

A tale of two parties

City council candidates share competing visions in forum

BY ERICH WAGNER

The 11 candidates running for city council this fall gathered for a forum Monday night at the city's Departmental Progressive Club, and the battle lines became clear at the outset.

"There are three major services that citizens expect from their council: a strong safety net — that's police and fire [services] — a solid infrastructure, like sewers, roads and the like, and good schools," said Republican Townsend Van Fleet in the first of the candidates' opening statements. "This [current] city

council strikes out on all three."

That was one of only a few acerbic moments of the evening. Billed as a forum — not a debate — the event was geared more toward candidates laying out their visions for Alexandria, rather than head-to-head policy discussions.

In the November 3 general election, incumbent Democratic city councilors John Chapman, Tim Lovain, Del Pepper, Paul Smedberg and Justin Wilson will square off alongside newcomer Willie Bailey against Republican challengers Monique Miles, Fernando Torrez, Van Fleet, Bob Wood and Independent candidate Phil Cefaratti.

Although most candidates agreed on the principle that the city must aggressively explore a variety of innovative methods to expand affordable and workforce housing in the city, they distinguished themselves in two key areas: business and development, and the city's debt.

Republican candidates by and large argued that the city should promote small business growth through the rollback of taxes and easing of regulations in order to ease the city's recent budget struggles.

"When I've talked with business owners, I'm not hearing that they find Alexandria to be a business-friendly climate," Wood said. "They're frustrated by the regulations and the troubles associated with starting, opening and growing a business."

"We need to educate small business owners, both already here and considering coming here, and let them know what resources are available," Miles said. "And we should reduce the [city business licensing] tax to 1 cent below neighboring jurisdictions."

"We need to get rid of that long business license application form," said Torrez. "When you go to City Hall you end up going back and forth from department to department, wasting time."

"You might hear something from one inspector on one day, only for another inspector to



PHOTO/CHRIS TEALE

City council voted 5-2 to allow ARHA to demolish the Ramsey Homes property at 699 N. Patrick St., despite opposition from preservationists.

Council approves Ramsey Homes demolition

ARHA's appeal of BAR denial upheld at tense public hearing

BY CHRIS TEALE

After a five-hour public hearing last weekend at which the tension was palpable, city council approved the demolition of the 15-unit Ramsey Homes property owned by the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority in the Parker-Gray neighborhood by a 5-2 margin.

Vice Mayor Allison Silberberg and City Councilor Paul Smedberg were the two dissenting votes against ARHA's appeal, which came after the Parker-Gray Board of Architectural Review unanimously rejected the organization's application to demolish the homes at 699 N. Patrick St. in April. City council's decision means ARHA can proceed with its

proposal to demolish and replace the units with up to 53 units of affordable housing.

The homes were built between 1941 and 1942 by the federal government to house black defense workers. They are close to the original site of the former Parker-Gray High School and on the same block as the Robinson Library, both of which are significant in the black history of Alexandria. The homes are also close to the Alexandria Black History Museum on Wythe Street.

Councilors wrestled with whether the homes were architecturally significant enough to be saved from demolition, or whether they are culturally significant, meaning they can be memorialized by other means. ARHA itself came in for significant

SEE **COUNCIL** | 6

SEE **RAMSEY** | 10



PHOTO/CHRIS TEALE

REMEMBERING 9/11 Assistant Alexandria Fire Chief Rudy Thomas rings the memorial bell at Market Square, watched by Chief Robert Dube and Mayor Bill Euille during a commemoration of the September 11, 2001 attacks. The event was organized in approximately 12 hours by The Veterans of Alexandria, a group of military veterans associations, and gave those present the chance to take the microphone and share thoughts of someone they were remembering.

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THE WEEKLY BRIEFING

Absentee voting for November election opens September 18

Absentee voting for the November 3 general election begins on Friday, September 18 for voters who will be away on election day. Absentee voters can cast their ballots either in person or by mail.

Many Alexandrians are eligible to vote absentee if they are, for example, away for personal business, work, vacation, active military service or at school; working and commuting for 11

or more hours between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. on election day; physically unable to go to the polls because of an illness or disability; a caregiver for a confined family member; or a member of a first responder unit.

The deadline for voting absentee in person is Saturday, October 31 at 5 p.m. Residents can vote in person at the city's office of voter registration and elections at 132 N. Royal St. and

at the Charles E. Beatley Central Library at 5005 Duke St. Those voting by mail have until October 27.

Applications to vote absentee are available at the Alexandria Voter Registration Office or online at www.alexandriava.gov/elections. More information can be found at that same website, or by calling 703-746-4050.

- Chris Teale

City celebrates Citizenship Day 2015 with naturalization ceremony

The City of Alexandria will hold its annual Citizenship Day celebration today at 11 a.m. in Market Square. Around 100 candidates for citizenship will take the oath of allegiance to become U.S. citizens, more than at any previous ceremony in Alexandria.

New this year, the ceremony will be conducted by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, with U.S. District Court Judge Gerald Bruce Lee and U.S. Magistrate

Judge Teresa C. Buchanan presiding. Mayor Bill Euille also will be on hand to make remarks.

"The Citizenship Day celebration is always an inspiring and moving event," said Euille in a statement. "This year we are thrilled to welcome so many new Americans. These citizens, many of whom have lived here for years, help strengthen the fabric of our diverse community."

To become a naturalized citizen, an individual must

meet federal requirements, including a period of continuous residence and physical presence in the United States; ability to read, write and speak English; knowledge and understanding of U.S. history and government; good moral character; and attachment to constitutional principles.

Constitution Day and Citizenship Day commemorates the adoption of the U.S. Constitution on September 17, 1787.

- Chris Teale



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CRIME

Suspect charged in two attempted abductions

Alexandria police said they arrested a man September 10 in connection with two attempted abductions.

Police spokeswoman Crystal Nosal said around 9:04 p.m., a man followed a woman into and through her apartment building along the 900 block of N. Patrick St. When the woman unlocked the door to her apartment, the suspect allegedly tried to push her in-

side but fled after the victim screamed.

At around 9:54 p.m., a similar event occurred. A man approached a woman along the 700 block of N. Fayette St. as she opened her front door and tried to push her inside her apartment, fleeing after the victim yelled.

Officers arrested Marquette Johnson, 34, near the

scenes of the two incidents. Johnson, of no fixed address, is accused of two counts of attempted abduction and two counts of attempted burglary and is being held without bond.

Nosal encouraged anyone with information about these incidents to contact Detective Brad Cecchetti at 703-746-6858.

- Erich Wagner

POLICE BEAT

The following incidents occurred between September 9 and September 16.



*Editor's note: Police reports are not considered public information in Virginia. The Alexandria Police Department is not required to supply the public at large with detailed information on criminal cases.

Source: raidsonline.com



AUGUST 2015 PHOTO SUBMISSION BY SCOTT MACCONOMY
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Commuter ferry study comes under scrutiny

Lack of parking options and engagement comes under fire on the dais

BY CHRIS TEALE

Despite city council's relatively sedate first legislative meeting after summer recess on September 8, it did not take long for city councilors Paul Smedberg and Del Pepper to let loose on the proposed commuter ferry service from Alexandria and its handling by the Northern Virginia Regional Commission thus far.

NVRC released a study late July outlining the viability of two commuter ferry routes from the waterfront:

one to Southeast and Southwest D.C. and another to Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling and the headquarters of the Department of Homeland Security. But the proposal drew the ire of city councilors, who unanimously agreed to send a letter signed by Mayor Bill Euille to Penny Gross, chairman of NVRC, express-

ing "serious concerns" about the traffic and other infrastructure problems that could be caused by commuter ferry service.

"Based on the current capacity of parking, attempts to integrate a commuter ferry stop or terminus within the city in

plan for its own parking needs when it expanded its work force on that site."

On the dais, Smedberg — himself a commissioner of NVRC representing Alexandria — vented his frustration at a process he described as "totally unacceptable."

"Why should we be the dumping-ground for the majority of these people that are going to be using this ferry, potentially?"

he asked, accusing the commission of failing to engage with city councilors and city staff as well as officials at the state level and instead pushing forward with the project.

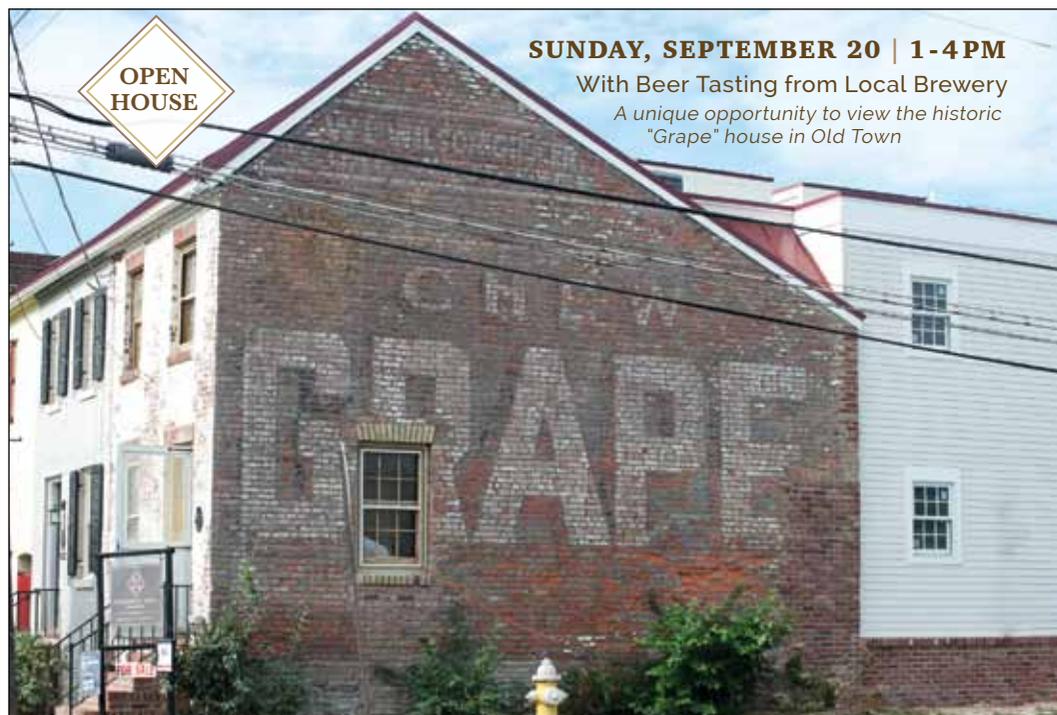
The issue of the lack of space for parking came to dominate discussion, as Pepper — another NVRC commissioner as well as the organization's treasurer — first called commuter



FILE PHOTO

Old Town would cause considerable challenges to the existing infrastructure and add additional vehicular trips to an area with limited parking," a draft of the letter reads. "Old Town Alexandria should not serve as the Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling's parking lot because the federal government did not adequately

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COUNCIL

FROM | 1

say, 'That's not right,' the next. We need uniformity and someone on council who understands how business works.'

Democrats, on the other hand, cited victories in attracting federal office tenants like the National Science Founda-

tion and the U.S. Transportation Security Administration, which they said will both grow city coffers and spur more small business growth in the city. But they also acknowledged the need for a more diversified economic sector.

"We're still far too dependent on federal spending," said Wil-

son. "It's going to be a challenging environment for budgets, but we recently finished up the business tax reform work group and want to implement those recommendations, because we can't depend on residential taxpayers to pay for all of our services."

"City council and staff have done a good job of maintaining



PHOTO/CHRIS TEALE

Moderator Merrick Malone looks on as the 11 candidates for city council take part in their first public forum Monday night at the Departmental Progressive Club.

the services that are meaningful and reflect the community's values," Smedberg said. "As far as expanding our economy, I think we have a lot momentum with the NSF and the TSA and we'll soon see small businesses expanding with that. We will be helping them every step of the way."

Later in the evening, the discussion moved to the city's need to improve school capacity, which quickly exposed the fault lines among candidates on Alexandria's debt.

"The essential functions of government are public safety and schools, and you have to deal with that before you can get to wish list items," Miles said. "We currently spend 10 percent of our budget on debt service, while Arlington's is only 4 percent."

In Arlington County's approved fiscal 2016 budget, the jurisdiction is slated to pay \$59.9 million in debt service, 8.6 percent of its \$698 million operating fund. Alexandria's debt service for the same year — \$65.7 million — represents 10.1 percent of the operating budget.

"This council has put us a half billion dollars in debt, and as a result they project that the tax rate will go up 21 percent over the next five years," said Van Fleet. "[Redistricting] should help with capacity somewhat, but we're projected to need to spend another \$1 to 2 billion over the next 15 to 20 years [on schools]. The schools budget needs to be aligned with

the city budget and coordination needs to improve."

But Lovain and other incumbents argued much of the recent debt incurred on public infrastructure projects was the result of past councils neglecting the city's needs.

"In recent years, we've been addressing an infrastructure investment deficit that dates back to the 1980s and 1990s," Lovain said. "We have plans in place to deal with school capacity. There's the Patrick Henry [Elementary School] reconstruction and we're going to expand Minnie Howard.

"We're doing our best to keep up with the growing enrollment."

And Chapman argued in favor of looking for unconventional approaches to provide extra classrooms for students.

"We still have a ton of vacant office space," he said. "Why not take some of that and make it into schools? And there's a growing trend of employing public-private partnerships to modernize schools, because you can save a lot of tax dollars in the process."

But Cefaratti argued that too much money is going toward improving school buildings rather than academics.

"There are far too many children not getting a good education," he said. "We need to focus on education itself, not just buildings like Jefferson-Houston, which is a grandiose Taj Mahal."

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WORD ON THE STREET

DEALS, DRINKS AND FUN ACROSS ALEXANDRIA

BY ABIGAIL JURK

Whether you're heading back to school, back to work or you never left, you still need to get out and have a good time. Here are some ideas for ways to have fun in Alexandria this month:

WHAT'S THE DEAL

To many residents of Old Town, Chadwicks is an old favorite. Most locals know Chadwicks, located at 203 The Strand, as a casual place for relaxation and to grab a meal or a drink late at night.

What many may not know is that Chadwicks also offers a variety of specials for those who are on a budget. Every Monday, Chadwicks features half-price burgers with the purchase of a beverage. This special runs all day. On Wednesday evenings, Chadwicks offers martinis for \$5 until 9 p.m. These include traditional martinis as well as



COURTESY PHOTO

specialties of the restaurant's own creation, including the Ecto Cooler, French Bulldog and Sunsplash.

"Martini night is a fun and inexpensive way to get out of the house for a cocktail with friends," said manager Morgan Frankena.

On Sundays from 10 a.m.

until 4 p.m., guests can enjoy \$4 mimosas, Bloody Marys, or glasses of house champagne. Also on Sundays, half-price bottles of wine are available from 4 to 9 p.m.

Despite the construction out front, Chadwicks is still open.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

This weekend, Alexandria will host the 13th annual King Street Art Festival. The festival takes place along lower King Street and will include work from more than 200 artists

from across the country.

Many different kinds of art are on display and for sale: paintings, pottery, clothing, jewelry, photographs and more. In addition, many of the artists will be there with their works to discuss their pieces with visitors.

Also a part of the event is The Art League's Ice Cream Bowl fundraiser. Participants can purchase handmade ceramic bowls made by artists from The Art League to help support the group's ceramics department. Bowls are \$15 and come filled with ice cream.

The King Street Art Festival will begin each day at 10 a.m. and will run until 7 p.m. on Saturday and 5 p.m. Sunday.



FILE PHOTO

The King Street Art Festival takes place this weekend and welcomes more than 200 artists from across the country.

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Let's Eat

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Baja Fresh offers several specials such as the "Catch 2 or 3" and the kids eat free deal. Those opting for the "Catch 2 or 3" can choose two or three sea foods for their ta-

cos and get rice and beans free. Or, the family-friendly children's special makes dining out reasonable, as every Sunday and Monday kids can enjoy a free children's meal with an adult who orders an entree. Youngsters love the smaller portions of cheese quesadillas, cheese and bean burritos, the mini-Baja Taco and the chicken taquitos.

The super fresh food is one of the keys to the success of this eatery. Nothing on the menu is ever frozen and reheated. Plus, Baja Fresh understands that many are watching their calorie count, so it has a number of items under 500 calories.

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OVER THE LINE

NEWS FROM GREATER ALEXANDRIA | BY CHRIS TEALE

No charges for sheriff's deputies following in-custody prisoner death

Fairfax County's top prosecutor announced last week he will not pursue charges in the February death of Alexandria woman Natasha McKenna, who died after a county sheriff's deputy used a Taser on her while trying to remove her from her cell.

McKenna, 37, was being held in the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center but resisted deputies as they tried to transfer her to another cell. She was placed in hand and leg restraints and handcuffed before being Tasered four times by a deputy. She stopped breathing shortly after being Tasered and died in a local hospital.

After the incident, Commonwealth's Attorney Raymond F. Morrogh investigated McKenna's death to determine whether to bring any criminal charges against the Fairfax County sheriff's deputies who restrained and Tasered her. In his 52-page report released September 8, Morrogh exonerated all deputies involved, including those on the Sheriff's Emergency Response Team who were sent to transfer her wearing biohazard suits and gas masks.

McKenna suffered from schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and depression for most of her life, and Morrogh's report sheds more light on the weeks leading up to her arrest and death in custody.

The report found McKenna had been suffering delusions, was acting erratically and was in poor health in January. Morrogh wrote that McKenna climbed in the back of a stranger's car and attempted to strangle herself with a seat belt and was combative when police were called.

On January 15, employees at a Hertz rental car agency reported that McKenna was making a disturbance. Police were called and McKenna fought with them, Morrogh's investigation found. McKenna was hospitalized for 10 days and then arrested by



Natasha McKenna

Fairfax County police after she was released on an outstanding warrant for allegedly assaulting an Alexandria police officer.

McKenna's mental health deteriorated while she was in custody awaiting transport to Alexandria, and on February 3 the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office decided to move her itself. A video, released by Sheriff Stacey Kincaid on September 10, shows what happened next as the deputies tried to move McKenna but found her to be resistant to their efforts.

"From the outset of this terrible tragedy, I promised to cooperate fully with the investigators and to be transparent about the incident involving Natasha McKenna," Kincaid said in a statement. "Now that commonwealth's attorney Ray Morrogh has found that no employee of the sheriff's office has committed a crime, I am fulfilling my promise to release the complete video and all of the incident reports related to Ms. McKenna's incarceration. The only editing to the video is the pixelation done to protect Ms. McKenna's privacy as much as possible."

The report goes into great detail on what happened next, as McKenna allowed herself to be handcuffed but then became anxious and began to resist as she was dragged naked out of her cell.

"You promised you wouldn't

kill me," she is heard to say as her cell door opens and she is faced by the SERT team and other deputies. "I didn't do anything."

Morrogh's report says the deputies wrestled McKenna to the ground while she cursed and attempted to bite them in a struggle that continued for a number of minutes, in which deputies struck her on the knuckles. As her resistance continued, McK-

enna was Tasered four times by Lt. Lucas Salzman, who has been a certified Taser operator since 2006 and has re-qualified each year since.

McKenna was taken to a jail entrance to be transported, but she had stopped breathing. A first responder was called, but she did not recover and died at the hospital.

One of the report's most no-

table findings was that several deputies described the 5-foot-4-inch McKenna as possessing "superhuman strength," something Morrogh says is associated with the controversial mental health condition "excited delirium," which McKenna was said to have been suffering from in a ruling by the state medical examiner

SEE **MCKENNA** | 20

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RAMSEY

FROM | 1

criticism from city councilors, with Smedberg accusing the organization of failing to engage properly with all officials and for letting the property become dilapidated, something ARHA CEO Roy Priest said justified their demolition.

“I want to make sure you’re a viable organization and we’re doing everything that we can to make sure that happens,” Smedberg said. “This is an important project — it’s your first important project — and there was no outreach. We are part of that team. I’d like to think we’re an important part of that team

with you and everyone else ... we should be briefed or talked to, something, anything.”

Later in the meeting, ARHA board chairman Merrick Malone took issue with those accusations. He accused city councilors and others who testified against the proposal of “racism and classism,”

something for which he apologized later in the meeting after a chorus of boos.

“I take great exception to the notion that we don’t talk to you,” Malone said. “Our motives are pure as driven snow. We want to increase housing; it’s not about the money, it’s about us trying to increase affordable housing. I hope our opposition is equally pure, and that they’re not clothing something else under the guise of preservation, like racism and classism. I’ve seen it; I know what it looks like.”

Silberberg bemoaned the fact that councilors were faced with choosing between affordable housing and historic preservation, two things she said should never be pitted against one another. She called it a “false choice,” and asked councilors and ARHA to try and find a middle ground in the site planning process where some units are demolished but some are preserved for historic reasons.

“[Approving demolition] would be like walking down the aisle with a guy you haven’t even met yet, or giving approval to that,” she said. “You haven’t even seen what [ARHA] are going to do.”

The only current resident of Ramsey Homes to testify was Charkenia Walker, who spoke in favor of demolition in the interests of improving the residents’ quality of life.

“It’s hard to believe the historic significance and relevance outweighs the standard of living in 2015,” she said. “I just want neighbors to understand the construction of new units will benefit us as a whole. There are working-class citizens who cannot afford to live in the neighborhood in which they have grown, me included.”

Of the approximately 40 residents to testify, a number advocated for upholding the BAR’s decision and preventing demolition in the name of historic preservation, given the significant role Ramsey Homes played during World War II in Alexandria.

“Ramsey Homes is one of those key sites that contribute to what makes Parker-Gray unique,” said Heidi Ford, representing the West Old Town Citizens’ Association. “If the city adopts the stance that the only buildings worthy of preservation are [from the] 18th and 19th century, then what we are going to have is a city of 18th and 19th century houses and 21st century buildings. We’re basically going to lose the architectural significance of the 20th century, and for Parker-Gray that is significant.”

But others suggested that the value of the Ramsey Homes is purely cultural, and that commemoration through use of plaques or other methods would be more advisable, especially as ARHA’s proposal would allow for more affordable housing units in the future.

“The value is cultural,” said Karen Byers. “We need to do a better job of preserving that and interpreting that and making that truly meaningful and educational to the vast number of people. Walking by the Ramsey Homes structures does not, for me, bring to life the social history of the people of that period.”

After public discussion, city councilors Tim Lovain and Del Pepper pushed ARHA for assurances that half the buildings would be retained in the redevelopment process. ARHA agreed to the caveat that the organization would not demolish anything until the approval of the project’s site plan, to the chagrin of a number of vocal officials and residents.

Wilson encapsulated councilors’ frustration with the approval process in this instance.

“I think this is absolutely absurd,” said City Councilor Justin Wilson. “This is decision-making that’s unworthy of this body, to be perfectly honest. I think we have gotten to this place through a variety of problems that are on both sides and it’s inexcusable to get here. This is a mess, and this is absolutely horrible decision-making.”

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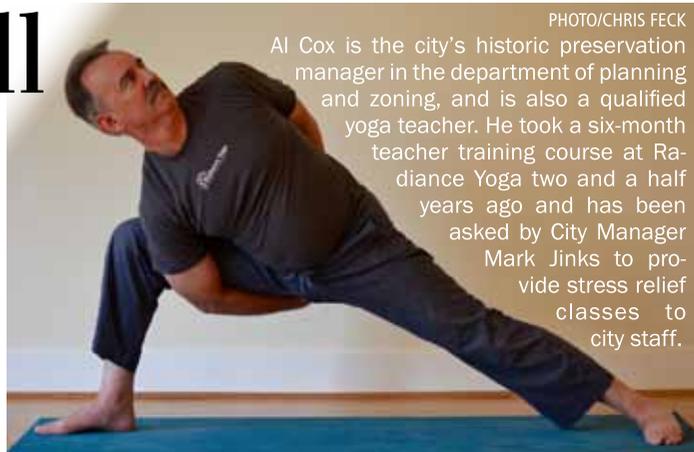
The yoga instructor at City Hall

Historic preservation manager Al Cox gets in touch with his spiritual side

BY CHRIS TEALE

In the never-ending cycle of community meetings, public hearings and legislative sessions that accompany each newly proposed development, city staffers work hard to prepare presentations, briefings and other information to help city councilors and planning commissioners make decisions.

This week, historic preservation manager Al Cox recalled working through a 10-hour public hearing at City Hall last Saturday. On Tuesday he was in a morning meeting of the waterfront commission and then a Historic Alexandria resources commission that evening. The next day required his attendance at an evening meeting of the Board of Architectural Review for the Old and Historic District, which can last from 7 p.m. until midnight or later.



PHOTO/CHRIS FECK

Al Cox is the city's historic preservation manager in the department of planning and zoning, and is also a qualified yoga teacher. He took a six-month teacher training course at Radiance Yoga two and a half years ago and has been asked by City Manager Mark Jinks to provide stress relief classes to city staff.

It all can get quite stressful and cause great physical strain, and with that in mind Cox turned to yoga to try not only to find some inner peace but give himself a physical workout and a better understanding of how to take care of himself during the long discussions.

"Before [doing yoga], you would have a Coke, go into a six-hour meeting and obviously you're going to crash in about an hour and a half," he said. "You sit there tense or angry or whatever; you're not circulating blood, your shoulders are up around your ears. You've got to

learn how to breathe. There are very simple breathing exercises you can do while you're in a council meeting or on the dais at a BAR meeting."

Cox first took to yoga while managing the city department of planning and zoning's field office during the construction of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office around the turn of the century and the fast-tracking of 13 additional buildings in Carlyle to kick-start growth in the area. He was introduced to it at what was then Jungle's

SEE **YOGA** | 12



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YOGA FROM | 11

Gym at 305 Hooffs Run Drive — now Onelife Fitness — and enjoyed it immediately.

“While I was out [at the USP-TO], it was a fairly long and exhausting schedule,” Cox said. “I started doing yoga there because previously we had a very active group of us here in the planning office that played racketball, and I blew out my rotator cuff playing racketball so it was a physical therapy that a therapist had suggested. It’s not as intense, it’s a different kind of exercise but it’s not just sitting and meditating, although that is an important part of it for some people.”

When the field office closed, Cox returned to City Hall and now takes classes at Radiance Yoga at the intersection of Prince and South Washington streets. Two and a half years ago, he decided he wanted to understand more about the art and took a teacher training course at Radiance.

For six months, Cox spent every other weekend in the stu-

“Before [doing yoga], you would have a Coke, go into a six-hour meeting and obviously you’re going to crash in about an hour and a half. You sit there tense or angry or whatever; you’re not circulating blood, your shoulders are up around your ears. You’ve got to learn how to breathe. There are very simple breathing exercises you can do while you’re in a council meeting or on the dais at a BAR meeting.”

- Al Cox, Historic preservation manager

dio with 14 fellow students, two teachers and their assistants, learning not only how to instruct classes on poses, but also about the philosophy of yoga and other aspects like improving your diet to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Having qualified from the 200-hour course, Cox said he does not want to become a teacher just yet, but gained a new appreciation for yoga as an art form.

“One of the things I got out of my yoga training was a profound respect for every teacher who ever stood up in front of a class and tried to lead them for an hour and 15 minutes in a

good flow,” he said. “You have to give clear directions, you don’t just stand up there and say, ‘OK, everybody, now we’re going to do an arm balance.’

“You have to warm them up. The class doesn’t even realize that the various poses that you’re doing are leading them up to stretching their hamstrings so that you can do a certain pose or warming your back up so you don’t harm it when you’re doing a back bend. I’ve done public presentations for four years, but it’s a whole different deal.”

As for the future, the 62-year-old said he is looking forward to

retirement and has already given some thought to teaching yoga in retirement communities, while some of his fellow classmates are considering instruction at military bases and for personnel returning from the frontlines with post-traumatic stress disorder.

In the short-term, Cox said he has been asked by City Manager Mark Jinks to teach classes for staff at City Hall on how to reduce stress, something he said intrigues him, especially with the stress of holidays not far away.

“[Jinks’ request] certainly added to my stress, though that wasn’t his intention,” Cox said. “I’ve been talking to my teachers and doing some research to try and put together some simple classes to try and help some of the staff cope with the meetings that we have to go through and sit through and the case workload we have here.

“Our September for BAR cases is twice the volume it was last September. We have one of those hamster-wheel workloads here.”

FERRY FROM | 5

ferry service a “fascinating idea,” then joined Smedberg in registering her immense displeasure at the project.

“We are not anybody’s parking lot,” she said. “Call it for what it is.”

City Councilor Tim Lovain, who described himself as being a strong advocate of ferry service as chairman of the Public Ferry Coalition, agreed that the parking issue was the biggest stumbling block for any possible Alexandria commuter ferry route.

“I would love to see more ferry service in the Potomac River,” he said. “But these parking problems would be a killer. With some creativity, there can be service to [Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling] from points in Virginia. But Old Town, it’s just not practical.”

Smedberg was unconvinced by the NVRC’s as-

SEE **FERRY** | 13

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FERRY FROM | 12

sertion that a large proportion of riders would take public transit to the King Street Metro station and the Alexandria Amtrak station before then taking a shuttle to the waterfront, something he said would never be able to cope with demand.

“People would take shuttle buses to the Metro or [Virginia Railway Express] and then get off at King Street and then there would be a shuttle bus — I mean, come on,” he said. “What, they’re going to make eight stops to get to their final destination?”

In an interview after the meeting, NVRC executive director Mark Gibb denied the assertion that city councilors and staff were not engaged in the process, saying he had

a constructive meeting with City Manager Mark Jinks only a few days prior. He did say that he shared councilors’ concerns about parking.

“I think they’re exactly right,” Gibb said. “If this becomes a parking nightmare for them, that won’t work. I get that. It’s not a problem. We need some more study on it. I agree with them, it can’t be a parking lot for commuters going across. If there were a lot of empty spots, yes, that might work, but that’s not the case.”

Gibb said the possibility of a shuttle service to the waterfront from the King Street Metro station could be practical if done properly, especially given how successful ferry service has been in other cities around the world.

“We believe that most people taking a ferry service would be taking public transit

to get there, but we don’t know that for a fact, and I know there are some difficulties in getting people there by public transit,” he said. “Ferry operation has worked in some of the busiest cities in the world. It certainly works in New York and other places, but they work because you can get there not necessarily just by parking a car there, but because you can take some sort of transit alternative and make that work.”

At the meeting, Pepper expressed intense displeasure at the way the process has been carried out so far, and praised the draft letter to NVRC for its candor.

“It doesn’t work for us, and I was very pleased with this letter,” she said. “Whatever other letters get sent out, I hope this strong language is continued.”



**CITY OF ALEXANDRIA
2015 PERSONAL AND BUSINESS
PROPERTY TAXES ARE DUE**

OCTOBER 5, 2015

Personal property taxes, decal fees and residential parking fees, if applicable, must be paid no later than October 5, 2015, to avoid late payment penalty and interest. Business property taxes must also be paid by October 5, 2015. Please see the City’s website at alexandriava.gov/finance for more information.

A City license decal and residential parking decal, if applicable, were mailed with the personal property tax bills to most residents. The City license decal should be removed from the back of the bill and applied inside the front windshield next to the vehicle inspection decal. The residential parking decal should be applied to the driver’s side rear bumper.

Pay by credit card or eCheck on the City’s website at alexandriava.gov/payments. Pay in person at City Hall or at any SunTrust Bank Branch located in the City. Personal property tax payments can also be mailed to City of Alexandria, PO Box 34899, Alexandria, VA 22334-0899. Business property tax payments can be mailed to City of Alexandria, PO Box 34901, Alexandria, VA 22334-0901. Payments can also be made with **cash only** at approximately 70 Global Express Cash Payment Centers located throughout Northern Virginia. For a complete list of the available cash payment centers, please visit the City’s website at alexandriava.gov/payments.

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Turning Back Time 10th ANNIVERSARY

Alexandria Times

A look back through the years



This week in 2005, Issue No. 2:

Business Improvement District gains momentum — “Nearly 2 million tourists visited Alexandria last year and spent \$487 million. Yet despite those lofty numbers, there is an attempt to create a Business Improvement District on King Street to help increase revenue and attract more visitors to Alexandria. Rob Kaufman, a member of the BID steering committee and a commercial property owner believes this is a great idea. “Think of a Business Improvement District as kind of a mall manager,” Kaufman said.”

Whole Foods coming to Old Town — “The world’s largest retailer of natural and organic foods will soon be planting its flag in Old Town. Whole Foods Market is planning to open a 45,000-square foot store in October at a new location at 1700 Duke St.”

SPORTS

Plenty of work still to do

Ireton boys soccer looks to push on after unbeaten start

BY CHRIS TEALE

The disappointment was apparent as the final whistle blew Tuesday afternoon and the Bishop Ireton boys soccer team was held to a 2-2 tie at home against local rivals St. Stephen's and St. Agnes, even as the Cardinals maintained their unbeaten start to the season.



PHOTO/CHRIS TEALE

Ireton defender Jack Dyke controls the ball under pressure from Saints midfielder Jordan Wiley. The Cardinals and Saints played out a 2-2 draw Tuesday at Witter Field.

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Ireton had at one stage been up 2-0 thanks to a superb individual goal from senior forward Joey Faddoul in the first half and a second-half penalty from the same player after teammate George Mereu was brought down in the penalty area. However, they were pulled back in the space of three minutes by the Saints, who saw Logan Akey and then Tyler Smith slot home to get a share of the spoils.

And while the Cardinals maintain their unbeaten streak — 3-0-2 at the time of writing with an away game at Washington International School on Wednesday afternoon after the Times' print deadline — they tried to keep a brave face amid the disappointment of settling for a draw.

"[The result] is not the end all and be all," said assistant coach Zach Bass, standing in for suspended head coach

Jon Norem, who was ejected last time out. "It would have been great to get that win being a [Virginia Independent Schools Athletic Association] game and a local rivalry. They're good players; they just have to accept that they're good players."

During the game, the Cardinals looked strong at the back against a Saints team that looked to attack in warm conditions. Ireton's sophomore goalkeeper Garrett Haugh made several good saves, but there were moments when the bounce of the ball or a slight error nearly let their opponents in for another opportunity. Bass said it is something that starts with the midfield, and that they must work hard alongside their teammates in defense to minimize mistakes.

"Our guys in the back do such a good job, and I think to give them a break is just

getting our midfield a little more pressure on the ball so they're not having to defend for 80 minutes because that's not fair to them," he said. "They're pretty stout in the back, but it's really about trying to clog up the center for teams and not let them get those little balls that squirt through."

Up front, while Faddoul had two goals, the Cardinals had several more chances to put the game out of reach but could not take them. Bass said with continued hard work on the training field, the confidence of putting the ball in the net will follow. He is adamant they have the character to succeed.

"Seeing these guys, they're a really good group of kids," Bass said. "They're really good-hearted kids that will work hard for one an-

IRETON FROM | 14

other, and some of the guys as they're gotten older we see their leadership roles and they're wanting to take on a little bit more and step up."

Even after the disappointment of giving up a two-goal lead to one of their big local rivals, Bass said that Ireton needs to keep believing in themselves and their abilities, especially after such a strong showing in the 2014 season when they reached the semifinals of the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference tournament and the second round of the VISAA state tournament.

Bass said his players just need to raise their expectations and the goals will come.

"They're technically good players, they work for one another and they're capable of doing even better than what we did last year if they want," Bass said.

Having lost in the WCAC semifinals to DeMatha and to Paul VI in the state tournament last season, the Cardinals' next challenge is to try and better those post-season performances. With their unbeaten record still intact and a strong schedule

“They’re really good-hearted kids that will work hard for one another, and some of the guys as they’re gotten older we see their leadership roles and they’re wanting to take on a little bit more and step up.”

**– Zach Bass
Assistant coach,
Bishop Ireton boys
soccer**

this year, Bass believes they are not far away from competing with the very best in the region.

"I think the WCAC is a lot more wide open than maybe it's ever been and if you show up on any given day you can really progress further in that tournament," he said. "Then against another VISAA team, Flint Hill last week [a 1-1 tie], I don't think you would say there was too much difference in either of us. It's all on those guys working hard."



PHOTO/CHRIS TEALE

Cardinals forward Joey Faddoul controls the ball as McLean Fonvielle of Saints defends. Faddoul had two goals for Ireton in the 2-2 tie with SSSAS.

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SCENE AROUND TOWN

*Don't visit M. Night Shyamalan's latest***'The Visit' is yet another poor found-footage flick**

BY RICHARD ROEPER

My heart sank about five minutes into "The Visit," when it became clear the entire film was going to be yet another "found footage" movie, seen through the lenses of characters who keep the cameras going even when their lives are in danger.

My heart sank about five minutes deeper into "The Visit," when a single mother sent her two children to spend a week with her estranged parents. Not only is it a dubious decision on mom's part, her failure to do a particular thing any parent would do in that situation is a huge tipoff to a potential big twist coming late in the story.

My heart sank once again when a precocious 13-year-old boy with long blond hair and a lisp started rapping, and kept on rapping. Spoiler alert: The kid raps twice more before we're released from this ordeal.

"The Visit" has been touted as a comeback for M. Night Shyamalan, who once upon the time was one of the finest young filmmakers in the world, gifting us with original, exciting movies such as "The Sixth Sense," "Signs" and "Unbreakable."

Alas, it's a dopey, only mildly chilling, uneasy mix of horror and dark comedy, scoring few points in either category.

You know that moment in just about every scary movie when you want to scream at the characters, "Just get out of the house and run!" This is the grand champion of those films.

Kathryn Hahn plays Paula, whose life is something of a train wreck. She married her high school teacher right after graduation, had a huge fight with her parents and never spoke to them again, and had two children with her husband, who then up and left her and the kids for some

girl he met at a Starbucks. We learn Paula has tried medication, therapy, other relationships — but she's still deeply unhappy.

Now daughter Rebecca (Olivia DeJonge) is 15, son and aforementioned wannabe rapper Tyler (Ed Oxenbould) is 13 — and Paula's parents have found her on Facebook and invited the grandchildren to spend a week on their farmhouse in Pennsylvania, which sits on one of those Scary Movie streets where if neighbors exist, we never see or hear from them.



What could go wrong?

Rebecca is making a documentary about the trip, so we get to experience nearly the entire movie through her shaky little lens work. Oh joy. She gives Tyler a camera, the better for Shyamalan to give us two viewpoints in many scenes.

Deanna Dunagan is Grandma Doris and Peter McRobbie is "Pop-Pop" John, and from the get-go something seems just a little ... off about these two. Maybe it's Grandma's habit of projectile vomiting at night, sitting in a rocking chair facing the wall and cackling wildly or asking Rebecca to crawl inside



PHOTOS/UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Olivia DeJonge (above) stars in "The Visit," M. Night Shyamalan's comedy horror film, which follows two children as they prepare for a visit to their grandparents. The pair make a documentary about their trip, but encounter some strange goings-on at their isolated farmhouse and some odd behavior exhibited by their older relatives.

Are you kidding me?

We get the obligatory friendly supporting characters that show up at the house unannounced. We get the classic "gotcha" sting when a character will suddenly leap into frame and give us a genuine if contrived scare. We get a basement, and we get a character that has accumulated so much information it would be nearly suicidal to go into that basement, and what do you think that character does?

Olivia DeJonge does capable work as Rebecca, but she's stuck playing a character that alternates between talking like a pretentious little film student and making incredibly dumb decisions. Ed Oxenbould fares worse playing a kid who's germaphobic, is prone to literally freezing in place when the pressure's on, is a terrible rapper — and thinks it's funny to say the names of young female pop singers instead of swearing. ("When I stub my toe, I'll just say 'Shakira,'" he explains to his sister.)

The old folks are a hoot, with McRobbie particularly

entertaining as Pop-Pop, who has a maniacal interest in playing Yahtzee and claims he's a Grandmaster at the game. OK.

I loved Shyamalan's first movies. I greatly admired Shyamalan's talent for creating modern fables. He had become one of those "event" directors — each new release felt like something you just couldn't afford to miss.

Even when Shyamalan seemed to be losing the touch, with films such as "The Village," "Lady in the Water" and "The Happening" receiving mostly negative reviews, I was staying with him. Granted, these films were nowhere near the instant-classic level of his early work, but there was still some creativity in every story, still a lot of risk-taking from Shyamalan.

Then came the real stumbles. The less said about the likes of "After Earth" and "The Last Airbender," the better.

It would have been such a pleasure to report "The Visit" is indeed a return to form for Shyamalan.

Unfortunately, Night falls.



2015 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

To have your event considered for our calendar listings, please email events@alextimes.com.

September 17

ADULT MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING (2 OF 2)

The second of two sessions in which adults can learn how to give initial help to someone showing signs of a mental illness or mental health crisis. Registration is free, but space is limited to 20 per class.

Time: 1 to 5 p.m.

Location: 4480 King St.

Information: 703-746-3523, danielle.marshall@alexandriava.gov or www.alexandriava.gov/dchs

MEDICAL HEROISM DURING THE CIVIL WAR

Inspired by the PBS mini-series "Mercy Street," Thomas Schultz discusses hospital workers in Alexandria and the medical and social struggles they encountered.

Time: 7 p.m.

Location: The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St.

Information: www.nvfaa.org

September 19-20

KING STREET ART FESTIVAL

The 13th annual outdoor art festival featuring multiple art vendors with over 6 blocks of artwork by more than 200 artists from the U.S. and abroad.

Time: Saturday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Location: King Street from Union to Washington streets

Information: 561-746-6615 or www.artfestival.com

SCOTTISH HERITAGE WEEK-END

Enjoy some Scottish fun, Outlander-style. Listen to discussions of dress, highland dance and Celtic music, including pipes and drums. Advance reservations required.

Time: Saturday 10 a.m. to 2:15 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m.

Location: Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St.

Information: 703-549-2997 or www.carlylehouse.org

COLONIAL MARKET & FAIR

The annual Colonial Market & Fair at Mount Vernon features dozens of America's finest craftspeople and family fun. Fifty colonial-attired artisans will demonstrate 18th-century crafts and sell traditional wares such as baskets, woodcarvings, tin and ironwork, leatherworkings, weavings, furniture and much more, with military drills overseen by "General Washington."

Time: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Location: George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy.,

Information: 703-780-2000 or www.mountvernon.org

September 19

CARING FOR THE CARE-GIVER WORKSHOP

Is a family member or friend taking care of a loved one? Would you like to offer help but are unsure what to do? Please join Dr. Beverly Faragasso, an experienced caregiver, as she helps you to figure out how to support a caregiver in your life.

Time: 10 a.m. to noon

Location: Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St.

Information: 703-746-1751 or www.alexandria.lib.va.us

DEL RAY RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE CONFERENCE

Get an in-depth look at the history of residential architecture in Del Ray, see the newly released Del Ray Neighborhood Residential Architecture Pattern Book, learn how to research the history of your house and how to apply for residential tax credits and get the latest on the plaque program.

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Location: Mount Vernon Community School auditorium, 2601 Commonwealth Ave.

Information: www.delraycitizens.org/2015-residential-architecture-conference/

September 20

JAZZ AT MEADE Jazz saxophonist Marshall Keys headlines Jazz at Meade, having been the recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts grant. Donation is \$15.

Time: 4 to 6 p.m.

Location: Meade Memorial Episcopal Church, 322 N. Alfred St.

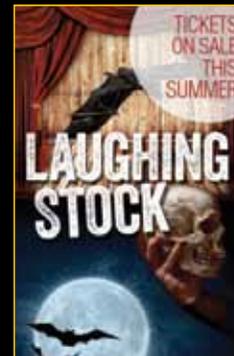
Information: www.meadechurch.org/ministries/jazz_at_meade

SEE CALENDAR | 21



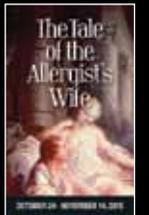
Laughing Stock

9/5 - 9/26



A play within a play! Laughing Stock gives audiences a backstage look at a ragtag troupe of actors and their backstage mischief as they attempt to stage three repertory productions. Hamlet, Charley's Aunt, and Dracula have never been performed like this! This show is a hectic and hilarious testament to theaters everywhere that never seem to have enough time, staff, money, or talent to pull off the show, but in the end, the show must go on!!

Coming soon



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13th Annual Alexandria King Street Art Festival

September 19 & 20, 2015

Saturday 10 AM - 7 PM & Sunday 10 AM - 5 PM
King Street in Alexandria, VA

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Painting by Torpedo Factory Art Center
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At Home *Entre-View*

BY MARY G. PEPITONE

The foyer of a home is a first impression and a nonverbal welcome to houseguests. After walking through a home's front door, the entryway space should make a statement about what lies inside, says Mary Carol Garrity, author, designer and owner of Nell Hill's, a home furnishings store located in the Kansas City area.

"The way a foyer looks can set the tone for the rest of the home," Garrity says. "Whether the foyer is a grand entry or a smaller space, it should entice you to come in."

The key to a fabulous foyer starts at the front door. "People will wait at the front door before entering, and when the door opens, there should be an

element of excitement," Garrity says. "Don't be afraid to make a statement at the front door with a wreath, bold door-knocker or paint color, and treat it as a foreshadowing of the foyer."

Even the best-dressed entryway will look tired with a dingy door. So, if the welcome has been worn out on your home's front door, it might be time for an upgrade.

Replacing an old door with a new, energy-efficient one usually involves the installation of an entire door unit. This includes the posts or jambs (the vertical parts of the doorframe); the head (the upper horizontal part of



PHOTO/CALIFORNIA CLOSETS

Guests should be falling head-over-heels for decorative entryway elements, not tripping over a trail of items tracked and stacked inside the foyer. Utilizing lost storage space under a staircase keeps a foyer clean and clutter-free.

SEE **FOYER** | 19

HOME OF THE WEEK

Water, Parks & Shops ... Oh my!

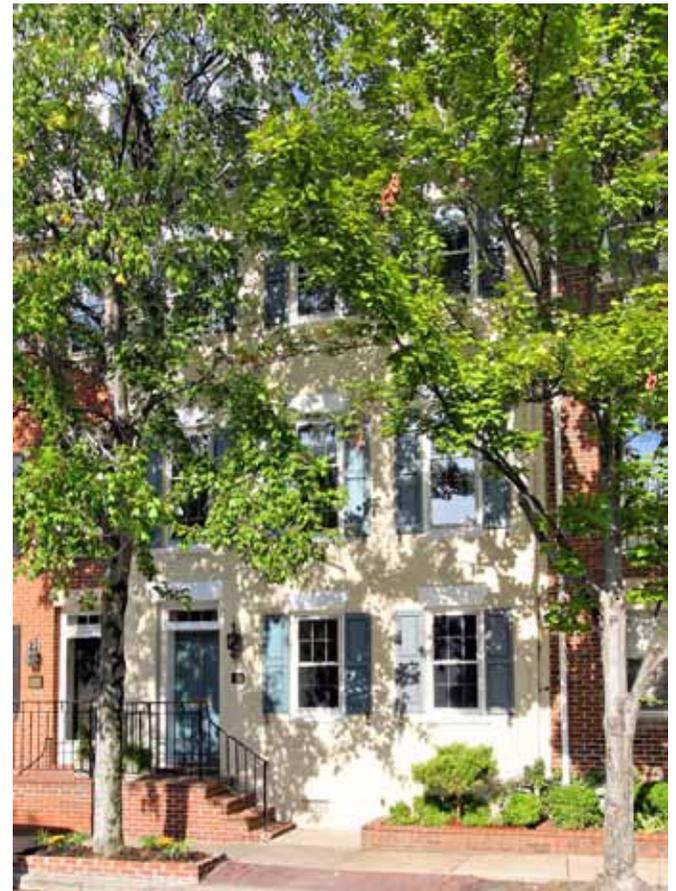
In the heart of historic Old Town, this elegant brick townhome comes with four bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms, three fireplaces and more than 2,400 square feet of living space. There are quality finishes with attention to detail throughout, including dentil moldings, wainscoting, hardwood floors and updated bathrooms.

The renovated gourmet kitchen features 42-inch cherry cabinets, a granite breakfast bar and counters and stainless steel appliances. The adjoining family room has a gas fireplace and French doors that lead to a walled garden with brick patio.



Upstairs, the fabulous master suite has vaulted ceilings, a walk-in closet, luxury bathroom and a Juliet balcony. This is a beauti-

fully updated home just one block from the Potomac River and Lee Street Park in the desirable southeast quadrant of the city.



PHOTOS/DS CREATIVE

This beautiful townhome is in the heart of Old Town, just a block from the Potomac River and Lee Street Park. Inside, the beautiful and spacious family room is ideal for entertaining or relaxing.

At a Glance:

Location: 407 South Union St.,
Alexandria, VA 22314

Price: \$1,190,000

Year Built: 1978

Levels: 4

Bedrooms: 4

Bathrooms: 3.5

Contact: Christine Garner,
Weichert Realtors Old Town, 703-587-4855,
www.christinegarner.com

FOYER

FROM | 18

the doorframe); and the sill or threshold (the lower horizontal part of the frame), which is installed into the opening.

It's also easy to let light shine into your foyer with decorative glass door options that can be beveled or etched. Sidelights — glass panels on either side of a front door — or a transom window above the door create entryway appeal and encourage sunshine, not scrutiny, from the street.

Garrity views the foyer as a prime piece of decorative real estate, which starts on the entry-level floor. “The flooring is part of the decorative element of a foyer,” she says. “Some people might have an intricate parquet wood flooring laid, while others might put down a beautiful rug.”

Guests should be falling head-over-heels for decorative entryway elements, not tripping over a trail of items tracked and stacked inside the foyer. “Have a place to stow shoes and other things family members bring inside,” Garrity says. “You don't want people tripping over things. It should be a clutter-free zone.”

Paint is the easiest way to bring color and life into a space. A foyer can become instantly cool with a shade of blue or warm with a deep, rich red on the wall. “Some people keep the walls a neutral color to serve as a backdrop to artwork hung in the foyer,” Garrity says. “Depending on its configuration, you can also create a focal point in your foyer by hanging a beautiful wallpaper on just one wall.”

A foyer's design can often

be taken to the next level by extending decorative elements to a home's staircase, which is often seen from the entryway in a multi-level house.

“The artwork hung in a home can begin in the foyer and continue up the wall by a staircase,” Garrity says. “A stairway in view from the foyer is just a

naturally dramatic design element, so use the flat newel post at the bottom of a staircase as a place to put a tray with a bouquet of flowers.”

A foyer's furnishings should be spare and chosen with care. “You don't want a lot of furniture in the foyer, but there are some pieces you

need,” Garrity says. “Depending on the foyer space, it's great if you can have a console table and a couple of chairs, or a bench to sit on or place a visitor's coat or purse. A wall mirror enlarges the space, but it's also great to catch one last

SEE **FOYER** | 21



PHOTO/PELLA WINDOWS AND DOORS

It's easy to let light shine into your foyer with decorative glass door options that are beveled or etched. Sidelights — glass panels on either side of a front door — or a transom window above the door create entryway appeal and encourage sunshine, not scrutiny, from the street.

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Tickets are non-refundable. Show is rain or shine. Please drink responsibly. Advance ticket sales close 09/16/15.

MCKENNA FROM | 9

in April. The condition is said to be one where a person with mental illness or who is on drugs becomes so anxious that their heart suddenly gives out. People in the grip of the condition are said to have extraordinary strength.

"[She] was...pushing us up

almost like doing a push-up and she was actually pressing four of us up off the ground which was astonishing," Deputy and SERT member Adam Henry is quoted as saying in the report.

The report also does not explain why a total of approximately 11 minutes and 34 seconds elapsed from the first medi-

cal staff evaluation of McKenna to the call for rescue when she was found to be unresponsive, and does not go into detail on why the unarmed staff and security at Mount Vernon Hospital were able to restrain her in January without needing to use force.

A federal investigation into McKenna's death is ongoing.



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—Helena Scott

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In Memoriam

Patricia Winterbauer

Patricia Sandra Winterbauer (nee Ayres), a pioneer developer of computer applications and a long-time resident of Alexandria, passed away on August 11 at the age of 77 from complications of Parkinson's disease.

She was born March 3, 1938, in Philadelphia, grew up in Wellesley Hills, Mass., and graduated from Wellesley High School in 1955, where she excelled in mathematics. Ms. Winterbauer enrolled in William & Mary College intending to major in mathematics, but only males were permitted to do so at the time. As a result, she chose to major in French. After two years, she moved to San Diego as a data analyst at Convair Astronautics, later renamed General Dynamics Astronautics, the builder of Atlas missiles. While there, her interest turned to data processing, a task then done manually.

By learning the evolving computer language, she increased the speed of data calibration for sensors used on the Atlas missiles. In the early 1960s she enrolled in San Diego State College where she engaged in computer science and obtained a B.A. in mathematics with distinction. She then was hired, notably the only female, in the mathematics department of the Navy Electronics Laboratory, where she developed computer programs while completing course work for her Master's degree. She became an accomplished micro-programmer versed in the internal language of computers, enabling her to develop programs faster than the more advanced computer languages, such as FOR-



Patricia Sandra Winterbauer

TRAN. She later was hired by Science Applications Inc. and applied her skills to processing sonar array data. She moved from San Diego to Alexandria in the 1990s and continued to work for Science Applications until she retired.

In addition to her love of mathematics and computers, Ms. Winterbauer advanced to masters level at duplicate bridge competitions, was a proficient piano player, frequented jazz performances, and, in keeping with her passion for the natural world, she was a dedicated bird-watcher.

Patricia is lovingly remembered by her niece, Cynthia Montgomery of Marietta, Ga.; nephew, Jeff Montgomery of Atlanta; cousins, Jane Ward and Lynda Livingston of Seattle, Susan Frans of Show Low, Ariz.; brother-in-law, Robert Montgomery of Bradenton Fla.; childhood friend, Joanie Britt of Alexandria; and former husband and friend, Charley Winterbauer, of Wilmington, N.C.

The family will hold memorial services later this fall. Memorial donations may be made to the Audubon Society. Arrangements by Money & King Funeral Home, Vienna, Va.

OBITUARY POLICIES

All obituaries in the Times are charged through the funeral home on a per-word basis comparable to the space rate offered to nonprofit advertisers.

Deadlines are the Monday prior to the issue date.

Call 703.739.0001 for details.

CALENDAR FROM | 17

September 22

HOMESCHOOL DAY: FIREFIGHTING TECHNOLOGY

See how fire-fighting technology has evolved and test the scientific concepts behind how the historic equipment worked. Features the 1851 Suction Engine. Limited space available. Designed for family groups, recommended for ages 6 and up.

Time: 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Location: Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 S. Alfred St.

Information: www.shop.alexandriava.gov

September 23

FORGET PERFECT

Join ADHD coach Abigail Wurf as she shares her methods for living a successful life if you have ADHD or just feel like you do. Admission is free.

Time: 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Location: Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St.

Information: 703-746-1751 or www.alexandria.lib.va.us

THE CAMPAGNA CENTER OKTOBERFEST

An annual event to benefit The Campagna Center's New Neighbors Program and the many contributions it makes to adult refugees and immigrants who strive to improve their English skills.

Time: 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Location: Port City Brewing Company, 3950 Wheeler Ave.

Information: www.campagnacenter.org/events/new-neighbors-oktoberfest

September 24-27

OLD TOWN BOUTIQUE DISTRICT SCAVENGER HUNT

To celebrate its anniversary, the Old Town Boutique District will hold its eighth annual scavenger hunt. Visit all of the Old Town Boutique District stores, get your passport stamped and enter for a chance to win big prizes.

Time: During regular store hours

Location: Boutiques throughout Alexandria

Information: www.oldtownboutique-district.com

FOYER

FROM | 19

glimpse of yourself before you head out the door."

The type of furniture used in your foyer should reflect your personal taste, which can be formal or fun. It can also be a combination of both. "In decorating, not everything has to be all matchy-matchy," Garrity says. "Have pieces you love in your home and it will be a reflection of your personal sense of style."

A bright tip to set the mood in the foyer is to pay attention to



the light fixtures. Whether you're hanging a vintage chandelier or a modernly sleek, colorful pendant from the ceiling, Garrity says it's important to also have accent lighting. "Burning candles not only cast a pretty glow, they also makes the space smell good," she says. "I also like having a lamp on a foyer table and always leaving the light on for guests."

PHOTO/BOB GREENSPAN

A foyer's design can often be taken to the next level by extending decorative elements to a home's staircase.

September 26

HISTORIC HOMES TOUR

For the 74th annual Historic Alexandria Homes Tour, the public can step inside and get a glimpse of six gorgeous homes and gardens in Old Town Alexandria, all within walking distance of one another. Tickets are \$35 each in advance.

Time: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Location: Old Town

Information: 703-823-1273 or www.thetwig.org/homes-tour

SMITHSONIAN MAGAZINE MUSEUM DAY LIVE!

In the spirit of the Smithsonian museums, which offer free admission every day, Museum Day Live! is an annual event hosted by Smithsonian Magazine in which participating museums across the country open their doors to anyone presenting a Museum Day Live! ticket for free.

Time: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Location: Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St.

Information: 703-746-4242

SEAPORT DAY

Hosted by the Alexandria Seaport Foundation, the maritime festival includes a variety of live music, a chowder cook off, food samplings from new neighbors and a great selection of wine and beer.

Time: Noon to 6 p.m.

Location: Waterfront Park, 0 Prince St.

Information: www.alexandriaseaport.org

September 27

NORTHERN ALEXANDRIA NATIVE PLANT SALE

The largest native plant sale in the D.C. metropolitan area hosts 15 vendors from four states selling native perennials, shrubs and trees for sun or shade.

Time: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Location: The Church of St. Clement, 1701 N. Quaker Lane

Information: 571-232-0375 or www.northernalexandrianaiveplant-sale.org

PRESIDENTIAL SALON WITH JAMES MADISON

Hear President James Madison discuss events as they unfolded in his time in honor of the bicentennial of the War of 1812. Public questions and opinions related

to the salon topics are welcome and encouraged.

Time: 3 to 4:30 p.m.

Location: Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St.

Information: 703-746-4242

September 28

AGING GRACEFULLY IN ALEXANDRIA

Hear Alan Dubow, Terri Lynch and Dan Cinelli discuss whether Alexandria has enough resources to allow citizens to age successfully in the city, or whether the elderly will be forced to leave.

Time: 6:15 p.m. reception,

6:45 p.m. buffet dinner

Location: The Hermitage, 5000 Fairbanks Ave.

Information: www.agendaalexandria.org

September 29

UCM BENEFIT NIGHT

All are welcome to enjoy an evening at Port City Brewing Company, where a percentage of sales will be donated to benefit UCM's "Heart To Heart" campaign to help neighbors in need. Tours and tastings are available, plus the regular menu and the food truck. No advance reservations or tickets required.

Time: 6 to 9 p.m.

Location: Port City Brewing Company, 3950 Wheeler Ave.

Information: www.ucmagency.org/events/benefit-night-at-port-city-brewing-company-sept-29

FALL WINE FESTIVAL & SUNSET TOUR

Enjoy live blues and tours of Mount Vernon's basement where George Washington stored his wine, plus spectacular views of the Potomac River while sampling wine from 17 Virginia wineries. Visitors learn about the successes and failures of our Founding Father's wine endeavors and meet "George and Martha Washington" on the mansion's piazza.

Time: 6 to 9 p.m.

Location: George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy.

Information: 703-780-2000 or www.mountvernon.org

FALL

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An ACT for Alexandria Initiative

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

TO

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Help 39 local nonprofits get a jump start on their wish lists!

www.actionalexandria.org/fallintogiving



ADOPTABLE PET OF THE WEEK



~ Bailey ~

Hoping for a human with a welcoming lap to share, 2 year old **Bailey** is a world-class snuggler.

Not aloof as some cats are, Bailey loves people, and is hoping for one of his own.

FOR MORE INFO ON THE ADOPTABLE CATS OF ALEXANDRIA, PLEASE VISIT WWW.ALEXANDRIAANIMALS.ORG OR PHONE 703-746-4774.

THANK YOU

The Alexandria Animal Shelter's Pet of the Week is sponsored by Diann Hicks Carlson, finding homes for pets and humans, alike.

www.diannhicks.com



Our View

When priorities clash, we must seek the middle ground

It's distressing when cherished policies or principles clash. At the national level in recent years, the right to religious liberty has conflicted with non-discrimination laws. Similarly, the right to privacy has jugged against national security interests. Sometimes such situations pit one interest group against another. Other times, individuals feel torn because they support both sides.

We are facing such a collision in Alexandria between the issues of historic preservation and affordable housing — both stated priorities of our city and its officials. The vehicle for this collision is the 15-unit Ramsey Homes property.

Built during World War II to house black defense workers, Ramsey lies in the Parker-Gray Historic District near other historically significant buildings. It has been allowed to fall into disrepair by its owner, the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority, which now wants to raze the homes in favor of a 53-unit building that would be dedicated to affordable housing.

The Parker-Gray Board of Architectural Review voted unanimously to deny ARHA's application to demolish Ramsey, citing its historic importance, but that decision was overturned last Saturday by city council in a 5-2 vote. Council remarkably voted to allow demolition despite ARHA's questionable conduct during the process and notwithstanding the lack of a concrete site plan.

We think ARHA's behavior has been inexcusable and find council's to be questionable.

At the council meeting, ARHA CEO Roy Priest incredibly used his organization's own failing — Ramsey's dilapidation — as an argument for demolition. ARHA's board chairman Merrick Malone resorted to juvenile name-calling when councilors spoke against demolition. In a remarkable exhibition of illogic, Malone argued that those who sought to preserve Ramsey because of its historic significance to the black community were displaying "racism and classism."

Council's final action was hardly better. Why do boards and commissions exist in Alexandria, given that their votes and recommendations are so frequently disregarded by city council? It should mean something when a board votes unanimously for or against something, as the Parker-Gray BAR did in its united vote against Ramsey demolition.

We also find it surprising that council approved Ramsey's demolition with such a sketchy forward plan, given ARHA's poor performance to date on this project. Why didn't it instead send ARHA back to the drawing board with instructions to develop a compromise plan that both historic preservationists and affordable housing advocates could live with?

Vice Mayor Allison Silberberg was correct in calling the imperative to choose between affordable housing and historic preservation a "false choice." And city councilors Tim Lovain and Del Pepper were on the right track in telling ARHA to develop a site plan that preserves half of the historic buildings in the redevelopment process. Before council voted to approve demolition, ARHA did agree to delay the tear down until after the site plan is approved by the BAR, the planning commission and city council.

Let's hope that ARHA can come up with an acceptable site plan that enables the architectural and cultural significance of the Ramsey homes to remain a part of Alexandria's history, while also adding greatly needed affordable housing units to the city's stock. Hopefully this either/or situation turns into a win/win outcome.

Opinion

"Where the press is free and every man is able to read, all is safe."

- Thomas Jefferson



Your Views

A chance at two-party democracy

To the editor:

When I moved to Alexandria in 1957, the Byrd organization controlled everything from villages, city council and county boards all the way to Richmond. It ruled with an iron fist. When I went to register to vote at City Hall in 1957, I was given a blank piece of paper, asked to explain a provision of the Virginia Constitution and pay a poll tax.

"Massive Resistance" was the state policy: close any public school to which a black child might be assigned. In 1969, Linwood Holton was elected the first Republican governor of Virginia since Reconstruction on a platform to keep our schools open. On the day of his inauguration in January 1970, his first executive order was to end discrimination in state employment

and, holding the hand of his daughter, enrolled her at the school in the neighborhood of the Governor's Mansion, with a predominantly black enrollment.

In May 1967, the first Republican was elected to the Alexandria City Council. In the ensuing elections, the "dream" council of three Democrats, three Republicans and one Independent was elected. The process of governing opened up; new ideas were vigorously debated, and diversity of experience and perspective enriched local discussion and action.

Then, in June 2009, the lame duck city council, with two councilors who were defeated the previous month, voted to change the council election from May to November, with the first such election to take place

in 2012 during the presidential election. Of course, the presidential race dominated the media. Local issues and concerns drew little attention. Voters came to vote for president and many without knowledge or forethought simply voted the sample ballot. The city council returned to one-party rule.

In November 2015, we have only local elections. We have the opportunity to return to electing city councilors on their merits. The candidates will have the full attention of the electorate. Open and energetic debate, with diversity of ideas reflective of the interest and wishes of the citizens of our city can return. It takes at least four votes on council to make a change in direction.

- Carlyle C. "Connie" Ring, Jr.
Former school board member
Former city councilor

Medic change is a solution in search of a problem

To the editor:

When a fire chief proposes a major restructuring of a department, it is often in response to a problem. A decade ago, after years of embarrassing and dangerous mistakes, D.C.'s fire department made sweeping changes to its emergency medical services system. But those changes failed to address the department's true underlying problems and, as a result, it continues to make headlines today.

Now, Alexandria Fire Chief Robert Dubé wants to make some of those same changes here in Alexandria. He has proposed eliminating the positions of dedicated single-role paramedics, replacing them instead with paramedics who also are trained as firefighters. He also wants to decrease the number of these highly-trained medical providers on ambulances, in order to

place them on fire engines.

The question that Alexandria residents and city officials must ask is why. What is wrong with the city's current EMS system?

Dubé has yet to provide a satisfactory answer to this question. The arguments he has made for changing the system — to look more like the models in neighboring jurisdictions — do not hold up when compared to the evidence. Dubé has instead proposed a system based on outdated practices and fire service myths.

1. Adding paramedics to fire engines saves lives: The firefighters who staff fire engines and ladder trucks today are already trained as basic emergency medical technicians. The training to become an EMT is much shorter — and cheaper — than to become a paramedic, yet it still allows for EMTs to provide treatments neces-

sary in the first few minutes of a life-threatening medical emergency, such as defibrillation for cardiac arrest.

The Seattle Fire Department and the Medic One system in King County, Wash., have some of the highest cardiac arrest survival rates in the nation, despite only having EMTs on their fire engines.

2. Having more paramedics is better: Adding paramedics to every fire engine in the city will require an increase in the number of paramedics in the fire department. It will also increase turnover, as firefighters who no longer wish to function in this role will allow their certifications lapse and still remain in their positions as firefighter/EMTs. With more paramedics, training costs also will increase.

SEE **MEDICS** | 24

Euille and Donley's development approach doesn't work

To the editor:

With their combined fondness for construction and banking, Mayor Bill Euille and former Mayor Kerry Donley have given us a city in a state of dusty anger, disruption and disrepair. And no matter how they spin this story, Alexandria's density has taken on a dangerous dimension.

When done right, development density should increase tax dollars that the city can then use to strengthen infrastructure, reduce homeowners' taxes and balance long-term debt. This has not happened.

In the 12 years that Euille has been in charge, critical

infrastructure has decayed, tax bills have grown, and it is likely the debt ceiling will need to be adjusted upwards. No one, except developers, have benefited from the past 12 years, where 10 of those years found Alexandria rated the densest city in Virginia.

It is not "development" that is at fault, it is Euille's — and Donley's — mismanagement of it. Their small-bore focus on construction and contracts only works well for building and backing scattered townhouses. But when you examine large-scale development projects such as BRAC, Landmark Mall, Beauregard, the waterfront and Potomac Yard, you find

profound failure.

The fact is it is federal agencies' far superior planning and management abilities — and their money — that succeed. We can expect the U.S. Transportation Security Administration and National Science Foundation to produce high quality outcomes — on time and as promised — while Landmark, Beauregard, the waterfront and Potomac Yard continue to falter due to a lack of expertise.

Roughly 50 percent of Alexandria's new population will live in large development projects, but the other

SEE **DEVELOPMENT** | 24



Senior Corner

with Debbie Ludington

Is Dad too old to drive?

It's a common question: Is Dad too old to drive? But it can be difficult to discern the answer.

It's not just a matter of age. It's more a matter of ability. I know many people that are pretty scary behind the wheel. Some are older, some are younger, some are women and some are men.

One of these men was my father, who was about 81 when I decided I would no longer ride with him. He never had much patience as a driver, so I learned to drive from my older sister.

But as he approached his 80s, he started to exhibit some behaviors that were no longer just impatience. He would straddle the center line, was easily distracted, parked too close to other cars, and often would

forget how to get to places he'd been to hundreds of times.

I worried about his safety, my safety and the safety of other drivers. So what did we do? Well, we convinced Dad, with help from his doctor, that he should give up the car keys. Easy, right? Gosh, no. Convincing anyone to give up driving is one of the most difficult conversations you may ever have.

But how do you know if Dad shouldn't be driving? You need to look at how they handle a car, in addition to their mental and physical abilities. According to AARP and AAA, here are some signs that it's time to limit or stop Dad's driving:

- Almost crashing, with frequent close calls
- Finding dents and scrapes on the car, mailboxes, garage doors, curbs
- Getting lost, especially in familiar locations
- Having trouble seeing or fol-

lowing traffic signals, road signs or pavement markings

- Making slow or poor decisions in traffic, particularly improper left-hand turns
- Confusing the accelerator and brake pedals
- Having a hard time turning around to check the rear view while backing up
- Getting several warnings from the police

If you have really looked at how Dad is driving and you think it's unsafe, it's time to have a conversation with him to talk about your concerns.

Appealing to his sense of responsibility can be a good approach. Tell him you know he doesn't want to hurt anyone else.

Ask someone he respects, such as a trusted family member, friend or attor-

ney to talk to him. Ask his physician to write a prescription that says, "No Driving" can be helpful. Offer your unconditional love and support and be prepared to have more than one conversation. If there is a significant safety issue involved, and as a last resort, take away the car keys, disable the car or remove it altogether.

Lastly, be prepared to offer alternatives to unlimited driving such as driving only during the day, transitioning to other family members providing rides, having groceries and medications delivered, or using transportation services for older adults. There are many options in Alexandria. For information, please call the Division of Aging and Adult Services at 703-746-5999.

The writer is the long term care coordinator for the city's Division of Aging and Adult Services.



Debbie Ludington

DEVELOPMENT FROM | 23

50 percent will squeeze into dwindling spaces in established neighborhoods. The development plans currently on the table are designed so that we will be adding a significant number of new cars to our already clogged streets. There are no incentives or retail designed to help new residents keep their car at home. The transportation plans are mostly wishful thinking. This is not smart growth, and it is certainly not smart development.

What is at fault is the 12-year

“What is at fault is the 12-year failure of our current mayor to safeguard residents from developers’ understandable bias to maximize profit. Euille no longer remembers that the primary responsibility of government is to protect the people.”

failure of our current mayor to safeguard residents from developers’ understandable bias to maximize profit. Euille no longer remembers that the primary responsibility of government is to protect the people by moderating, not accelerating, business benefits.

Being led by a mayor and council who favor construction and contracting has put developer interests ahead of the people. Just look around and listen to your neighbors.

Today, concerned citizens, whose votes made Vice Mayor Allison Silberberg winner of the Democratic primary, should speak loudly and reach out to others who want to live in a city designed for living and working in the 21st century. It would be a new day.

- Kathryn Papp
Alexandria

MEDICS FROM | 23

Perhaps most significantly, having more paramedics will decrease the opportunity for each paramedic to perform advanced skills, such as inserting breathing tubes and administering medications.

Research in other medical fields has indicated that the more often a health care provider performs a procedure, the fewer complications that patients experience. Again, we only need to look at the Seattle Fire Department, which has seven paramedic ambulances — only one more than Alexandria — on duty each day. Seattle paramedics intubate approximately 40 people during their first year. In Alexandria, paramedics average fewer than two intubations annually — a number that will only decrease as the number of paramedics goes up.

3. Firefighting and emergency medicine are similar jobs: While it’s true that many firefighters in fire-based EMS systems now also operate as paramedics, the nature of both jobs has changed dramatically in recent years. More and more, EMS is becoming part of the health care continuum, which is a good thing for communities.

While some EMS calls are for true, life-threatening emergencies, the majority of 911 calls are for less critical medical conditions. In response, many EMS agencies across the country have created an integrated system of care, wherein patients get the right treatment at the right price — avoiding the emergency department when

it’s not needed.

But people who join fire departments often are drawn to the adrenaline rush and the thrill of the rescue. It’s no wonder that many ultimately experience burnout when asked to staff ambulances, which respond to nursing homes or pick up mentally ill patients on a daily basis.

In Alexandria, where paramedics can be paramedics and firefighters can be firefighters, paramedics have never complained about hav-

“What is wrong with the city’s current EMS system? Dubé has yet to provide a satisfactory answer to this question. The arguments he has made for changing the system — to look more like the models in neighboring jurisdictions — do not hold up when compared to the evidence.”

ing to work on an ambulance — that’s what they were hired to do. But in D.C. and in other fire departments that cross-train, being assigned to an ambulance can be seen as punishment or a job for the newest and least experienced firefighters.

4. Cross-training paramedics as firefighters will save money: The department’s administration has argued for several years, even prior to Dubé’s arrival, that converting each paramedic to a firefighter/paramedic will save money.

It’s easy to see why they feel that way — because of federal labor laws, civilian paramedics earn overtime

after working 40 hours in a week. But firefighters are exempt from that rule, and do not earn overtime until after they have worked 53 hours. Alexandria’s plan to train paramedics as firefighters, and have them work an additional 14 hours each week (the difference between the current paramedic and firefighter shift schedules) for only slightly more than their current annual salary would, on paper, save hundreds of thousands of dollars.

But there are several problems with that proposal, the least of which is asking dozens of highly trained medical professionals to take on an additional skill set and increase their workload by a third without compensating them fairly.

Additionally, Alexandria’s firefighter and paramedic salaries have remained below those of their counterparts in the Washington area for many years — something accepted by many of the department’s paramedics because of their desire to focus exclusively on providing high-quality pre-hospital medical care. In order to compete with neighboring jurisdictions, Alexan-

dria ultimately will need to significantly increase the pay for its own firefighter/paramedics — the same ones that Dubé now believes he is getting on the cheap.

5. Cross-training paramedics is the only way to offer them career advancement opportunities: Another argument made by the fire chief is that paramedics have limited career opportunities in the current system — that, as firefighters, they will have a much greater chance at promotion. This is certainly true, but there are many other, better ways to solve this problem.

In an agency where more than two-thirds of its responses are for medical emergencies, a firefighting background shouldn’t be a leadership requirement. Many EMS agencies and fire departments across the country already have created promotional ladders for EMS providers. And in an era where the majority of the fire department’s mission is medical, there’s no reason a paramedic can’t serve as its safety officer, training chief, or even department head.

Before Alexandria makes the most drastic change to how it provides emergency medical services in four decades — when the current civilian paramedic program began — city officials need to be honest about whether or not these changes will actually make a difference. Chances are, they will — they’ll lead to a less effective, more expensive and possibly more dangerous EMS system.

- Michael Kohrt
President-elect, Alexandria
Professional Medics
Association

**WHO CARES?
WE DO.**

Email comments, rants & raves to letters@alextimes.com.

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OUT OF THE ATTIC

City growth brings a need for city education

Soon after the early commuter developments of Del Ray and St. Elmo received their first residents towards the end of the 19th century, calls were made to improve the educational facilities for local schoolchildren.

In 1900, a new elementary school was built along Mount Vernon Avenue in what was then Alexandria County and appropriately named the Mount Vernon School. The new center of learning was built in the classical style of colonial Virginia civic architecture; a symmetrical, five-bay, two story brick structure with limestone quoins at each corner. Architectural details at the roofline featured a dentil cornice with built-in, lead-lined gutters, and squared leaders placed on the north and south facades immediately adjacent to the quoins to minimize their visual impact.

An ornamental entryway made of brick pilasters and entablature surrounded the double entrance doors which were topped by a half-round fanlight and keystones. A near vertical flagpole rose from the sill of the second floor window, easing the daily chore of raising and lowering the American flag for staff and schoolchildren alike. Finally, a large cupola was placed at the center ridge of the slate hip-roof to provide ventilation that rose through the building to the attic.

In its first years of operation, the small school was



IMAGE/ALEXANDRIA LIBRARY

staffed by only two teachers using only the first floor as classroom space, while the second floor was left open for community and town meetings. But the community grew quickly and within a very short period of time, overcrowding became a primary concern.

By the time this photograph was taken in 1907, plans were already underway to enlarge the school by adding to the rear, and by the addition of a columned portico to the front facade. When the town of Potomac was incorporated in March 1908, these changes were quickly implemented and were just the first of a long series of alterations which would continue over the ensuing decades. By 1910, a principal and four teachers were employed at the enlarged school.

As Alexandria County had no high school, parents of Potomac schoolchildren going on to high school were required to pay tuition at nearby public high schools beyond the town's borders. By 1915, parents lobbied town officials

to educate their children through the public treasury at high schools within the adjacent city of Alexandria. Two years later, the local school board purchased the old Richard Lloyd House and converted that structure into a high school for 30 students. Within seven years that facility also reached capacity, and the town finally built a new high school named after George Mason directly across Mount Ida Avenue from the elementary school. With 14 classrooms and state-of-the-art educational facilities, it was expected that the new high school would serve the community for generations. As it turned out, the new high school would cease to exist within a decade.

Don't miss the Del Ray Residential Architecture Conference on Saturday, September 19, 9:30 a.m. at the Mount Vernon Community School Auditorium. For more information, visit www.delraycitizens.org.

*Out of the Attic is provided
by the Office of Historic
Alexandria.*

FROM THE WEB

[In response to "Confederate flag will no longer fly on city property,"](#)

September 10:

Little Guy writes:

Apparently there are still many people in this city who wish that the secessionists had won. They are welcome to move to the Deep South, where their views will be welcomed and accepted.

The rest of us in Alexandria don't understand the psychology behind honoring slavery supporters who fought on the losing side of the Civil War, and we would rather the city move on beyond the chapter in its history.

[In response to "Euille launches write-in bid for re-election,"](#)

September 10:

Haunches writes:

It is disappointing that [Mayor Bill] Euille will not honor his commitment to support the party's nominee. In retrospect, it was easy to make that pledge until he was stunned to lose the primary.

Not exactly a stand up guy (which may be a reason why he lost in the first place). While a write-in candidate won a long, long time ago, it seems highly unlikely that a write-in campaign can succeed in today's highly partisan environment.

What is more apparent is that local business interests are petrified at the thought of losing what they consider their rightful place at the front of the line drinking from the public trough.

Mark Sloan writes:

I can understand why some residents may support [Vice Mayor Allison] Silberberg over Mayor Euille. My question is really aimed at why were so many people trying to convince him not to run, or disparaging him for considering a write-in campaign.

Just as many residents may prefer Euille over Silberberg, I would not appreciate it if they were telling Silberberg to drop out of the race because they do not like her politics.

Let's have a debate and an election at the ballot box on the issues. I'd personally prefer that to a campaign of smears and bullying in the media.

Weekly Poll

Last Week

What issue is most important to you in the city council election?

- 34% Development. ● 25% Debt.
- 25% Education. ● 16% Other.

102 Votes

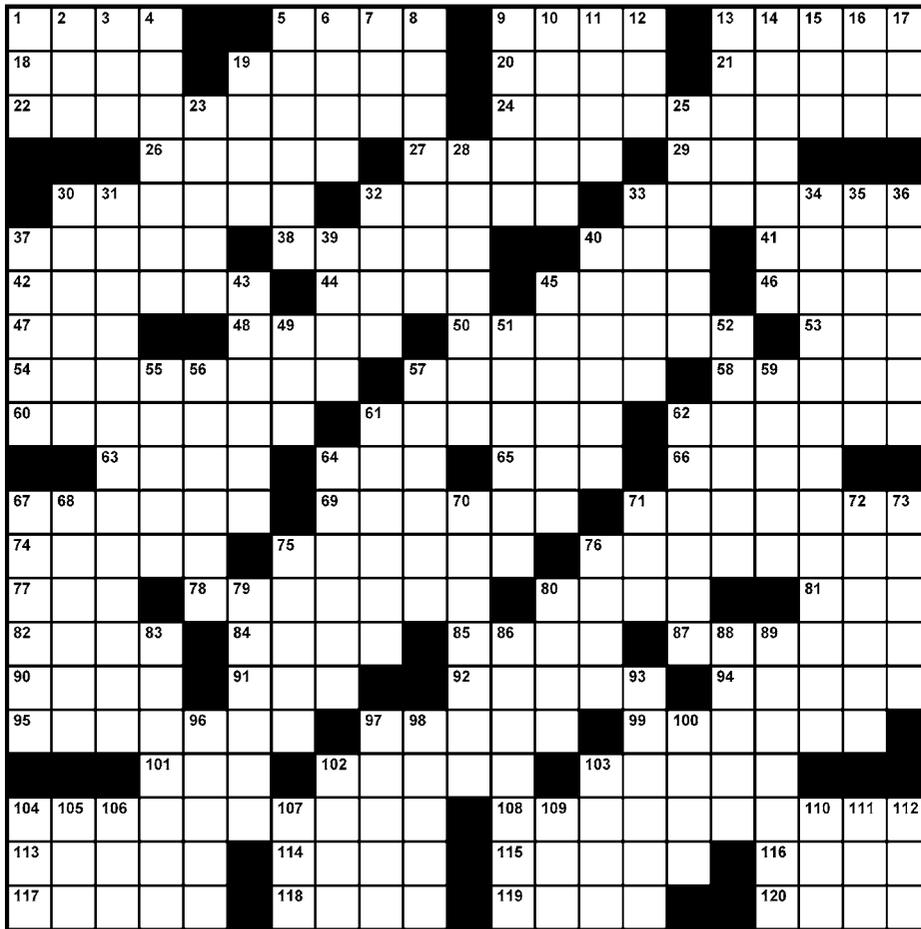
This Week

What should be done at the Ramsey Homes property?

- A. Completely preserve it.
- B. Preserve some of it.
- C. Completely demolish it.

Take the poll at
alextimes.com

Weekly Words



WINE AND DINE By Mark Stapleton

ACROSS

- 1 Hoop alternative
- 5 Pulsating star
- 9 Long, slender instrument
- 13 Partially melted snow
- 18 Exude, as confidence
- 19 Kind of column
- 20 Salon offering
- 21 Blender button
- 22 Utilizes a keg
- 24 Sups
- 26 Singular performances
- 27 Campfire whoppers
- 29 Ending for "Israel"
- 30 Looked impolitely
- 32 Reduce, as fears
- 33 They performed before kings
- 37 "___ porridge hot ..."
- 38 A famous bear and a famous catcher
- 40 Quarterback's bark
- 41 Asian weight equal to 1.3 ounces
- 42 A couple of snare drum sounds
- 44 Puerto ___
- 45 Diluted with white
- 46 Sicilian peak
- 47 They're half the width of 12-Down
- 48 Where to find Tehran
- 50 Noisy lions
- 53 Many an heir
- 54 Light and delicate
- 57 Winter headgear feature
- 58 Like a darkened room

- 60 Feed
- 61 Historic records
- 62 Escalator alternative
- 63 Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar
- 64 Move in a curved path
- 65 "My country, ___ of thee ..."
- 66 Istanbul inhabitant
- 67 Mel of "Braveheart"
- 69 -- under (overwhelmed)
- 71 Writer of improbable situations
- 74 Hardly a workaholic
- 75 Fern's reproductive cells
- 76 Junior, to Senior
- 77 Scrabble 10-pointer
- 78 Prepared, as for a daunting task
- 80 Bubble source
- 81 Place on a blacklist
- 82 Emulates a cartographer
- 84 Strip of fruit skin
- 85 Gait rate?
- 87 Masochist's match
- 90 Psych attachment?
- 91 ___ and outs
- 92 Athletic tracks
- 94 First-discovered asteroid
- 95 Not hidden from view
- 97 Burrito alternatives
- 99 Scottish property owners
- 101 Shutout score, in Britain
- 102 Settlement near Moscow
- 103 Language in New Delhi

- 104 Imbibes heavily
- 108 Gulps
- 113 Charity, often
- 114 "Beetle Bailey" dog
- 115 Cry of exasperation
- 116 New York canal
- 117 Serves round after round
- 118 Antlered animal
- 119 Solutions for making 80-Across
- 120 Body shop repair

DOWN

- 1 Garden store offering
- 2 High crag
- 3 Action film firearm
- 4 Packed the tightest
- 5 Opposite of everyone
- 6 Request to a teller, sometimes
- 7 Struggle for superiority
- 8 Kind of paint
- 9 A drama set to music
- 10 Cecil's cartoon pal
- 11 Dinner crumbs
- 12 1/6 inch units used in printing
- 13 Barbecue accessories
- 14 Crescent-shaped space
- 15 Coffeepot
- 16 Catch a glimpse of
- 17 That miss
- 19 ___ au Haut, Maine
- 23 Divided Asian nation
- 25 "The Biggest Loser" contestant
- 28 Candidate who lost
- 30 It's inclined to give shelter

Obituaries

ROBERT P. BOISSEREE (66), formerly of Alexandria, August 22, 2015

JEROME EILER, of Alexandria, July 25, 2015

T. MICHAEL JACKSON (67), of Alexandria, September 9, 2015

CECILIA A. KETTLES (57), of Alexandria, September 5, 2015

RICHARD R. MOLLEUR (83), of Alexandria, September 11, 2015

MARJORIE O. OLSON (85), formerly of Alexandria, September 2, 2015

ELSIE W. PORTER (94), of Alexandria, September 7, 2015

AMANDA PUTNAM (62), of Alexandria, September 5, 2015

JANICE W. SMITH (90), of Alexandria, September 7, 2015

RALPH E. STONE (72), formerly of Alexandria, September 5, 2015

JOCOLYN WEEKS, of Alexandria, September 10, 2015

- 31 Admits one was wrong
- 32 One more time, country-style
- 33 Minty potable
- 34 Stays quite thin
- 35 French impressionist Auguste
- 36 Italizes
- 37 Groom like a bird
- 39 Kind of hygiene
- 40 Bother continually
- 43 Makes a marketing connection
- 45 See 45-Across
- 49 Cheerleader's cheer
- 51 Spouts from a soapbox
- 52 Thread for doctors
- 55 Clean a blackboard
- 56 Trials and tribulations
- 57 "More! More!"
- 59 Some undercover cops
- 61 Mr. Schwarzenegger
- 62 Snail-mail attachments
- 64 Poplars with fluttering leaves
- 67 Thingamabobs
- 68 Form a thought
- 70 Nuptial knot
- 71 Aircraft-certifying org.

- 72 Czarist edicts
- 73 Landlord's due
- 75 Net on a schooner
- 76 Holiday tune
- 79 Musical embellishments
- 80 Healthful retreats
- 83 Examined quickly
- 86 Shaped like an egg
- 88 Amino and boric
- 89 Mocked
- 93 Broken-arm holders
- 96 Rides a 10-speed, say
- 97 Rich dessert
- 98 Intense passion
- 100 Egyptian symbol of life
- 102 Airport area
- 103 Work in human resources
- 104 Banned bug-killer
- 105 Fish eggs
- 106 Small hotel
- 107 Mason's trough
- 109 Bit of sun
- 110 Galena or feldspar
- 111 Come in first place
- 112 Center court sight

Last Week's Solution:



Classifieds

ABC NOTICE



Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control
2901 Hermitage Road / P.O. Box 27481, Richmond, VA 23281
www.abc.virginia.gov

RETAIL LICENSE APPLICATION—PART 2 (POSTING AND PUBLISHING)

PUBLISHING NOTICE

Please publish the following item in the legal notice section of your newspaper. Please refer to the instructions provided on page 8.

(Full name(s) of owner(s)) Salon Day LLC
If general partnership, enter partners' names or name of partnership; if LP, LLP, LLC or corporation, enter name as recorded with the State Corporation Commission; if association or tax-exempt private club, enter name. Only if a sole proprietor, enter first, middle and last name.

Trading as: Salon Day
(trade name)

1701 Belle View Blvd Apt A2
(street address where business will trade)

Alexandria
(city/town)

Fairfax City
(county) Virginia 22307-6723
(state) (zip + 4)

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Day Spa license
(type of license(s) applied for)

to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

ANN DAU LE OWNER
(name and title of owner/partner/authorizing advertisement)

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-1200.

800-552-1200 This is an official state document. No information contained or submitted herein is public information. Please refer to (state statute) § 5 regarding permissible information. Release restrictions (provide applicable) with questions. Retail License Application, page 11

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Must have knowledge of computers, use of Medical Managers system helpful. Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30 - 5:00 in Alexandria Mt Vernon area.

Please contact Nancy at hfswanmd@aol.com with subject line "resume".

NOTICE

ST. ASAPH SQUARE CONDOMINIUMS MULTI FAMILY YARD SALE! SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

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AD NETWORK CLASSIFIEDS - September 13, 2015

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REAL ESTATE AUCTION

AUCTION - VP Dan Quayle's former personal Residence. WEDNESDAY 9/16 6p.m., McLean, Virginia. 1.84-acres, 5-Bedroom, 4 1/2-Bath, InGround Pool, Original List: \$1,595,000, 1013 Union Church Road, McLean 22102 www.PrimeAuctionSolutions.com, CALL 703-495-7500 VA 2908000975

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DIVORCE - Uncontested, \$350 + \$88 court cost. No court appearance. Estimated completion time twenty-one days. Telephone inquiries welcome - no obligation. Hilton Oliver, Attorney. 757-490-0126. Se Habla Español.

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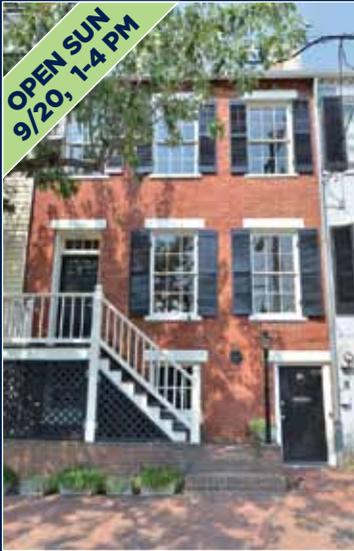
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Make Your Own History in an Old Town Residence



319 South Pitt Street

Hugging the brick sidewalk in true nineteenth century fashion is this three-bedroom, three-and-a-half-bath, brick townhouse bringing the past into the present. Refinished wood floors, six fireplaces, original woodwork and tall ceilings are complemented by recent baths and a Southern Kitchens kitchen. A ground level room with bath and separate street access adds to the conveniences of this engaging home where an “outdoor room” with ceiling fan contributes to the enchantment of a two-tiered garden with ornamental pond and fountain. Walk to the varied delights of Old Town including shops, restaurants, parks and schools while living amidst colonial charm. Offered at \$1,195,000.

411 South Lee Street

Two centuries of sunshine have permeated this beautifully renovated, eighteenth century, semi-detached home with three bedrooms and two and a half baths. Well-proportioned formal rooms with refinished floors and period woodwork are augmented by a “today” kitchen and family room opening to a deep, enchanting garden with access to both Lee Street and Wolfe Street. Additional improvements include radiant bathroom floors, ceiling fans, organized closets, stainless appliances, a wine cellar and programmable thermostat. The conveniences of today are nicely blended with the charm of an early Alexandria residence located within a few moments’ walk of Lee Street park and the river. Offered at \$1,219,000.

Poised to help with any and all real estate needs, whether advising on home improvement projects, preparing and listing a house for the market, offering a current market analysis to value your investment, or helping purchasers find that perfect dream house, Lauren looks forward to hearing from you.



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