his.

"I'm real proud of that," he said. "I still approve all the music. Number one, because the bankroll's my department. But now I have a booking office on site."

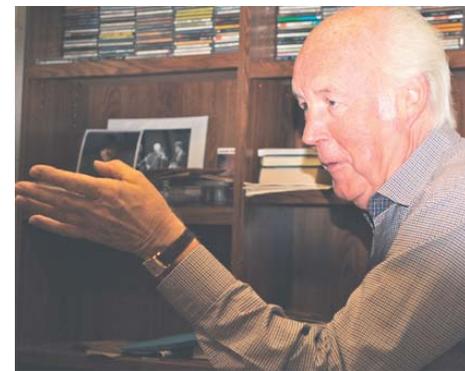
**WHEREAS OELZE** has a sixth sense about music, Michael Jaworek seems to have a more studied approach to the business.

His resume dates back to 1971 while a student at The University of Illinois. Four friends put up \$500 to bring two acts to the University. They needed 500 people to break even. They got about 1,500.

"So there we were at midnight going, 'Well, this is easy.' Little did I realize," he said with a slightly ironic laugh.

Jaworek continued bringing concerts to his alma mater which helped him land similar work after college at the University of Tennessee and the University of Maryland.

Jaworek joined Alexandria-based Chesapeake Concerts in 1985 where he booked a variety of shows in the DC/Baltimore corri-



SANDY LEVITZ LUNNER/GAZETTE PACKET

**Gary Oelze responds to a question during his daily meeting with the booking staff.**



**Doc Watson and Jerry Jeff Walker at the Birchmere in 1984.**

dor. He approached Oelze in 1988 with a proposition.

"Chesapeake Concerts was at a point where it needed a club to grow artists," Jaworek said. "I told Gary I could increase and diversify the Birchmere's business."

Chesapeake still earned its booking fee. When the talent grew too big for the Birchmere, Chesapeake booked them in a theater or arena. That worked for Oelze who wasn't interested in going outside the club. By 1997, Jaworek left Chesapeake to join the Birchmere staff — just in time for the move from Birchmere's first Mt. Vernon Avenue venue to its current location.

The Birchmere has a "Hall of Fame" — wall-to-wall photos and posters of Birchmere alumni with personal, heart-felt signatures. But don't try to get Oelze or Jaworek to reveal a favorite performer. Both insist they don't have one.

"Each act on the Birchmere calendar is a treasure to me," Oelze said.

**RELAXED**, feet up on his desk, Oelze makes a quick apology for the noise of this day's sound check that can be heard faintly through the closed door of his modest office before he continues.

"Personally I like singer/songwriters," Oelze said. "For instance, Guy Clark, Rodney Crowell, people like that. And Lyle, Lyle Lovett. Those come to mind.

"To me, that's the hardest thing is to get up there all by yourself and lay your soul out, you know. My all-time favorite was the late Mickey Newbury. But I could hardly sell a

SEE BIRCHMERE, PAGE 27



PHOTO BY SANDY LEVITZ LUNNER/GAZETTE PACKET

**Michael Jaworek brings up a new issue during the 4 p.m. daily meeting.**

## Michael's Picks

Like his boss, Michael Jaworek is quick to light up, too, when he talks about new talent. And, true to boss Gary Oelze's promise, Jaworek has already booked one of their recent "discoveries," Elizabeth Cook for a return engagement. On Dec. 2, she'll be co-headlining with Jim Lauderdale, a singer/songwriter who penned hits for country legend George Strait.

"Liz follows in the path of several artists that combine the classic and modern, not straight-ahead country," Jaworek said about Cook. He likens her style to that of Kathy Mattea, Hal Ketchum and Suzy Bogguss.

Of their other recent "discovery," Elizabeth Cook for a return engagement, Jaworek said, "Joe Robinson is going to go far." He describes Robinson as a brilliant instrumentalist reminiscent of other guitarists like the late Michael Hedges, Keller Williams, or even Chet Atkins, whose music combines the best of pop, jazz and country. "The kid did two 30-minute sets opening for the blues band Keb Mo, which made sense because Keb was on an acoustic tour, too. And the public voted," Jaworek shared. "The public had no idea who he is and he sold all 150 CDs he brought."

Jaworek has already started the process of bringing Robinson back to the Birchmere, and hopes to see his return in the first quarter of 2011.

For those who have never experienced the Birchmere, and even for those who are regulars, Jaworek highlights a few additional upcoming shows.

Oct. 16: "This is where, as I put it, some of the diversity comes in. We have Paula Poundstone coming in and she always sells out. She's great — wonderful lady."

Oct. 19-20: "Blues legend Buddy Guy comes back with two different opening acts — Britt Neal on the 19<sup>th</sup>, and Kirsten Thien on the 20<sup>th</sup>. He's out promoting a new album."

Oct. 27-28: "One of my favorite acts, The Belly Dance Superstars, are bringing their show, Bombay Bellywood. They are the best belly dancers in North America. And they're stunning and brilliant dancers. They worked,

SEE MICHAEL'S PICKS, PAGE 26

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

# Birchmere Patrons Are Music Fans First

BY SANDY LEVITZ LUNNER  
GAZETTE PACKET

The Birchmere presents some 250 to 300 shows a year. And just about every night of a show, there are music fans waiting in line at the doors — often hours before showtime. These fans are serious about favorite performers, and they want to secure a prime seat once inside the club.

Recently, fans were about 75 deep for Josh Cohn, best known for his hit "Walking in Memphis." First in line was web designer Page Hite who says he started coming to the Birchmere in 1988 at the first Mount Vernon Avenue location.

"I probably come to at least 20 shows a year at the Birchmere," Hite said. "I see more shows here than any other venue in the area. It's just a great venue, and just the right size with great sound, a great staff and a wide variety of music."

Hite says he always tries to be first in line. He has a favorite table that he thinks provides the best sound in the room, though not always the best sightline. He decides just how early he should arrive based on how expensive the ticket was, the day of the week of the show, what the weather

forecast is. On this particular sunny and warm day, he arrived around 3 p.m.

"The earliest I ever came was for Vince Gill. I got here at 5:30 a.m. for a 7:30 p.m. show," he said with a smile.

Hite writes a blog called "Pages's Picks" (<http://pages-picks.com>) with a tag line that reads, "Trust me now, thank me later." He offers his tips on the best live music in the D.C. metro area.

Hite offered to share some of his upcoming picks for the Birchmere, including comedian Paula Poundstone on Oct. 16, blues guitarist Buddy Guy on Oct. 19-20 and "the legend that is Delbert McClinton on Nov. 3. I've seen all three — Delbert over 70 times since '92 — and I can recommend them all."



SANDY LEVITZ LUNNER/GAZETTE PACKET

**Page Hite of Springfield (right) and Sam Crowell of Arlington have some laughs before the show with bartender Megan Statler of Alexandria.**

In December, Hite plans to be at the Birchmere for jazz vocalist Jane Monheit on Dec. 8. It's his first time seeing her live, but he loves her recordings. He also plans to see Aaron Neville on Dec. 15 and the Roches Holiday Show on Dec. 17.

"Saw both Neville and the Roches last year and both were excellent."

# Lyle Lovett Reflects On The Birchmere

FROM PAGE 20

with Michael who was working with Chapin at the time. They asked if it was OK if a local act opened for me. And I said well sure. They said the only thing is, it's a band. And I said well I don't know — that's going to be kind of tough for me since I'm playing solo. They told me who it was, and I had actually met Chapin. I remembered her because the very first time I played anything in the D.C. area was in 1984, and it was a folk festival thing they did at the Kennedy Center and Chapin and was a show runner, and she picked me up at the airport. So I told them, yeah I know her.

They said, well, her band has offered to learn some of your songs, and I thought this is going from bad to worse. I was just thinking of her as the show runner, and I was thinking to myself, oh my goodness.

I said, can she just open by herself, without the band. And they told me, well it's a chance for her. They said Steve Buckingham from CBS records was gonna be there that night and it's a showcase for her for CBS.

I said OK, all right, but I'll be fine playing by myself. Don't worry. And of course I got there for sound check and it was her band, that great band, and they had rehearsed some of my songs and they did a sound check with me and of course they were great. I just couldn't believe how good they were. And so that's the night Chapin actually got her record deal. That's what it was.

## How did Guy Clark find you and why did he take you to The Birchmere?

I had met Guy in Nashville and was a fan of Guy's. I had dropped off one of my demo tapes at CBS where Guy was a songwriter and told the young song plugger there that I was a big fan of Guy's and he passed my tape on to Guy. Guy was just giving me lots of support, and I finally met him and we started hanging out a little bit and he was nice enough to invite me to come play the Birchmere. He was familiar with the kinds of places I played in Texas like the Café in Austin and Poor David's Pub in Dallas and so he knew that the Birchmere was right in line with those kind of places. Guy knew that I would appreciate the Birchmere, I think that's what it was.

## Any anecdotes from the early days?

I just remember how Gary and Linda and Pudge



**Alison Kraus on the fiddle with her band Union Station at the Birchmere. The first time she fiddled at the Birchmere was with The Birchmere Super Pickers at the old club on Mount Vernon Avenue. It was a surprise to Gary Oelze and Michael Jaworek the first time they heard her sing.**

that worked the door back then, just how much they cared about the music and about the ethic of their place and that the place was a listening room. There are very few places like that in the world. The Birchmere is kind of it — in the D.C. area for sure.

But there are just a handful of those places in the country — and in the world that have that kind of respect for the singer/songwriter and who show the kind of support for the singer/songwriter that Gary Oelze always showed.

Gary always made you feel like you were at home when you were in his place and in fact gave all of us a home when we were there. It was a place that we could count on a wonderful crowd — wonderful in so many ways. Not just a listening crowd, but really smart — a crowd that has high expectations, the kind

of expectations that you sort of have to rise up to.

## Do you remember the first time you played there?

I remember the first time I played there very well — and the crowd didn't know who I was. That's what I think speaks so well of Gary and the tone he set there at the Birchmere.

The crowd wasn't there to see me, and the crowd didn't know me from anybody, and my set on each of those nights, couldn't have been better for me. They listened and they were very supportive and I just remember feeling grateful that night that I could play there. And I was so excited to hang out with Guy.

Of course, I knew about the Birchmere from my

SEE LYLE LOVETT, PAGE 23

Talk of the Town is a new Alexandria Gazette Packet feature. Questions, comments, or suggestions can be e-mailed to [thewanderer@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:thewanderer@connectionnewspapers.com).

# Talk of the Town

**Straight from the Art** Knowing that art is in the eyes of the beholder, The Wanderer has set out to discover the treasures found in the more eclectic corners of town. A handmade scarf, a pleasing bit of art to hang, or a lovely ceramic to place on a shelf, becomes very personal in meaning without braking the bank. Now *that* is the practical application of art.

Photos by Louise Krafft



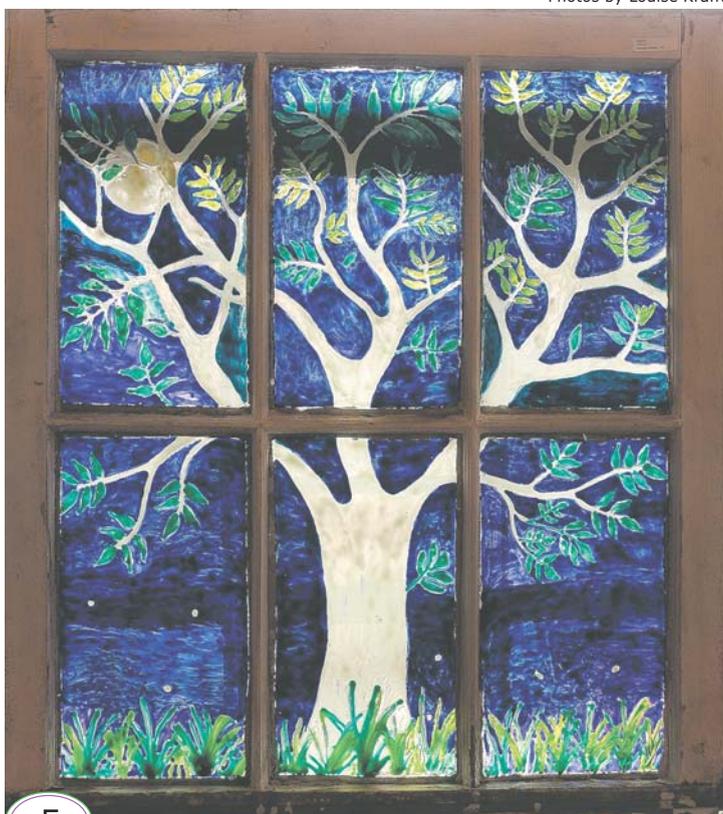
## A ARTCRAFT

A neighborhood fixture featuring works from artists all over the country. Ever changing handcrafted creations are never disappointing. Don't forget to look up! Pet friendly, too. 132 King Street, 703.299.6616, [artcraftonline.com](http://artcraftonline.com)



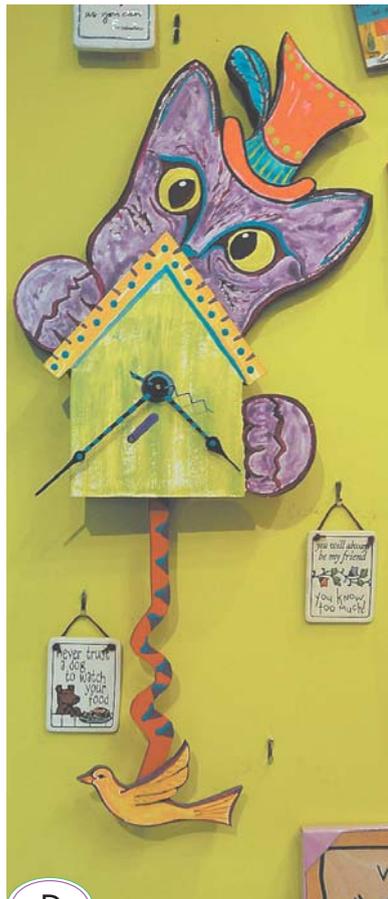
## F REUNIONS

Exquisite jewelry, handbags, scarves and home accessories shown among antiques and home furnishings. Wonderful things displayed in an atmosphere that feels like you are visiting someone's very interesting and beautiful home. 1709 Centre Plaza, Fairlington Shops, 703.931.8161



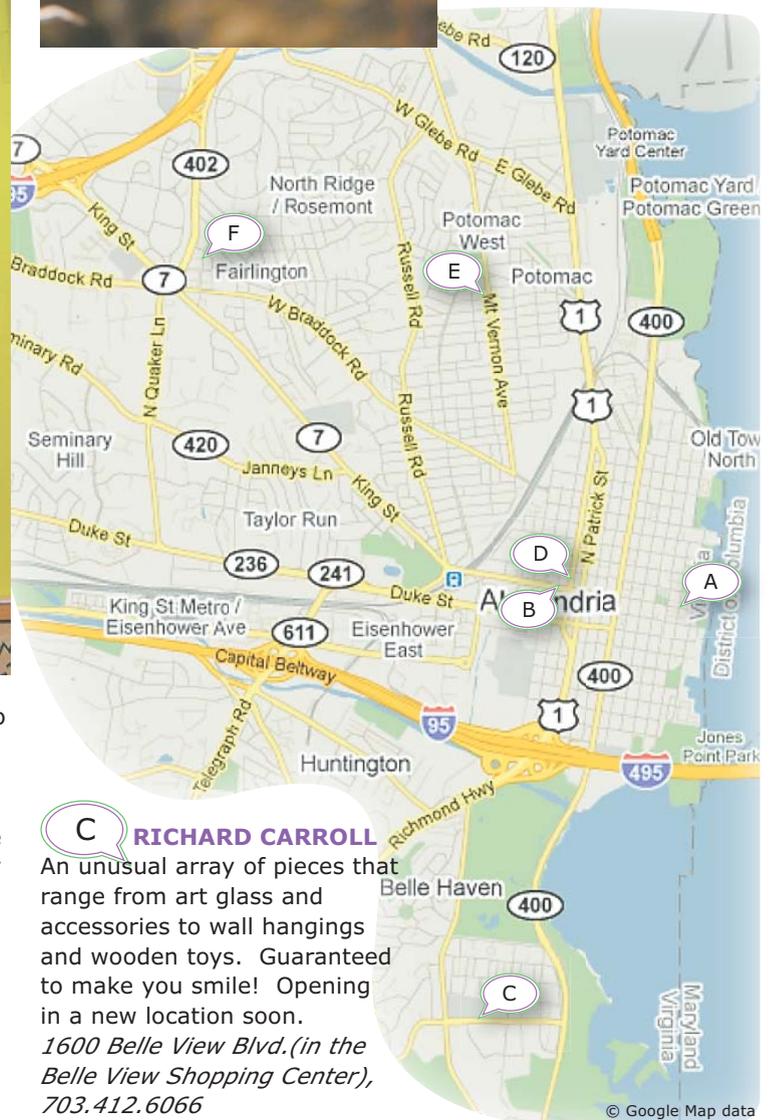
## E A SHOW OF HANDS

Unique and handcrafted items that have become the place to get a one-of-a-kind gift or piece of jewelry. Currently showing more than 200 artists among constantly changing inventory. 2301 Mount Vernon Avenue, 703.683.2905, [ashowofhands.biz](http://ashowofhands.biz)



## D LA MUSE

"Gifts with a purpose"—mainly to inspire, provoke thought, or make you laugh! Walls in bright primary colors convey on the senses before you have a chance to discover items that are mostly handcrafted by American and Canadian artists. 108 North Patrick Street, 703.683.1696, [shoplamuse.net](http://shoplamuse.net)



## C RICHARD CARROLL

An unusual array of pieces that range from art glass and accessories to wall hangings and wooden toys. Guaranteed to make you smile! Opening in a new location soon. 1600 Belle View Blvd. (in the Belle View Shopping Center), 703.412.6066

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## B IMAGINE ARTWEAR

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# Lyle Lovett Reflects On The Birchmere

FROM PAGE 21

days of playing the listening rooms here around Texas. You know, the Birchmere was one of those famous places that you think, oh gosh, if I could ever play there then that's how I'd know I was really making it. And it continues to be a great place to play. Now, the old Birchmere being a little bit smaller was so charming. But the new Birchmere, even with its larger size, has the same feeling about it.

## As a performer what do you think about the newer location?

It all speaks to the level of concern that Gary has and now Michael as well. They just always give you the impression they always want to get it right, and they want

to do what's right for the music. And as a performer, you know, that's just the nicest feeling in the world to have when you walk through the door. To know, have confidence that the people running the place are concerned about the music, about what you're doing.

## At what point did you realize you had made it?

Oh gosh, are you kidding? I feel so lucky to have the career I've had and to be able to do something that I love to do everyday of my life. But you know, I'm still working. I'm still, you know the music business has changed a great deal since those days, and anything you do requires looking after and requires constant thought. We're planning a tour that will

start the beginning of November and go up to Thanksgiving and we'll get to go to parts of the country we didn't get to go this summer on our tour. This weekend we get to play the closing ceremonies of The World Equestrian Games in Lexington which I'm excited about. You can never think to yourself well, gosh, I don't ever have to worry about anything. Every show you ever do is the most important show that you have.

## You've been traveling a lot with your Large Band, which Gary and Michael say they can't really accommodate at the Birchmere.

In fact, the first time we put the band together and called it the Large Band was in 1988. And the very first place we

played, and it was a 10-piece band with our entire vocal group with three horns instead of four and we didn't have a steel guitar in the band. But, the very first place we played as the Large Band was the Birchmere. Yeah, it was the old Birchmere. It was the beginning of a month-long tour and we went from there to Boston and came back through N.Y. and then headed west. We kind of covered the whole country in March of '88.

Lyle Lovett is touring with his Large Band supporting his studio album, "Natural Forces" (Curb/Lost Highway). The 15-city fall outing follows on the heels of a cross-country summer tour and a debut tour of Australia this past spring.

— SANDY LEVITZ LUNNER



Birchmere owner Gary Oelze, center, with Mickey Newbury, left, and Guy Clark.

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# CALENDAR

## OCT. 3-31

**Pumpkin Patch Sale.** 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. Proceeds go to charity. At Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, 3606 Seminary Road, corner of Seminary Road and Quaker Lane, Alexandria. Call Susan D. Dawson at 703-931-4349.

## THURSDAY/OCT. 14

**Sol Roots Performs.** 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10. His talent stretches from fiery rock to laid-back jazz, and from funky innovative grooves to soulful ballads, always drawing on a deep background in blues. At the Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. Call 703-548-0035 or visit [www.sol-roots.com](http://www.sol-roots.com).

**Kindergarten Fair.** 7 to 9 p.m. Alexandria City Public Schools representatives will participate in Alexandria's annual Kindergarten Fair. At Grace Episcopal School's Merrow Hall Auditorium, 3601 Russell Road, Alexandria. The event will be geared toward parents of preschool-aged children. Read more at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/news2011/nr2010100703.php>.

## 18<sup>th</sup> Century Dance Classes.

7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Dance master Corky Palmer will lead a fun series of 18th-century English country dance classes in preparation for the Masquerade Ball on Saturday, Oct. 23. Singles or couples are welcome at this beginner-level series. The cost for lessons is \$30 for the series or \$12 per class. Reservations are requested and can be made by calling 703-746-4242. At Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal St., Alexandria. Visit [www.gadsbystavern.org](http://www.gadsbystavern.org).

**Dig Pink Event.** 5 p.m. West Potomac High School volleyball team is hosting matches to raise money for breast cancer research. There will be a baked goods sale and drawings for raffle prizes, like spa treatments and restaurant gift cards, during the freshman, junior varsity, and varsity matches. The volleyball teams will donate all raffle and concessions proceeds to the Side-Out Foundation.

## FRIDAY/OCT. 15

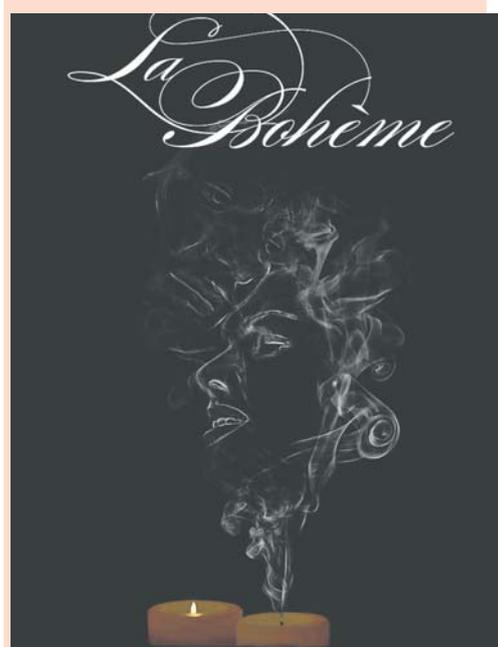
**"Spanglish."** Life lessons as illustrated by Aesop himself, penned centuries ago. Presented by Alexandria City Community Theatre. The production features singing (in English and Spanish) and dancing. Admission is \$5 with proceeds benefiting ACCT. Call 703-746-5533. At the Lee Center's Kauffman Auditorium, 1108 Jefferson St., Alexandria. Call 703-746-5533.

**"Hiding?" Film Screening.** 7 p.m. This film exposes the struggle North Korean refugees must go through in China to find freedom. Through this film, you will be introduced to those still in hiding and learn about ways to help bring them to safety. Representatives from LiNK, an organization that educates people on the refugee crisis in North Korea, will lead the after-film discussion. At Mt. Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria. Call 703-721-0595 or [gpourchot@yahoo.com](mailto:gpourchot@yahoo.com).

**An Evening of Music for Brass Quintet.** 8 p.m. Free. With the U.S. Air Force Band Chamber Players. At George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria. Call 202-767-5658 or [www.usafband.af.mil](http://www.usafband.af.mil).

## OCT. 15-17

**Live Gaming Event.** Major League Gaming will combine its Pro Circuit competition and the MLG Doritos Pro Gaming Combine to create



## OCT. 15, 16, 22, 23

**"La Boheme."** 8 p.m. Repertory Opera Theater of Washington presents G. Puccini's "La Boheme," fully staged and sung in Italian with English Supertitles. Tickets are \$25/adults; \$20/students and seniors. At Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, 3606 Seminary Road, Alexandria. Call 571-403-0814 or email: [tickets@repertoryoperadc.org](mailto:tickets@repertoryoperadc.org) or visit [www.repertoryoperadc.org](http://www.repertoryoperadc.org).

competitions for the 2010 season's two remaining events. More than 2,600 players will compete. At the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, National Harbor, Md. Registration for the Pro Circuit and the amateur competition is open at <http://www.mlgpro.com/pro-circuit/2010>. For details, visit [www.mlgpro.com](http://www.mlgpro.com).

## SATURDAY/OCT. 16

**Family Fall Festival.** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. At Armistead Booth Park, 520 Cameron Station Blvd., Alexandria. Sponsored by the City of Alexandria. Call 703-746-5592 or 703-746-5418.

**Fall Fun Fair.** 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Games, rock climbing, moonbounce, sports games, field games, sack races, maze, contests. At Hollin Meadows, 2310 Nordock Place, Alexandria.

**Wonders of Science.** 1 to 4 p.m. Cost is \$6/person. Investigate the wonders of 18th century science at the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 105-107 S. Fairfax St., Alexandria. Visit [www.apothecarymuseum.org](http://www.apothecarymuseum.org) or call 703-746-3852.

**Nelly's Needler's Bazaar.** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Handmade items by the Nelly's Needler's, a volunteer fundraising organization with proceeds benefiting Woodlawn. Items include: quilts and quilted items; baby gifts and toys; clothing and jewelry; holiday decorations; ornaments; painted furniture; canned/preserved/baked goods. On the grounds of Woodlawn, 9000 Richmond Highway, three miles west of Mount Vernon. Call 703-780-4000 or visit [www.woodlawn1805.org](http://www.woodlawn1805.org).

**Ice Well Fundraiser.** 7 to 10 p.m. Silent auction and raffle tickets, fine food and drink. Costumes are encouraged. Tickets are \$75/members and \$100/non-members. \$150 per person for pre-party cocktail reception. All proceeds benefit Gadsby's Ice Well Restoration. At Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St., Old Town Alexandria. Call Karen Byers at 703-836-3939.

**Halloween Fall Festival.** 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pumpkin patch, moon bounce, face-painting, food and much more. Benefit for the Ronald McDonald House Charities. At Mason District Park, 6621 Columbia Pike, Annandale. Contact Vanessa at [lindberggrp.com](mailto:lindberggrp.com).

**Fall Mulch Sale.** Sponsored by Mount Vernon High School. Proceeds will help sponsor a safe Junior/Senior Prom. Pick-up in the Mount Vernon

High School parking lot. Orders of 10 bags or more will be delivered to your house. Cost is \$5 per bag – 3 cubic feet of shredded hard bark mulch. Contact Jeanette Kraynak at 703-703-619-9069 or [bzymum3@aol.com](mailto:bzymum3@aol.com).

**St. Aidan's Oktoberfest and Silent Auction.** 3-7 p.m. German Food and Music. 50/50 raffle. Kinderfest from 3-5 p.m. Games, Pumpkin Patch, Face Painting. Fun for everyone. St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Rd., Alexandria. [www.staidanepiscopal.org](http://www.staidanepiscopal.org).

**Big Top Country Market.** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Carnival games and rides, airbrush tattoos, spin art crafts, cake walk, clowns and balloon animals. Marketplace with local vendors and BBQ cafe from Famous Dave's. At Alexandria Country Day School, 2400 Russell Road, Alexandria. Visit [www.acdsnet.org](http://www.acdsnet.org).

**Mega Bazaar and Craft Sale.** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Over 30 crafters, silent auction with services and new merchandise, bake sale, door prizes and lunch. At Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Call 703-765-4573 or TTY/711.

**Family History Workshop.** 1 to 4 p.m. "Saving Your Stories for Seven Generations: A Family History Workshop" will give participants helpful tips,

innovative ideas and hands-on experience to document and preserve family stories. Cost is \$50/person. At the Lyceum, 201 South Washington Street in Old Town. Visit [www.alexandriahistory.org](http://www.alexandriahistory.org) or call 703-746-4994.

**Sketching with Live Model.** 6-8 p.m. Free. Musical performance at 8 p.m. Complimentary special show cocktail by Mie N Yu Restaurant. At Art Whino Gallery, 122 Waterfront Street, National Harbor, Md.

**TAG Day.** T.C. Williams High School Band is conducting its annual fundraiser called Tag Day. Students will canvass Alexandria neighborhoods in teams asking for money to support the band program. If there is no answer, they will leave a Tag requesting funds on the door.

**Flea Market.** 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Large selection of collectibles, trinkets, gadgets, books and attic treasures; children's items, toys and books; baked goods and lunch. All proceeds will be donated to charities. At Trinity United Methodist Church, 2911 Cameron Mills Road, Alexandria. Call 703-549-5500.

**Burgundy Farm Fall Fair.** 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free. Live performances, local artisans, delicious food, a used book sale, and games and prizes for kids. At Burgundy Farm Country Day School, 3700 Burgundy Road, Alexandria.

**Community Yard Sale.** 7 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Alexandria Jaycees which are seeking sellers. Sellers may sell anything legal (appliances, clothing, toys, books, etc.) except for food and drinks. The cost for sellers is \$15 per space. Seller set-up is from 6-7 a.m. At Anthony Lane Elementary School, 7137 Beulah Street, Alexandria. Visit [www.alexjaycees.org](http://www.alexjaycees.org) or call : 703-866-7171.

**Steven Gellman Concert.** 8 to 10 p.m. At St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, 2300 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Call 703-739-9268.

## OCT. 16-17

**Artist Open Studios.** 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. See various artworks by eight local artists, ranging from oil, acrylic and watercolor paintings to works in wood, murals, trompe l'oeil, architectural works, and more. In their building at 3211 Colvin Street, Alexandria. Call Heidi Mirka at 571-641-9930.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 25

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# CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 24

## SUNDAY/OCT. 17

**Paul Carr in Concert.** 4 p.m. Donation of \$15. Sponsored by the Committee for Jazz at Meade. At Meade Memorial Episcopal Church, 322 N. Alfred Street, Alexandria. Call 703-549-1334.

**Fall Festival.** 3 to 6 p.m. Pony rides, moon bounce, games, crafts, decorating pumpkins, sing-a-longs and storytelling. At Fort Hunt Preschool, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria. The rain date is Sunday, Nov. 7 from 2 to 5 p.m. Call 703-768-7584.

**Pumpkin Patch Book Signing.** 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Author Michael Lee Pope will sign copies of "Ghosts of Alexandria" at the Immanuel Church-On-The-Hill pumpkin patch, located at 3606 Seminary Road, Alexandria. A portion of the proceeds to the Immanuel Pumpkin Patch fundraiser. Call 703-615-0960 or visit [ghostsofalexandria.blogspot.com](http://ghostsofalexandria.blogspot.com).

**Rock and Roll Flea Market and Guitar Show.** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. 80 tables of guitars, amplifiers, drums, musical instruments, recording gear, DJ systems. Admission is \$4, children under 12 free. At Northern Virginia Community College, Ernst Community Cultural Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale.

**Andrew McKnight and Beyond Borders.** 7 p.m. Tickets are \$18/general; \$15/advance at [www.FocusMusic.org](http://www.FocusMusic.org). At Church of the Resurrection, 2280 N. Beaugard St., Alexandria. Visit [www.andrewmcknight.net](http://www.andrewmcknight.net).

**Bishop Ireton Cardinal 5K Run.** 9 a.m. Online registration through Oct. 13 at [www.cardinal5krace.com](http://www.cardinal5krace.com). Mail registration with check to BI Athletic Boosters to Pacers of Arlington, 3100 Clarendon Blvd., Arlington VA 22201. Entry fees: \$30 pre-registration, \$35 Race Day. At 4001 Eisenhower Ave. (Cameron Run Great Wave Pool Park).

Bring canned food for United Community Ministries. Call Bill Simmons at 751-212-5169 or email at [kellerj@bishopireton.org](mailto:kellerj@bishopireton.org)

**Taste of Spain: Dinner and Flamenco Dance Show.** 7 to 10 p.m. Cost is \$55. At Las Tapas Restaurant, 710 King Street, Alexandria. Call 703-836-4000.

## MONDAY/OCT. 18

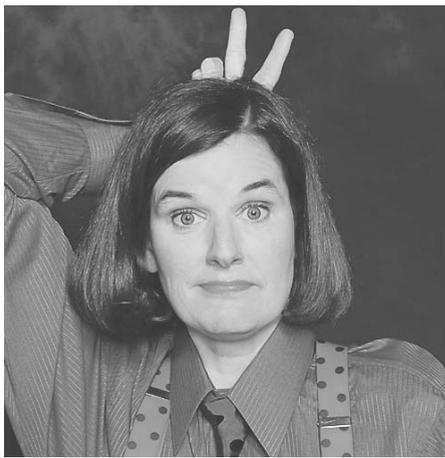
**Tavern Toddlers.** 10:30 a.m. to noon. Special program for toddlers. Crafts change weekly. At Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St., Alexandria. Cost is \$7 for a group of three, which must include one adult, or \$30 for a five-week pass. Visit [www.gadsbystavern.org](http://www.gadsbystavern.org) or call 703-746-4242.

**College Night.** 7 to 9 p.m. Fairfax County Public Schools will host representatives from 300 colleges and universities as well as military academies and business and technical schools. Also, workshops on financial aid, the SAT and ACT, college readiness and career planning. At Hayfield Secondary School, 7630 Telegraph Road in Alexandria.

## TUESDAY/OCT. 19

**College Fair.** 7 to 9 p.m. All Alexandria-area high-school students and their parents are invited to the 15th annual College Fair at T.C. Williams High School, 3330 King St., Alexandria. An iPod shuffle will be raffled off at the event! Read more at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/news2011/nr2010100705.php>.

**Orchestra Concert.** 7 p.m. West Potomac High School Intermediate and Advanced Orchestras. The Advanced



## OCT. 16

**Comic Paula Poundstone.** 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$39.50. At the Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Call 703-549-7500 or visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com).

Orchestra will perform: "Simple Symphony" by Benjamin Britten; "Boisterous Bourree;" "Playful Pizzicato;" "Sentimental Saraband;" and "Frolicsome Finale." The Intermediate Orchestra will perform: "Three Nigerian Dances" by Samuel Akpabot; "A Touch of Ireland" by Elliot Del Borgo; "Autumn Op. 8 No. 3" by Antonio Vivaldi from "The Four Seasons" Le Quattro Stagioni. At West Potomac High School's Springbank Auditorium.

**Preschool Fair.** 9 a.m. to noon. Free. Sponsored by the MOMS Club of Alexandria-NE. If you are a local preschool representative interested in presenting at the fair, call 678-571-3653. At the First Baptist Church of Alexandria, 2932 King Street, Alexandria.

**Piano Recital.** 7:30 p.m. Christine and

David Hagan will feature music by Claude Debussy, Manuel Infante and Igor Stravinsky. \$10 donation. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, 3001 N. Beaugard St., Alexandria. Call 703-845-6096 or e-mail [mwhitmore@nvcc.edu](mailto:mwhitmore@nvcc.edu).

**Author Talk.** 6 p.m. Free. Local author Kristin Levine will talk about her children's book, *The Best Bad Luck I Ever Had*, and discuss how kids can write and share their own stories. Age 8 and up. At John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria. Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov) or call 703-971-0010.

## WEDNESDAY/OCT. 20

**"M."** 7:30 p.m. Fritz Lang's chilling 1931 drama based on a true story of a child murderer in Weimar, Germany. Starring a young Peter Lorre as the antagonist. (In German with subtitles.) At the George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria. "Cinema 22" is sponsored by the Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22. Contact Andrew Hammer at 703-765-9015 or [andrew@hammerhouse.net](mailto:andrew@hammerhouse.net).

**Author Talk.** 7:30 p.m. Free. Alexandria novelist and associate professor at GMU Andrew Wingfield, author of *Right of Way*. Hosted by the Friends of Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Avenue, Alexandria. Call 703-746-1705 or visit [www.alexandria.lib.va.us](http://www.alexandria.lib.va.us).

**Swing Dancing.** 9 to 11 p.m. Admission is \$10. With the band, JP McDermott and Western Bop. At Nick's Nightclub, 641 South Pickett Street, Alexandria.

## OCT. 20-23

**Fall Book Sale.** Sponsored by Burke Branch Friends of Alexandria Library. Wednesday from 4 to 6:30 p.m. is the

Friends-only preview sale; Thursday from 1 to 8:30 p.m.; Friday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. At Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road, Alexandria. Call 703-746-1704.

## THURSDAY/OCT. 21

**Mt. Vernon Branch AAUW.** 7 p.m. Speaker Weis Sherdel will discuss the role of newcomers in our society, cultural identity and the American Dream. At the Mt. Vernon Governmental Center, 2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria. Call Mary Ellen Mehler at 703-780-8494.

**Virginia's Role in Restoring the Treasure of the Chesapeake Bay.** 10:45 a.m. Free. Presentation by Claudia Hamblin-Katnik, Watershed Program Administrator, City of Alexandria, on things homeowners can do in their yard or garden to reduce harm to our local water resources, which feed into the Bay. Sponsored by the Garden Club of Wayneswood, Fellowship Hall of Plymouth Haven Baptist Church, 8523 Ft. Hunt Road, Alexandria. Call 703-549-4245.

## OCT. 21-24

**Excavate Shuter's Hill.** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Gain hands-on experience in site-excitation methods and record keeping. On the grounds of the George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Dr., Alexandria. Sponsored by the Alexandria Archaeology Institute. Visit [www.alexandriarchaeology.org](http://www.alexandriarchaeology.org) or call 703-746-4399.

## FRIDAY/OCT. 22

**Career Fair.** 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free. With 20 employers signed on. Hosted by Westwood College in Annandale. At Landmark Mall, 5801 Duke Street, Alexandria.

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# DINE OUT

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2010

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## ENTERTAINMENT



The empty seats are the giveaway that this is an early shot of Vince Gill playing the Birchmere.

## Michael's Picks

FROM PAGE 21

over the years to establish themselves, as hard as any heavy metal road band doing eight shows in seven days. They've been all over the world."

Oct. 29: "I'm proud of this one — Barbara Cook, without a doubt the doyen of Broadway and cabaret. Barbara loves to work, and her folks know the venue, so we made the connection — the same way, over the years, I've played Mel Torme, Sarah Vaughn, Oscar Peterson, Karen Ackers. I can speak that language."

Oct. 30: "This is really cool. Tom Paxton is doing a double bill with Janis Ian. They are here, together at last. A show so hot, they wouldn't let it any nearer to the nation's capitol. They had to play the Birchmere, America's Legendary Music Hall."

Nov. 8: "In The Bandstand! Robert Earl Keen's Uprising Tour, featuring Robert Earl Keen, Reckless Kelly, Randy Rogers Band. Keen is a Birchmere regular and this time comes from Texas with two of the hottest Lone Star acts. A night of rockin' country!"

Nov. 15: "A rare acoustic-oriented tour by Ian Anderson, leader of the timeless rock band Jethro Tull. The show features Tull classics plus Anderson and the band will also play material from his solo albums and beyond!"

Dec. 7: "Rickie Lee Jones will perform her first two albums 'Rickie Lee Jones' and 'Pirates' in their entirety. These were the albums that firmly planted her in rock's pantheon of singer/songwriter stars."

Dec. 27: "The 14th Annual HANK WILLIAMS TRIBUTE show, once again Cathy Fink, Marcy Marxer, Bill Kirchen, Robin and Linda Williams and others return to celebrate the music by one of America's greatest songwriters, country or otherwise."

# The Royal Restaurant

(now smoke free)

"What's for Dinner?!"

You don't have to think too hard, let us solve this classic question.

In addition to our award winning menu, we have added some popular specials that add variety for everybody taste.

**Real food, for real people at reasonable prices.**

### Monday - Kids Night

Burger Night (Kids eat 1/2 price) Each child must be accompanied by adult having entree.

### Tuesday - Greek Night

Lamb Marinated and Roasted for 3 hours, Athenian Roast Chicken, Moussaka!

### Wednesday - All American Night

Meatloaf, Chicken Fried Chicken. Va. Ham

### Thursday - Italian Night

Lasagna, Chicken Alfredo, Calamari

### Friday - Fish Night

Crab Cakes, Shrimp & Scallops over penne pasta with white sauce

### Saturday -Steak and Chop Night

Prime Rib, Lamb, Surf and Turf, Pork Chops, and Moussaka

### Sunday

Brunch served 7am - 2pm

Dine in or call ahead and your dinner will be ready for pick up.

**Dinner hours 2:30-9:30pm**  
**730 North Saint Asaph Street**  
**Alexandria, VA 22314**  
**(703) 548-1616**

Ample Free Parking

# ECLIPSE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Sylvia Alimena, Music Director

**OPENS NEW CONCERT SEASON WITH BARTOK, STRAUSS, STRAVINSKY AND HAYDN**

**Don't miss the Opening Concert of Eclipse Chamber Orchestra's**

**19th season on Sunday, October 24 at 3 P.M.**



**Featuring**  
Bartok's *Romanian Dances*, R. Strauss' *Oboe Concerto* performed by William Wielgus, Stravinsky's *Eight Instrumental Miniatures* and Haydn's *Symphony No. 6 in D Major, Le Matin*.

**Call ECO today and order your tickets at 703-635-2770 or you may purchase tickets at the door.**

**General admission is \$25, Seniors \$20, Students and Children admitted free to Eclipse performances.**

The concert is presented at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial at 101 Callahan Drive in Alexandria with free parking on site.

# The Birchmere Music Hall

FROM PAGE 20

ticket for anybody to see Mickey because he never had a record anybody knows. He'd written over 500 songs that people recognized, but other singers covered them."

"Favorite acts? You mean besides the one my wife is in — Four Bitchin' Babes? Her name is Debi Smith. That's D-e-b-i," Jaworek joked.

After his wife's band, Jaworek looks for music he feels is routed in a tradition, whatever that tradition may be.

"You can hear the music of yesterday in that group's sound today," he said. "Or, as another guy said, 'Oh, you mean music that has a soul to it — that has substance and passion and a lasting quality.' That may be the best way to put it."

Of course, the music business has changed quite a bit over the years. And that's meant changes at the Birchmere. For example, Oelze notes, they're not as free to select opening acts for the club because the agency often sends an opener with the headliner. That's where he and Jaworek have traditionally introduced their up-and-comers.

"The bands are involved more and more, always trying to make the most of their bookings," he said. "What they're doing is they're selling opening acts — you can be on our tour with us, but you've got to pay. Then they make us, the promoters, present these people."

"Artists and promoters, our agendas are only aligned so far," Jaworek added.

Ask this duo about some of the other challenges they face these days in their business and Jaworek cites the economy. Or he laments how the weather and illnesses have had an impact on their business this past year.

But Oelze is quick to name the city of Alexandria as his biggest challenge.

"First of all, they're trying to say they're business friendly and all, which is quite contrary to any of their actions. The Birchmere pays over \$300,000 a year to the city in taxes," Oelze said. "Now that's equal to anybody in this town. Yet I feel I get no respect from them whatsoever."

"Since 2005, you come to The Birchmere and you have to pay an entertainment tax on top of the ticket price."

According to Oelze, the state of Virginia sanctions an entertainment tax, but allows municipalities to decide whether to levy the tax. If they do, Oelze says he understands, it should be collected across the board — even from non-profits such as symphony orchestras.

For the Birchmere, the tax requires not only an explanation to customers, but clarification and extra steps when booking an act. Oelze explained that bands get a percentage of overall ticket price as part of their compensation.

"You're collecting money off them, and they think they should get a piece," he said. "So in both the offer and the contract, we have to say the ticket price includes this tax. It's a handicap for us in this area." Music venues in D.C., some in Maryland and most in northern Virginia, like The State Theater in Fairfax, don't pay an entertainment tax.

"I just did some FOI Act research and there's only a



PHOTO BY SANDY LEVITZ LUNNER/GAZETTE PACKET

**Assistant booker Ben Finklestein, Michael Jaworek and Gary Oelze do a last-minute review of a contract before the night's performance.**

few of us businesses here paying — the big theater chains and the Birchmere, Oelze said. "Well, Nick's Restaurant on Picket — but they don't sell much. And I'm thinking, I'm gonna question the legality of that."

Oelze says there are some 30 businesses that sell tickets but don't pay a tax.

"I don't want to blow the whistle on anyone, I just want us all to come together and show the city how ridiculous this is."

"It's just that they slapped it on and it's not even being policed or anything. We've always taxed the meals we serve. But now, a tax on our own tickets! And we have to pay for the license to have the privilege to do so. I feel very wronged."

In a recent meeting about redevelopment of Mount Vernon Avenue, Oelze was talking to councilman Rob Krupicka, whom he counts as a friend.

"I told him that when BB King or Lyle Lovett play Wolf Trap it's 'the arts.' And in the city of Alexandria, it's a tax liability."

Oelze paused, went to light a cigarette then changed his mind.

"See that's what happens when you get me started on the city," he said. "It's a nervous habit. And I don't even really like to smoke them. I just like lighting them. That's why I buy these short ones."

**SUDDENLY** A loud noise from the club caused floor and seats to vibrate.

"Oh there it is," Oelze said with a contented smile on his face. "That bass check. I always love that."

Though an early riser, Oelze has Jaworek open the booking office around 10 a.m. every day there's a show. They are in regular contact by phone until Oelze heads into the club by 4 p.m. for equipment load-ins and a daily meeting with Jaworek. Years ago, he says, he used to stay with the bands until the bitter end.

"Maybe that's what made me old," he joked. "Anyway, because of my staff I was bragging about, I have the luxury of getting out early, but I never leave before the show starts."

Oelze says people talk to him about the Birchmere being his legacy. "I never understood it for the longest time. I think it comes with age, you know," he said. "You start to realize that there is such a thing as a legacy."

"I just enjoy doing it. I'm very lucky. Most people don't have a job they love going to every day. Every day's different. The Birchmere's a living, breathing thing, I don't think it's just a stagnant institution."

"I'm appreciating it more and more, you know."

## Birchmere

Address: 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave.  
Phone: 703-549-7500  
Website: www.birchmere.com

## The Alexandria Chamber of Commerce presents The 2010 Annual Meeting and State of Business Breakfast

November 9, 2010

7:30-9:30am  
The Westin Alexandria

Annual Meeting & Recognition Awards  
&  
Introducing 2011 Chamber Leadership

Registration prices:  
member \$45  
non-member \$55

for information call  
703.549.1000  
or visit  
www.alexchamber.com



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Vicar, The Rev. Huey J Sevier

www.christthesaviouranglican.org  
**703-953-2854**

**Good Shepherd Catholic Church**

**Mass Schedule**

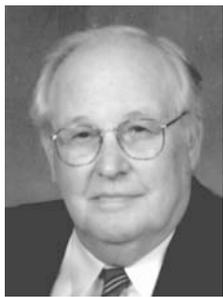
<b>Saturday Evening</b> 5:00 pm; 6:30 pm (en Español)	<b>Weekdays</b> (Mass or Communion Service) 9:00 am (followed by Rosary)
<b>Sunday</b> 7:30; 9:00; 10:30 am; 12:00 Noon 2:00 pm (en Español) 6:30 pm Mass (starts Sept. 12)	<b>Children's Liturgy of the Word</b> Sundays (Sept.-July) during 9:00 am Mass (English) <b>Sign Language Interpreter</b> Sunday at 9:00 am Mass

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**Legal Notices**

**John H. Kelso**



On October 9, 2010 John H. Kelso, a former federal government official died of cardiac arrest at Goodwin House, Alexandria, VA. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Marian of Alexandria, son John T. Kelso and daughter-in-law Andrea Kelso of Blacksburg, VA. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, October 16, 2010 at 11 a.m. at Fairlington United Methodist Church, 3900 King St. Alexandria, VA 22302. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations to the church.

**OBITUARY**

**Nicholas K. Shannon**

Nicholas (Nick) Karl Shannon, 48, of Alexandria, Virginia died Wednesday, October 6, 2010 at home.

Nick was born December 30, 1961 in Roanoke, Virginia and is the son of Anne MacGowan Wheeler formerly of Berryville and the late Robert McDonald Shannon, Jr.

He was a graduate of Powhatan School, Episcopal High School and the University of Virginia. He was most recently employed by Gadsby's Tavern in Alexandria.

Surviving with his mother are his brother, Chris Shannon of Alexandria; and two sisters, Andrea Shannon Drone and her husband, Gregory, of Alexandria and Julie Wheeler Abrera and her husband, Richard, of Alexandria and Berryville.

He is also survived by his nephew, Ian Drone, of Arlington and two nieces, Erin Drone and Keelyn Drone, of Alexandria.

Friends were received at the home of Julie and Richard Abrera, 204 Battletown Drive, Berryville, Saturday, October 9 from 2:00pm - 4:00pm.

A funeral mass will be held later in the month at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Community in Alexandria, VA.

Burial will be private at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to, Capital Hospice, Attn: Philanthropy Office, 2900 Telestar Court, Falls Church, VA 22042. www.capitalhospice.org

Arrangements are being handled by the Enders & Shirley Funeral Home, Berryville. To view the obituary or send condolences, please visit www.endersandshirley.com

**Legal Notices**

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF RICHLAND

**Anthony T. Winbush,**

Plaintiff,

v.

**Michele L. Winbush,**

Defendant.

TO: THE DEFENDANT ABOVE-NAMED

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND REQUIRED to answer the Complaint in this matter, a copy of which is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your answer to said Complaint upon the subscriber at his offices located at 2000 Park Street, Suite 100, Post Office Box 8596, Columbia, South Carolina, 29202-8596, within thirty (30) days from the service thereof, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to answer the Complaint within the time aforesaid, judgment by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

ISAACS & ALLEY, L.L.P.  
G. Robin Alley, Esquire  
2000 Park Street, Suite 100  
Post Office Box 8596  
Columbia, SC 29202-8596  
(803) 252-6323  
Attorneys for the Petitioner  
gra@isaacsandalley.com

Columbia, South Carolina  
February 24, 2010

**NOTICE:** The Summons in this action, of which the above is a copy, together with the Complaint therein was filed with the Clerk of Court of Richland County on March 5, 2010.

**Legal Notices**

**OBITUARY**



**Esther Marie Buckler**

Surrounded by family, Esther Marie Buckler passed away peacefully on Wednesday, August 11, 2010 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Esther was born on April 23, 1918 in Lawrence Kansas, the third of five daughters born to Dow W. and Ella Mae (Benson) Dews. Her four sisters, Hazel, Helen, Ellen Louise and Dorothy all preceded her in Death.

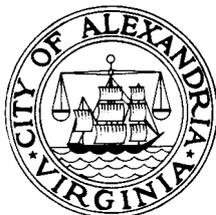
Growing up in Lawrence, she practiced on her sisters to develop her skills as a beautician, which later became her lifelong profession. After moving with her family to Alexandria, VA she met and married Thomas Buckler, Jr and opened her own beauty shop where her customers became her lifelong friends.

Esther was preceded in death by her husband, "Harry" and eldest son Ronny.

Esther is survived by her sons Thomas Buckler (Anne) of Cary, NC and Robert Buckler (Shelley) of Las Vegas, NV; grandchildren Kim (Jonathan) Botha, Kristin (Sam) DeAngelo, Troy (Rachell) Buckler, Tracy (Amanda) Buckler, Tobey Buckler and Jesse (Dawn) Buckler; and great grandchildren Ricci Johnson and Brady and Bennett DeAngelo.

She was baptized as one of Jehovah's Witnesses on January 19, 2003 and cherished the many new friends she made over the years.

A memorial service was held at the Kingdom Hall in Las Vegas, Nevada and the burial will be held at 2:00pm on Friday October 15, 2010 at Mount Comfort Cemetery in Alexandria, Virginia.



Public Hearing will be held by the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, City of Alexandria, Virginia, on Saturday, October 16, 2010, at 9:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as may be heard on the hereinafter described items.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Legal Notices**

IN THE FAMILY COURT  
FOR THE  
FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Docket No. 2010-DR-40-1101

**SUMMONS**

**Legal Notices**

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Article A (TAXICABS), Chapter 12 (TAXICABS AND OTHER VEHICLES FOR HIRE), Title 9 (LICENSING AND REGULATION) of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended.

The proposed ordinance amends certain sections of the City's taxicab ordinance, as recommended to City Council by the Traffic & Parking Board at its September 27, 2010 meeting.  
\*\*\*\*\*

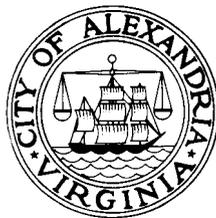
AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain certain provisions of Division 1 (GENERAL PROVISIONS), Article B (SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND DRAINS), Chapter 6 (WATER AND SEWER), Title 5 (TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES) of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended.

The proposed ordinance extends the period of time the reduced sewer connection fee remains in effect for units within developments that have satisfied certain conditions related to privately funded improvements to City sewer infrastructure.  
\*\*\*\*\*

PUBLIC HEARING to Obtain Citizen Input on the Report on the Proposed Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws for the Torpedo Factory Art Center Board (Consideration of the Item Will Be on Tuesday, October 26, 2010).  
\*\*\*\*\*

PUBLIC HEARING to Obtain Citizens Input on the City's Proposed Fiscal Year 2012 Budget and Capital Improvement Program (CIP).  
\*\*\*\*\*

THE PUBLIC IS ADVISED THAT AMENDMENTS OR ADDITIONS MAY BE MADE TO PROPOSED ORDINANCES WITHOUT FURTHER PUBLICATION. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT PERSONS INTERESTED IN ANY OF THESE ORDINANCES OBTAIN FREE FULL-TEXT COPIES FROM THE CITY CLERK AT CITY HALL. JACKIE M. HENDERSON, MMC, CITY CLERK



**Alexandria Board of Architectural Review  
Parker-Gray District**

**LEGAL NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING**

A public hearing will be held by the Alexandria Board of Architectural Review on WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2010 beginning at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers, second floor of City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia on the following applications:

**CASE BAR2010-0291**  
Request for installation shutters at **528 N Columbus St.**, zoned RB Residential.  
**APPLICANT: Matthew McGill by Navarro Construction Services**

**OTHER BUSINESS:**  
Adoption of a roof materials policy for the Parker-Gray Historic District.  
Conceptual review of park for James Bland Project.

Information about the above item(s) may be obtained from the Department of Planning and Zoning, City Hall, 301 King Street, Room 2100, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, telephone: (703) 746-4666

**ABC LICENSE**

Uptown at Aventine, Inc trading as Uptown Market, 2801 Park Center Dr, Ste 2801-Ly, Alexandria, VA 22302. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine and Beer off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.  
Jung Rae Park/President.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

Pursuant to the provision of section 4-1-16 of the code of the City of Alexandria, the Alexandria Police Department located at 2003 Mill Road, Alexandria, VA 22314 is now in possession of unclaimed bicycles, mopeds, lawn equipment, money, scooters, and other items. All persons having valid claim to the property should file a claim to the property with reasonable proof of ownership or the items will be sold, destroyed, converted or donated. For a complete listing go to <http://alexandriava.gov/police/> and contact the Police Property Unit at (703) 838-4709.

**Legal Notices**

**Public Notice – Environmental Permit**

Purpose of notice: To seek public comment on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality to limit air pollution emitted by a facility in Alexandria, Virginia.

Public comment period: October 15, 2010 to November 16, 2010

Permit name: Federal Operating Permit issued by DEQ, under the authority of the Air Pollution Control Board

Applicant name and address: Covanta Alexandria/Arlington, Inc.; 5301 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia 22304

Facility name, address and registration number: Covanta Alexandria/Arlington, Inc.; 5301 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia 22304; 71895

This facility is an Extraordinary Environmental Enterprise participant in Virginia's Environmental Excellence Program.

Project description: Covanta Alexandria/Arlington, Inc. has applied for renewal of the Title V permit for their facility. The facility is classified as a major source of air pollution. The permit allows the source to operate three municipal solid waste combustors.

HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING: DEQ accepts comments and requests for public hearing by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. Submittals must include the names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the commenter/requester and of all persons represented by the commenter/requester. A request for public hearing must also include: 1) The reason why a public hearing is requested. 2) A brief, informal statement regarding the nature and extent of the interest of the requester or of those represented by the requester, including how and to what extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by the permit. 3) Specific references, where possible, to terms and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. A public hearing may be held, including another comment period, if public response is significant, based on individual requests for a public hearing, and there are substantial, disputed issues relevant to the permit.

Contact for public comments, document requests and additional information: Elizabeth Aiken; Northern Regional Office, 13901 Crown Court, Woodbridge, VA 22193; Phone: 703-583-3890; E-mail: [Elizabeth.Aiken@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Aiken@deq.virginia.gov); Fax: 703-583-3821. The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named above or may request copies of the documents from the contact person listed above.

**TRUSTEE'S SALE  
OF VALUABLE  
IMPROVED REAL ESTATE**

Improved by the premises known as 2826 Preston Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia

In execution of a Deed of Trust from Carlos A. Sorto and Jesus Sorto, dated September 14, 2005, and recorded September 19, 2005, in Deed Book 17757 at page 554 among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia, the undersigned substitute trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the front entrance of the Judicial Center for Fairfax County, at 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, Virginia, on

**Friday, October 22, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.**

the following property being the property contained in said Deed of Trust, described as

**Legal Notices**

follows:

Tax Map No. 093-1-18G-0232, 093-1-18G-0233 & 093-1-18G-0234

Commonly known as 2826 Preston Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia 22306.

**TERMS OF SALE:** A deposit of \$35,000.00 or ten percent (10%) of the sale price, whichever amount is less, in the form of cash or its equivalent will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale; the balance of the purchase money being due and payable within fifteen (15) days after sale, time expressly being of the essence, with interest at the rate of 3.0 percent per annum from date of sale to date of settlement. Provided, however, that if the holder of the secured promissory note is the successful bidder at the sale, no cash deposit shall be required, and part of or the entire indebtedness, including interest and costs, secured by the Deed of Trust, may be set off against the purchase price.

Any defaulting purchaser shall forfeit the deposit and stand the risk and cost of resale.

Sale shall be made subject to all existing easements and restrictive covenants as the same may lawfully affect the real estate. Sale is further subject to mechanic's and/or materialman's liens of record and not of record. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, covenants, restrictions, rights of redemption of federal lienholders or encumbrances, and agreements of record affecting the same, if any.

In the event the undersigned trustee is unable to convey to the purchaser good title, then purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy shall be in the refund of the deposit paid at the time of sale.

The subject property and all improvements thereon will be sold in "as is" condition without warranty of any kind. Purchaser shall be responsible for any and all building and/or zoning code violations whether of record or not of record, as well as for all unpaid and enforceable homeowners' or condominium owners' association dues and assessments, if any. Purchaser also shall be responsible for obtaining possession of the property at his/her expense. Purchaser shall assume the risk of loss and shall be responsible for any damage, vandalism, theft, destruction, or the like, of or to the property occurring after the time of sale. Conveyance will be by special warranty deed. Conveyancing, recording, transfer taxes, notary fees, examination of title, state stamps, and all other costs of conveyance are to be at the expense of purchaser. State and local taxes, public charges, and special or regular assessments, if any, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and thereafter shall be assumed by the purchaser.

The undersigned trustee unconditionally reserves the right: (i) to waive the deposit requirement; (ii) to approve or disapprove the creditworthiness of any bidder and/or purchaser; (iii) to withdraw the property from sale at any time prior to termination of the bidding; (iv) to extend the time for bidding; (v) to reject any or all bids; (vi) to postpone or set over the date or time of sale; and (vii) to extend the period of time for settlement hereunder.

Additional terms and conditions of sale may be announced at the time of sale.

DAVID N. PRENSKY  
Substitute Trustee

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:  
David N. Prenskey  
Chasen & Chasen  
5225 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. #500  
Washington, D.C. 20015  
(202) 244-4000

ALEXANDRIA  
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## RECREATION

# Hispanic Heritage Celebration

BY MCKENYA DILWORTH-  
ABDALLA  
ACTING CENTER DIRECTOR,  
NANNIE J. LEE RECREATION  
CENTER



The Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities' Power On Programs in neighborhood recreation centers have been busy preparing presentations and informing its youth of the importance of Hispanic Heritage Month. Allow me to restate the obvious about the importance of celebrating an integral part of the American Melting Pot. Everyone's heritage and cultural identity has a place at the educational table, as far as we are concerned, in the neighborhood recreation centers.

I had the distinct pleasure of witnessing a superb performance and celebration of Hispanic Heritage at the William Ramsay

Recreation Center located on the west end of this great city. The director there, Harold Little, should be proud that he has such a gifted and dedicated staff that pays great attention to making sure that youth are engaged in meaningful and creative presentations.

Orelia Caledron, who is from Guatemala, was the director of the celebration this time. The staff there takes turns in leading monthly programs. All age groups were fabulous as they danced, sang and displayed their knowledge and enthusiasm for the Hispanic culture. The entire staff there deserves a huge pat on the back and "good job:" Jacqueline McNair, Kendra Belk, Bonnie Ross, Frank Johnson and Lorrussia Brockett. If I have missed anyone, and I probably have, please blame my mind and not my heart.

Celebrations are happening honoring Hispanic Heritage in all of our neighborhood



**Ramsay is transformed into a cultural center with displays of flags from Spanish speaking countries.**

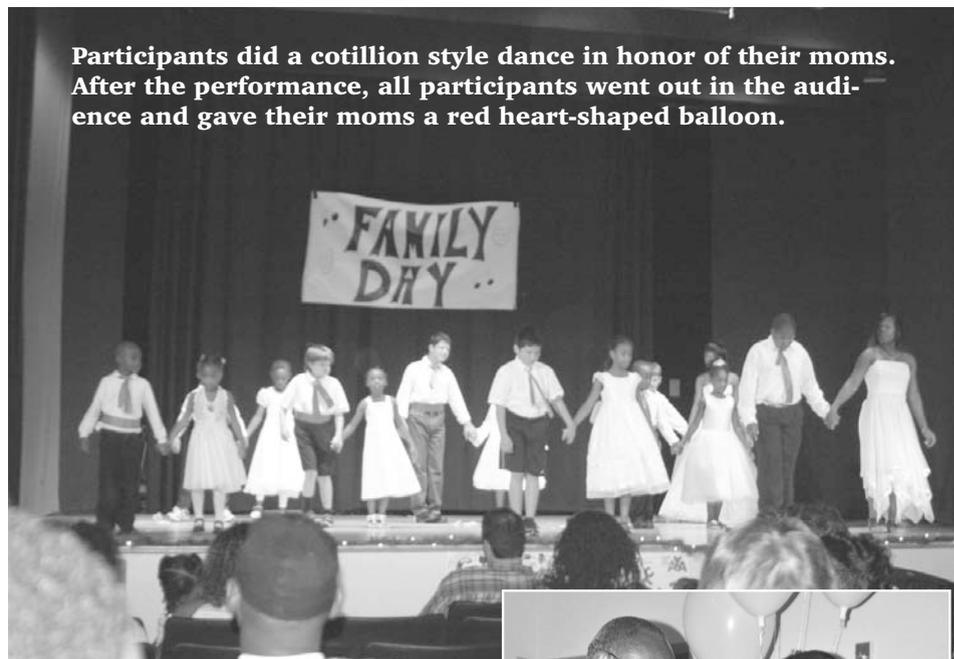
recreation centers: Mt. Vernon, Cora Kelly, Charles Houston, Nannie J. Lee, Charles Barrett and Patrick Henry. Come out and witness the creativity that happens in our centers daily.

Don't forget that "Spanglish: Lessons in Spanish and English" is ACCT's (Alexandria

City Community Theatre) tribute to Hispanic Heritage on Oct. 15, at 4:30 p.m., at the Kauffman Auditorium at the Lee Center located at 1108 Jefferson Street in Old Town. For more information please contact me at 703-746-5533. Volunteers are still needed for the production.



**"Teenie Weenie Toddler Camp" pre-schoolers did their version of "I'm A Mean Ole Lion" from "The Wiz." They were directed by Shenika Farmer.**



**Participants did a cotillion style dance in honor of their moms. After the performance, all participants went out in the audience and gave their moms a red heart-shaped balloon.**

## 'Remember the Times:' Labor of Love

BY BRENDA HOLLOWAY  
THERAPEUTIC RECREATION  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Friday, Aug. 13, was a day of celebration, remembrance, and sparks for the City of Alexandria Therapeutic Recreation Program. The Annual Family Day Production, "Remember the Times," was filled with cultural art, animals coming to life, dancing, music and sound effects from out of this world.

The show opened with Ambassadors representing the seven continents of the world and the city's own Uncle Sam, Jack Thiessen, announcing the 50 states which followed behind him onto the stage. The audience was able to experience the excitement of traveling around the world without leaving their seat or even having a passport.

It was another form of Performing Arts for our children. There were fireworks from the time the curtains opened. Watching the sparks fly, the show was spectacular from beginning to end. You could really see the labor of love that was put into this production. I'll let you in on a secret, from our after school programs, to our adult programs, to our special events, and our wonderful sensory room donated by the Kelley Cares Foundation, this is the best kept secret in the city.

Parents described the Family Day Production as an opportunity for their children to spread their wings and show how talented they are in front of the big lights and big audience! It also gave them an opportunity to honor their mothers in a very special way. The show was charming, inspiring, and full of love and personality.

Once a year, it's great to recapture a production that opens doors of opportunity for our participants to show their style and talents to the world. Every year, our children dazzle, dazzle, and surprise me with their individual style. Participants and staff worked very hard to bring this production to life. They are all shining brighter than ever.

Mayor William D. Euille showed his support and presented Zsanae Edwards with a Certificate of Appreciation for her Outstanding Volunteer Service to the Therapeutic Recreation Program.

For more information on Therapeutic Recreation Program year round programs for pre school, youth, teens and adults, please call the Therapeutic Recreation Program at 703-746-5422 or email us at Jackie.Person@Alexandriava.gov.



**Mayor William D. Euille presented Zsanae Edwards with a Certificate of Appreciation for her Outstanding Volunteer Service to the Therapeutic Recreation Program.**

# Some Ways To Make Kitchen Remodeling Easy

## Plan well and use the right people.

BY GALE CURCIO  
THE GAZETTE

**M**ention the words kitchen and remodeling in the same sentence and it's enough to make most people panic. However, a basic kitchen remodeling project does not have to be a nightmare. A little homework goes a long way.

Think local and think small. While there is nothing wrong with "big box" stores, the stores that are smaller and locally owned may have the same price or be just a little bit higher. The added benefit is that you will probably get more individualized service with one of these smaller places — plus you will be shopping locally.

The most important thing when planning out a kitchen is to find somebody who can design the space. Larger projects that require extending the original footprint of the house will most likely require an architect, but for the smaller projects, a kitchen designer will most likely suffice.

As with most kitchen stores, Southern Kitchens will design the space for homeowners with the understanding that at least most of the items are purchased from Southern Kitchens.

Bob and Bill Rymiszewski started Southern Kitchens about 11 years ago. Bob had worked at St. Clair Appliances for many years before deciding to use his expertise to start his own business. They carry a variety of cabinet lines such as Medallion, Corsi, Habersham, Wellborn and Mouser and countertops by Silestone, Corian and CaesarStone.

Southern Kitchens has a staff of professionals available Monday through Friday to answer any of questions. Do not forget to ask about the discounts that they can offer. They are insured and licensed.

Rymiszewski thinks outside the box and sees the space in a different way than the novice homeowner. He will come up with the most practical use of space with a design that is fresh.

Not only does Southern Kitchens sell cabinets and countertops, but they also sell high-end appliances, hardware, faucets, sinks and other kitchen items.

**LIGHTING NEEDS** can all be found at Alexandria Lighting & Supply. A family-owned business for over 50 years, Alexandria Lighting was started by Edward Delman, and is now run by his son, Eric Delman.

Customers will find everything from low voltage recessed, track and outdoor lighting to dimmers and dimming systems. They also have all those hard-to-find light bulbs, plus the latest on energy efficient lighting.

Their line of indoor and outdoor lighting products varies from the contemporary to



**With the wall between kitchen and dining room removed, there is much more open space.**

**Before the kitchen was renovated.**

PHOTOS BY  
GALE CURCIO/  
THE GAZETTE



the more traditional styles. Customers can find lighting to show off their landscaping

proffess, creating the indoor mood they've been looking for, or light up the driveway for security. They offer well-known brands such as Progress Lighting, Quoizel, Murray Feiss, Kenroy, Kim Lighting, and Lutron.

They recently started staying open until 7 p.m. on Wednesday evenings to make it easier for homeowners to get to the store.

**APPLIANCES** can be purchased at Bray and Scarff, which has locations throughout the Washington, D.C. area. Steve Collum works in the local store on Richmond Highway. They sell top quality appliances and

kitchen and bath products.

They carry a variety of products, such as

## More

**Alexandria Lighting and Supply** is located at 701 N. Henry Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. For more information, call 703-548-2320 or visit [www.alexandrialighting.com](http://www.alexandrialighting.com).

**Bray & Scarff** - Appliance & Kitchen Specialists have locations throughout the Washington, DC region. The local store is at 6733 Richmond Highway and can be reached at 703-660-1060. For more information, call 1-800-486-3744 or visit [www.brayandscarff.com](http://www.brayandscarff.com).

To contact **Jose Flores**, contractor @ Flores Remodeling, call 540-760-4456.

To contact **Haw Sok Yi**, upholsterer, call 703-799-3404.

**Renaissance Tile and Bath** is located at 816 N. Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. They can be reached at 703-549-7806 or by visiting [www.renaissancetileandbath.com](http://www.renaissancetileandbath.com).

**Southern Kitchens** is located at 2350 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 and can be reached at 703-548-4459 or by emailing [bobr@southernkitchens.net](mailto:bobr@southernkitchens.net) or by visiting [www.southernkitchens.net](http://www.southernkitchens.net).

accessories, air conditioners, audio, barbeques, compactors, dehumidifiers, dishwashers, disposals and dispensers, electric ranges, freezers, gas ranges, hoods, laundry, microwave, refrigerators, small appliances, water treatment, and more.

For tile needs, check out Renaissance Tile & Bath in Old Town, Alexandria. With the aesthetic vision and design talents of owners David O'Neil and Randy Ruppel, Renaissance Tile & Bath has experienced extraordinary growth from the beginning. They opened their Atlanta showroom over 13 years ago, and have since opened design studios in Charlotte (1997), Nashville (1999) Alexandria (2004) and most recently, Dallas in 2008.

In addition to the founders' vision, providing outstanding customer service is vital to their customers' experience. To that end they have focused on educating customers about their tile and bath products for any home or commercial application.

Amy Scheinman, one of the design consultants in the Alexandria store, likes getting just the right combination for her customers to make sure that they get the best look and feel.

Flores Remodeling, a local contractor, specializes in kitchens and baths. Jose Flores provides proficiency in carpentry, plumbing, electrical work, painting, drywall and more. Having all the skills in one person eliminates the need to wait for multiple contractors and moves the job along quickly. Ana Flores is a quick painter and does many other jobs. Both The couple is detail oriented and will often suggest additional finishing touches to make sure that the job is perfect.

**IF THE KITCHEN** project calls for some reupholstering of furniture, then Haw Sok Yi is the person to call. Formerly a seamstress with Abbott's Upholstery, Haw Sok and her husband, Hanson, started their own business since 1992.

Working in a garage on their property, this couple can take a tired and tattered piece of furniture and turn it into a work of art. Their customers come through recommendations by existing customers, many of whom have been with Haw Sok and Hanson since they first started the business.

This article only mentions a handful of dealers, but there are many other reputable dealers in this area. The goal of this article is to encourage people to look for local contractors.

*Gale Curcio is an independent writer and public relations consultant in Mount Vernon.*

# SPORTS

## Grosser-to-Sitton Leads TC Over Annandale

Titans passing game comes alive against Atoms, TC improves to 3-3.

BY JON ROETMAN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**T**.C. Williams receiver Tyrell Sitton caught a pass near the Annandale bench, broke free from an Atoms defender and sprinted down the sideline. Approaching the end zone, Sitton cut back toward the middle of the field before stumbling and falling at the 1-yard line. Moments later, after the Titans had scored to put the game away, an assistant coach jokingly asked Sitton about the play.

"I slipped," said the receiver nicknamed "T-Rex."

While losing his footing cost Sitton a touchdown on that particular play, the senior found plenty of success earlier in the day when his feet were anything but planted firmly on the ground.

Sitton twice leaped over an Annandale defensive back to haul in a touchdown pass and an improved passing attack helped the Titans defeat the Atoms 31-10 on Oct. 9 at Parker-Gray Stadium. Sophomore quarterback Alex Grosser, making his third varsity start, showed confidence in Sitton near the red zone, allowing him to go up and make plays. Sitton finished with five catches for 145 yards and two touchdowns.

"It makes me feel more confident," Grosser said of Sitton's performance. "There's a receiver you can always throw to and he'll go up and get a ball. We've got a bunch of good receivers. He just did real well today."

The first of Sitton's two touchdown receptions gave TC a 17-0 lead in the second quarter. No. 11 snagged the 18-yard pass at its high point and held on despite being pulled down by his helmet.

"It's like a jump ball," said Sitton, who also plays on the school's basketball team. "They just tell me to go and get it."

Grosser completed 17 of 21 passes for 247

yards and three touchdowns — easily the best performance of his fledgling TC career. One week earlier, the Titans amassed 263 yards on the ground against West Springfield, including 201 from Zaquan Summers. Against Annandale, TC rushed for 177 yards, including 112 from Summers, but Grosser and the passing attack reminded TC fans the Titans' spread offense is two dimensional.

Grosser "still makes a couple bad decisions out there, but he makes things happen because he has a live arm," head coach Dennis Randolph said. "One of the things he's starting to do is he's starting to trust his receivers. The first ball he threw to Tyrell, it was a little underthrown. But you watch the pros or you watch college, good quarterbacks have got to have good receivers. You've got to trust your receivers to make plays and Tyrell made some big plays today."

Grosser spread his 17 completions to seven different receivers. Summers, Raquan Brunson and Will Rossi each caught three passes. Summers finished with 38 receiving yards and a touchdown.

### Whitmire Returns

Senior lineman Jay Whitmire, a 6-foot-7, 285-pound Division I recruit at offensive tackle, returned to action against Annandale for the first time since suffering an ankle injury during an Aug. 26 scrimmage against Centreville. Whitmire wore No. 98 — an eligible receiver number — rather than his usual No. 77. Defensively, he lined up at his customary end position. But on offense, he played tight end instead of tackle. Randolph said after injuries had



T.C. Williams receiver Tyrell Sitton hauls in one of his two touchdown receptions against Annandale on Oct. 9.

PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

caused shuffling along the O-line seemingly every week, he didn't want to disrupt any continuity the Titans were building by placing Whitmire at tackle. Senior Eric Berger, listed at 5-10, 298 pounds, started at right tackle.

"Eric Berger's been playing well at tackle, had a real good week [against West Springfield], and I really didn't want to upset the little consistency that we had on the offensive line by throwing Jay back in there," Randolph said. "He's going to be a college tackle, but with us, there's an opportunity to get a little heavier line in there [with Whitmire at tight end] and push some people."

Randolph said he was unsure of whether Whitmire would play tight end or tackle in the future.

Whitmire said he enjoyed being back on the field after missing five games and he's open to playing tight end.

"It felt good," said Whitmire, who recorded three tackles. "My legs felt better today than they had all week. I think I'm getting back into shape."

Linebacker Damien Benton led TC with 14 tackles. Deontre Sanders finished with 11 tackles and Ed Massaquoi recorded 10. Safety Isreal Richardson, who returned from a knee injury, made eight tackles.

While Randolph was happy with the victory, he said the Titans weren't playing with the kind of intensity he was hoping for.

"I think we're a better football team when we play intense," Randolph said. "We have some kids that will knock the crap out of you. There was a little bit of that today, but — I can't put my finger on it — I was a little disappointed just because I know how hard they can hit."

The win improved the Titans to 3-3, 2-1 in the Patriot District. TC will travel to face Woodson at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 15.

### SPORTS BRIEFS

#### BI Boys, Episcopal Girls Win City X-Country Meet

The Bishop Ireton boys and the Episcopal girls teams won the Alexandria City Cross Country Championship meet on Oct. 7.

In boys action, Ireton finished with 34 points, followed by T.C. Williams (39), Episcopal (54) and St. Stephen's & St. Agnes (109). Each of the Cardinals' five point-scoring harriers finished in the top 10, led by fourth-place finisher Mike Andersen, who posted a time of 17 minutes, 49.65 seconds. Liam O'Connor placed fifth (17:53.43), Nick Manzek seventh (18:13.59), Murphy Costigan eighth (18:14.27) and Sam Ferrara 10th (18:26.95).

Episcopal's Reid Nickle finished first overall with a time of 17:03.34.

Darren Foreman led T.C. Williams with a

second-place finish (17:12.93). Nick Brown finished third overall (17:20.85) for the Titans. Adugna G. Mariam (ninth, 18:15.82), Jonathan Forbes (12th, 18:31.26) and Nicholas Ahumada 13th, 18:45.38) also score points for TC.

Nickle, Jake Love (sixth, 18:10.11), Chris Driscoll (11th, 18:30.53), RJ Drucker (16th, 18:56.36) and Worth Smith (20th, 19:50.11) scored for Episcopal and Luke Frerichs (17th, 19:19.62), Stephen Secrest (21st, 19:51.24), Nam Mai (22nd, 20:12.10), Michael Colton (24th, 21:45.70) and Tom Ed Becherer (25th, 21:50.98) scored for SSSAS.

In girls action, Episcopal tallied 26 points,



COURTESY PHOTO

The Bishop Ireton boys cross country team, coached by Brad Byrnes, won the Alexandria City Cross Country Championship meet on Oct. 7. Pictured from left: Murphy Costigan, Liam O'Connor, Arthur Stier, Nick Manzek, Michael Andersen, Sam Ferrara and Kevin Corcoran.

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## SPORTS

### 5Qs

#### Mount Vernon junior forward Allie Schray



**Q: What do you like to do in your free time?**

A: Hang out with friends, practice field hockey and practice other sports.

**Q: What is your favorite movie?**

A: "Anchorman." It's so funny and it's so

**Q: What location is the farthest from the Washington, D.C., metro area that you've traveled?**

A: Portland, Ore., to visit family this summer.

**Q: Who is your favorite music artist?**

A: Taylor Swift. She's close to my age and I like her music — it's catchy.

quotable.

**Q: Do you have any plans for after high school?**

A: I definitely want to try to play field hockey in college.

— JON ROETMAN

## SPORTS BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 31

followed by T.C. Williams (33), Ireton (76) and SSSAS (95). Each Episcopal point-scorer finished in the top eight, led by Alessandra Gavin's third-place time of 20:33.35. Elizabeth Buyck (fourth, 21:14.80), Abby Halm (fifth, 21:16.02), Elizabeth Spruill (sixth, 21:16.77) and Virginia Wright (eighth, 21:30.19) also scored points for the Maroon.

T.C. Williams featured the top two finishers in Shannon Smythe (first, 20:08.67) and Adugna Desalegn (second, 20:32.47). Smyth, a junior, finished more than 23 seconds faster than her nearest competitor.

Sydney Schaedel (seventh, 21:19.27), Kathryn Hendley (11th, 22:17.03) and Stephanie Slaven (12th, 22:23.04) also scored points for the Titans.

Aburey Gartlan (10th, 22:10.87), Alex Georgi (13th, 22:48.38), Marin Nolan (14th, 23:25.21), Sarah Fyffe (19th, 24:05.84) and Katarina Frustaci (20th, 42:11.26) scored for Ireton, and Jazana Goolsby (15th, 23:37.18), Lizzie Zulauf (16th, 23:43.07), Tori Miller (17th, 23:50.14), Emma Brown (23th, 27:25.98) and Caroline Hamil (24th, 27:26.95) scored for SSSAS.

The wins improved T.C. Williams' record to 5-7. The Titans will continue Patriot District play at home against Annandale at 7:15 p.m. on Oct. 14.

### Episcopal Boys Soccer Improves to 10-0-1

The Episcopal boys soccer team defeated Bullis and Landon by 5-0 margins on Oct. 5 and Oct. 8, respectively, to improve to 10-0-1. The Maroon have outscored their opponents 36-4.

Episcopal, the defending IAC champion, will host Georgetown Prep at 4:30 p.m. on Oct. 15 and St. Stephen's & St. Agnes at 4 p.m. on Oct. 16.

### BI Football Loses to St. Albans

The Bishop Ireton football team fell to 1-5 with a 16-10 loss to St. Albans on Oct. 9. Quarterback EJ Zingler completed 21 of 30 passes

for 223 yards and a touchdown. He was intercepted once. Moses Webb caught five passes for 114 yards and a touchdown.

The Cardinals will host St. Christopher's for homecoming at 1 p.m. on Oct. 16.

### SSSAS Football Loses

The St. Stephen's & St. Agnes football team lost to Blue Ridge 42-28 on Oct. 9, dropping the Saints' record to 1-4. One week earlier, SSSAS captured its first win, 40-0 over Randolph Macon Academy.

The Saints will host Bullis at 2 p.m. on Oct. 16.

### Episcopal Football Drops to 1-3

The Episcopal football team lost to Landon 21-7 on Oct. 8, dropping its record to 1-3. The Maroon will host St. Albans at 3 p.m. on Oct. 16.

### SCHOOL NOTES

**Registration is taking place** now for an eight-week session that begins Oct. 20 at Northern Virginia Community College. Students may enroll 24 hours a day at [www.nvcc.edu](http://www.nvcc.edu) or 703-323-3770.

**Virginia Tech** National Capital Region will hold a Graduate School Information Session, Monday, Oct. 18, from 5 to 7 p.m., at 7054 Haycock Road, Room 214, in Falls Church, for prospective students to explore opportunities in more than 45 certificate, master's, and doctorate programs in the metro DC area. Classes are held at Virginia Tech's

campuses in West Falls Church and in Old Town Alexandria, both easily accessible by Metro. Visit [ncr.vt.edu](http://ncr.vt.edu) for the list of programs offered. Call 703-538-8327 or email [gssso@nvc.vt.edu](mailto:gssso@nvc.vt.edu)

The University of Mary Washington has announced its Dean's List for the spring semester of the 2009-10 academic year: **Peter Smeallie**, a junior; **Shama Ahmed**, a senior; **Olivia Snider**, a senior; **Isabel Ibrahim**, a sophomore; **Sarah Younes**, a sophomore, and **Marie-Claire Mandolia**, a sophomore.

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