$1,187,000
A spacious 2 story addition has transformed this beautiful 5 bedroom, 4.5 bath (3,100 sq. ft.) home. Sit back from the road with perennial gardens and a manicured lawn. Gouchois living room with fireplace and formal dining room. Kitchen with granite counters and breakfast bar with adjoining sunroom and family room with vaulted ceilings, wet bar and fireplace. Glass doors open to a fabulous screened porch and deck with stairs to the yard. Upper level with 4 bedrooms including the Master suite with vaulted ceiling, walk-in closet and a luxury bath. Finished attic with bedroom and full bath plus a lower level guest/nanny suite with kitchen.

$1,075,000
Gorgeous 5 bedroom, 4 bath craftsman home with appx. 3,950 sq. ft. of well designed living space on a large professionally landscaped lot with extensive hardscape. Foyer entry welcomes you to the living room with stone fireplace and formal dining room with wet bar. Gourmet kitchen and adjoining family room with French doors to the beautiful patio, ideal for outdoor entertaining. Main level bedroom with full bath and 2nd level with 3 bedrooms including a magnificent Owner’s Suite with sitting area, 2 walk-in closets and luxury on suite bath. Spacious 3rd level with full bath is ideal for a 5th bedroom or 2nd family room.

$1,049,000
Spacious 5 bedroom, 3 bath home with appx. 3500 sq. ft. of living space in a 2 car detached garage and ideal location! Lots of 180° of charm with hardwood flooring, crown molding and custom woodwork throughout. Spacious foyer entry with French doors to the dining room with fireplace and dining room. Large eat in kitchen with stainless steel appliances and fridge. Large family room and bonus room. Large fenced yard with huge shed and patio. Lower level recreation room, ample closet and storage space.

$869,000
Totally renovated and expanded 3 bedroom, 3 bath home with garage. Sun filled living room with fireplace with adjoining family room with access to the backyard. Spacious eat in kitchen with breakfast bar, SS appliances and 42” Maple cabinets and has access to the driveway for easy unloading. Large family room with fireplace. Fabulous Great Room with gourmet kitchen, breakfast area and family room with french doors to a large deck, yard and adjoining utility and workshop. Two master level bedrooms and 2 full baths including the Master suite with 2 large walk-in closets and a luxury bath with double vanities and oversized shower. Lower level with access to the driveway features a spacious 3rd bedroom, full bath, storage & laundry room.

$879,500
Wonderfully updated 2/3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhome with off street parking just steps from 2 Metro stoa- tions. Lots of “Old World” charm yet updated with today’s modern ameni- ties. Welcoming front porch and foyer entry with half bath. Light filled living room and formal dining room with adjoining sunroom and kitchen. Kitchen features granite counters and breakfast bar, 35 appliances and 42” Maple cabinets and has access to the driveway for easy unloading of groceries. Upper level with 2 bedrooms and gorgeous bath with heated floor, double vanity and oversized shower. Lower level is ideal for the in-laws, full bath and walk-in closet is perfect for a family room or guest suite. Large fenced yard with huge shed and patio.

$639,000
Dramatically spacious 6 bedroom, 5 bath home attached garage on a large lot! Lot. Two story foyer entry with sleeve entry to the living room with bay window and gas fireplace. Dining room open to kitchen with granite breakfast bar, SS appliances and 42” rata- nyl Cherry cabinets. Two main level bedrooms with 3 baths and 2 se- cond bedrooms with 2 baths includ- ing the Owner’s Suite with luxury en suite bath and walk-in closet. Lower level with outside access features 2 bedrooms, full bath, kitchenette, family room and bonus room. Large fenced yard with brick patio and deck.

$259,000
Beautifully updated 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo in great location just a couple of blocks from south side shops, restaurants and the waterfront. Living room and separate dining room with adjacent kitchen featuring granite counters, 35 appliances including a wine fridge. Updated bath with vessel sink and bathroom with 2 closets plus a large walk-in in the hallway. Hard- wood floors throughout, assigned parking and 2 year warranty.

Dell Ray

$949,000
Spectacular 3 bedroom, 3,55 bath townhouse with attached 2 car garage with over 3,400 sq. ft. of luxury living. Desirable open floor plan features 9’ ceilings, crown molding and wainscotting, 2 sided fireplace and glass walled hot tub on main and lower levels. Chef’s kitchen with granite center island and breakfast area. Upper level with 3 bedrooms and 2 full baths including the Master suite with 2 walk-in closets and luxury on suite bath. The 4th level has a spacious fam- ily room with full bath and access to a roof top deck. Entry level with foyer, recreation room and study. Conve- nient to parks and playground, shops and restaurants. 2 rights to D.C.

Potomac Greens

$1,187,000

Quaker Ridge

DEL RAY

$1,049,000

COLLEGE PARK - COMING SOON

$869,000

Old Town/Bearings South

$639,000

POTOMAC GREENS

$949,000

DEL RAY

$879,500

DEL RAY

$799,500

DEL RAY

$259,000

Quaker Ridge

Old Town/Bearings South

DEL RAY

DEL RAY

DEL RAY

DEL RAY

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PUBLISHER’S NOTE

I’m still asked almost daily so it’s probably time I explain again why we are called the Zebra Press. I wanted a “horse of a different stripe” in our town, a printed product that shared the good news about your businesses and your kids and pets and our community, spiced up with a few interesting tidbits enjoyable no matter where you lived. Playing off the very old newspaper joke that a newspaper is black and white and READ all over, I needed a zippy name and Zebra was perfect! What else is black and white and READ all over, besides a horse?}

I’m also taking a run at beefing up our presence on the social media “highways” and I always I can be contacted directly at debbyc@thezebrapress.com.

We proofread, but occasionally I’m also taking a run at beefing up our presence on the social media “highways” and I always I can be contacted directly at debbyc@thezebrapress.com.

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Zebra Spotted on waterfront in Pasadena, MD

Teni Sade was caught catching some rays and reading through her copy of the March Zebra in Pasadena, MD. Send photos of Zebra around the world, and we’ll publish them as well as send you a gift certificate from Del Ray Variety!

WHAT BUGS ME

I can’t begin to tell you how many restaurants I have been at where my server comes to the table and asks: Are you still working on that? I am assuming the server is referring to whether I have finished eating my meal. When I sit down for a meal, I may eat, dine, consume or sup. What I don’t do is work. When did eating become work? Servers, please just ask me if I am finished with my meal or if I am done eating. Thanks.

Do you have something that bugs you? Send me your pet peeve and see if I am finished with my meal or if I am done eating. Thanks.

Do you have something that bugs you? Send me your pet peeve and see it in print. debbyc@thezebrapress.com

Barbara Juszczynski

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Do you have something that bugs you? Send me your pet peeve and see it in print. debbyc@thezebrapress.com
CHER ‘MOONSTRUCK’ OVER LOCAL WOMAN’S PLIGHT

Cher, the singer and actress, is coming Alexandria to the rescue of a 96-year-old Virginia woman who wants to return to her Alexandria home after losing her sweetheart, according to The New York Times and other media outlets.

It’s the stuff of romance: Edith Hill, 96, married Eddie Harrison, 95, after the two met in line buying a lottery ticket together. The two were newlyweds, married last year in Alexandria.

The two made headlines because of their age when they married, and the fact that they were an interracial couple. Hill is black and Harrison, who died in December, was white.

The two were separated last year, after a family squabble. Not all family members approved of the marriage, saying Hill was suffering from dementia at the time. The couple’s marriage got caught up in a court dispute, after one of Hill’s daughters said her mother’s dementia was clouding decisions about her care and home.

Their story made headlines across the country. A court decision in December separated the newlyweds. Two weeks after Hill moved to Florida, Harrison passed away. Now, Hill wants to return to Florida to live with one of her daughters, the newlyweds. Two weeks after Hill moved, her church is here, along with her home mother says she wants to spend the rest of her days — her church is here, along with her home and other places she loves.

“Once they do the repairs and she comes back home, it’s going to be bittersweet because she only wanted to be with him.”

The entertainer was captured by Hill’s romantic story last year when she saw it on the news, she said. In addition to stepping in to pay for updating the home on Alexandria’s Princess Street, Cher also reportedly plans to help with expenses of hiring someone to care for Hill.

“Mom’s coming home!” said Hill’s daughter, Rebecca Wright, of Amanda. Wright had been the biggest supporter of Hill and Harrison’s marriage.

In December, a court-appointed guardian for Hill, Jessica Nissen, had Hill moved to Florida to live with another daughter. Harrison stayed in Virginia. Later that month, Harrison died.

“He actually gave his life to this effort,” said Harrison and his battle to have his union with Hill recognized and to live with his wife. Wright said he was heartbroken when Hill was moved to Florida and gloomy about his prospects of ever seeing her again. The two had been companions for more than a decade before they married.

The custody case over Hill remains ongoing, despite the judge’s order that Hill be returned to Alexandria. Wright says Alexandria is the best place for her mother, and the place that her mother says she wants to spend the rest of her days — her church is here, along with her home and other places she loves.

Plan Approved for “New” Old Dominion Boat Club

City Council unanimously approved the new building, the architecture and the design of the surrounding areas that include the parking lot and grounds.

The relocation project is part of the property transfer agreement between ODUC and the City in order to relocate the existing club house and parking lot from its current King Street location, thus opening up that site for implementation of the Waterfront Plan’s recommendation for a new public park at the foot of King Street near Fitzgerald Square.

This is a major step towards the realization of the City’s Waterfront Plan,” said Mayor William D. Euille. “This project came about from good faith negotiations and perseverance from both parties.”

Rob Krupicka Calls Public Office a Day

Rob Krupicka announced that he does not plan to run again for the Virginia House of Delegates. Krupicka represented the 45th District which includes parts of Alexandria, Arlington and Fairfax County. He served on the Alexandria City Council from 2003 to 2012.

Krupicka recently opened Sugar Shack, a donut shop in Alexandria at 904 N. Henry St, that will also feature an adjacent “speakeasy.”

In a statement he recently released, Krupicka wrote, “Serving the people of Alexandria, Arlington, and Fairfax has been one of the greatest honors of my life. For the past 12 years, I have had the chance to serve as an elected official in one of the most vibrant, diverse, critically-engaged places in the United States. It is always humbling to talk to my constituents because they always know so much about so many issues and they always teach me something.

Wetland Restoration Starts at Four Mile Run Park

As part of the Four Mile Run Restoration Project, the City of Alexandria awarded the Four Mile Run Park wetland restoration project to Environmental Quality Resources (EQR). EQR will be on site to eradicate invasive species. During this time, the wetland area will be closed to the public.

In summer through winter 2015, EQR will remove, lower, and terrace the riverside portion of Four Mile Run from both parties.”

Plan Ahead. Pay it Forward.
A Royal Visit to George Washington’s Mount Vernon

His Royal Highness, Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall, Camilla Parker-Bowles toured George Washington’s Mount Vernon Estate as part of their recent Washington D.C. visit. At Mount Vernon, the royal couple were greeted by Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe, Curt Viebranz, President, Mount Vernon Estate; Barbara Lucas, Regent, Mount Vernon Ladies Association and Carol Cadou, Senior VP for Historic Preservation & Collections. Like George Washington, Prince Charles has always shared an interest in organic farming, and was provided a tour of the Pioneer Farm located on the estate.

On the porch at Mount Vernon overlooking the Potomac River are Barbara Lucas, Regent, Mount Vernon Ladies’ Association; Prince Charles, Camilla, Senior VP for Historic Preservation and Collections and Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe.

Beyer Chosen to Speak at 17th Annual Business Philanthropy Summit

“We are thrilled to have Congressman Beyer as our speaker for this year’s summit,” said Marion Brunken, Executive Director for Volunteer Alexandria. “Congressman Beyer has demonstrated throughout the years that he is dedicated to serving our community. Beyond his work as an elected official, he has spent his time and energy supporting numerous local charitable organizations. His dedication has been invaluable.”

Congressman Beyer has worked with a number of charitable organizations in Alexandria and the Commonwealth of Virginia. After finishing his tenure as Lt. Governor of Virginia, he served as chairman of Jobs for Virginia Graduates, Virginia’s most successful high school drop-out prevention program. For three years, he served as President of Youth for Tomorrow, a home for troubled adolescent boys. In addition, he spent a decade on the board of the D.C. Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnanacy. His work has also been recognized through several awards, including the James C. Wheat Jr. Award for Service to Virginians with Disabilities.

“I am honored to speak at the Volunteer Alexandria Business Philanthropy Summit,” said Congressman Beyer. “We are so lucky to live and work in a district where so many business and nonprofit leaders contribute to the City’s betterment. The May summit is a tremendous opportunity to showcase the best of the civic engagement that makes Alexandria so special.”

“MERCY STREET” CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

roll in Alexandria, but they will.

Set in 1862 in the Mansion House in Union-occupied Alexandria, Va., the show is focused on the professional and personal trials and tribulations of the staff. The hospital was located at Princess Street and N. Fairfax Street in Alexandria.

The hotel/hospital is described by Visit Alexandria as: “A grand hotel before the war, the building that once surrounded the Carlyle House was known as the Mansion House Hospital and could hold up to 700 sick and wounded soldiers. Nurse Mary Phinney volunteered as nurses, and thousands of escaped slaves got their first taste of freedom,” Wolfinger said earlier this year, in a release from PBS.

“The locus of Alexandria at this time as a crossroads of North and South, war and peace, old and new, offers a wealth of characters and situations that is a gift for a storyteller and a perfect setting for a great American story,” Zabel said.

“Doctors, faced with mass casualties on an unprecedented scale, pushed the boundaries of medical science, women left the confines of the home and volunteered as nurses, and thousands of escaped slaves got their first taste of freedom,” Wolfinger said.

“All of these elements come together in Alexandria’s Mansion House Hospital — a dysfunctional and unpredictable world filled with conflict and passion,” she said. “Our characters (many based on real people) are colorful, complicated and completely relatable. This series is not about battles and glory; it’s about the drama and unexpected humor of everyday life behind the front lines. It’s a new twist on an iconic story, one that resonates with larger themes we still struggle with today.”

The program is executive produced by Ridley Scott/Scott Free Productions, Gladston, Thelma & Louise, David W. Zucker ER, The Good Wife and Wolfinger’s Mercy Street will premier early next year, airing on Sundays, according to PBS.
City of Alexandria Improves Animal Licensing Process

Animal licensing program now includes a new online option. Pet owners may now register dogs or cats, or renew existing licenses, by visiting www.alexandriaanimals.org/licensing.

Online customers can upload required documentation and pay license fees by credit card, and multiple pets may be licensed in the same transaction. A permanent license tag for each animal will then be delivered by mail. To improve the efficiency and security of processing and payment data, online registration is handled by a third-party vendor under contract with the City.

City Code requires all dogs and cats over the age of four months to be licensed, and requires each owner to obtain a license within 30 days of acquiring the pet or moving into the City of Alexandria. Licensing and enforcement helps the City plan resources like dog parks and animal control services. The City of Alexandria and the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria encourage pet owners to spay or neuter their pets to avoid overpopulation.

The one-year license fee is $10 for an altered (spayed or neutered) dog (with a $5 discount for owners age 65 and older), or $30 for an unaltered dog. The one-year license fee is $2 for an altered cat, or $10 for an unaltered cat. Depending on the length of the animal’s rabies vaccination, a multi-year dog license is available for $25 (altered) or $75 (unaltered), and a multi-year cat license is available for $5 (altered) or $25 (unaltered). Each license expires at the end of the month in which the pet’s rabies vaccination expires. There is no penalty for licensing a previously unlicensed pet.

In addition to the new online option, customers may continue to license pets in person and by mail. All customers must provide a copy of each animal’s rabies certificate. To obtain a license fee discount for pet owners age 65 years and older, or a license fee discount for spayed or neutered pets, documentation is required. All checks for license fees should be made payable to City of Alexandria.

A Memorial for the Fallen

The Alexandria Police Department have unveiled a new memorial to honor the city’s 18 fallen officers. Featuring five glass panels listing the names of the officers, there are also benches with plaques, and a history timeline.

The Alexandria Police Department is among those with the highest rates of officers killed in the line of duty in Virginia, following the Virginia State Police and the Richmond Police Department. The Alexandria Police Memorial was constructed after members of the community raised $400,000 for its construction. It will be periodic pedestrian and cyclist detours in the Park. as a buffer between the proposed emergent tidal wetland and freshwater marsh. An upland trail will be included to serve species will be planted in the area. The improvement will establish and restore the historic wetlands prior to the 1970's community raised $400,000 for its construction.

Lights Out for Budget Reasons

Consistent with the City’s FY 2015 budget appropriation, the Annual King Street Holiday Lights display will be suspended until the third week of November and continue through March 31, 2016.

Young Entrepreneurs Academy Starts in Alexandria

The Alexandria Chamber of Commerce has announced the establishment of The Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!) program in Alexandria. YEA!, an innovative program that transforms local middle and high school students into real entrepreneurial successes, is slated to launch in the fall of 2015 at the Alexandria campus of George Mason University’s School of Policy, Government, and International Affairs.

YEA! takes students between the ages of 11 and 18 through the process of starting and launching a real business or social movement over the course of an academic year. By the end of the class, students own and operate fully-functioning, functioning businesses, which may be carried on after their graduation from the program YEA! aims to teach students at an early age how to “make a job” and is the pre-college program developed by an entrepreneur, at a university, with support from a major entrepreneurial foundation, the Kauffman Foundation and the United States Chamber of Commerce.

“We are excited about this expansion and specifically chose George Mason University because of its reputation for academic excellence and emphasis on community involvement,” said Gayle Jagel, the CEO and Founder of the Young Entrepreneurs Academy.

“One of the most interesting components of the YEA! program is the actual ‘behind the scenes’ knowledge that local business leaders are able to share with students,” said Chamber President & CEO, John Long. “This experience is something they will be able to apply to any field they choose to enter, and will provide them with the necessary skills to become future leaders of their industries.”

Changes in Alexandria’s Office of Management and Budget

Acting City Manager Mark B. Jinks announced that Nel- sie L. Birch, Director of Management and Budget, will resign effective April 18, 2015 to accept a position with the Government of the District of Co- lumbia. Birch will oversee a portfolio of departments, includ- ing Human Resources, Information Technology, General Services, Human Rights, Contracting and Procurement, Public Works, and Motor Vehicles.

“Nelsie has been a leader and innovator in Al- exandria,” said Jinks. “She helped usher in a new budget philosophy to align long-term outcomes with service delivery, and incorporated extensive community engagement to make our budget more responsive and transparent.”

Birch joined the City in 2012 as Director. In addition to overseeing the development of the City’s annual operating budget and capital im- provement program, she is responsible for management analysis and innovation initia- tives.

Jinks also announced that Morgan E. Routt will serve as Acting Di- rector until a perma- nent Director is select- ed. “Morgan has helped develop the last 16 an- nual City budgets,” said Jinks. “I am confident that Morgan will oversee a seamless transition to complete the budget development process.”

Routt joined the City in 1999 as a Budget Analyst, and became Assistant Director in 2010. In addition to his role within the City’s budget team, he has represented the City in the develop- ment of the Washington Metropolitan Area Tran- sportation Authority’s FY2011 to FY2016 capital funding agreement, as a member of the financial working group on the start-up of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, and currently on the Waste-to-Energy facility monitoring group.

Card online at www.wmata.com/fares/smartrip, at any Metrorail Station, at the Alexandria Transit-Store located across from the King Street Metro at 1775 C Duke St., at Alexandria CVS and Giant Locations and area Commuter Stores. In addition to paying with your SmarTrip(r) Card to ride DASH, customers can always pay the $1.60 fare with cash or use DASH’s deeply discounted, money-saving monthly DASH Pass. The monthly DASH Pass is good for unlimited rides on all DASH buses, on all routes, any direction, for a full calendar month, and costs $40. The DASH Pass is available in electronic form for your SmarTrip(r) Card or in paper form. The DASH Pass provides a free, four-hour transfer.
AWARDS HIGHLIGHT IMPACT OF WOMEN IN ALEXANDRIA

Shining a spotlight on the distinguished work of women in our community was at the heart of the Alexandria Commission for Women's 35th Annual Salute to Women Awards Banquet at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's Madison Auditorium.

Nearly 200 attendees came out to honor 11 outstanding women nominated by fellow Alexandrians for their valuable community contributions, and their impact on the well-being of Alexandria's women.

This year, the event commemorated the 40th Anniversary of the Alexandria Sexual Assault Center. The awards are held annually with support from the Alexandria Department of Community and Human Services during Women's History Month. Serving as emcee, Julie Carey of News4 NBC recognized the awardees alongside members of the Commission for Women, friends of the Commission and the City Council.

2015 Salute to Women Award Recipients:

Ashley McNeff Behrens, Leadership in Business and Career Development Award; Ginny Hill-Obranovich, Making a Difference Award; LaDonna Sanders, Rising Star Award; Zauhirah Tipu, Youth Community Services Award-Youth; Lorraine Friedman, Youth Community Services Award-Adults; Valerie Wright, Women's Health and Safety Advocate Award; Cynthia Anderson, Magaretta Payer Leadership Award; Joan Singer, Donna Bergheim Cultural Affairs Award; Suzanne Maxey, Marian Van Landingham Legislation and Public Policy Award; Laurie Meyer (In Memoriam).

Proceeds from this event support the City of Alexandria's Sexual Assault Center, which provides critical services to victims of sexual assault, including a 24-hour hotline that offers victim advocacy, counseling, support services and school education programs.

Over 200 people gathered for the 8th Annual Meet the Legends Reception on March 19 at the Patent & Trademark Office Madison Building. Guests included the 2015 Living Legends of Alexandria: Kathleen Baker, Kate Campbell Stevenson representing Marga Fripp, Fred Parker, Alice P. Morgan, John Chapman, Laurie Meyer (In Memoriam), Vola Lawson Award and Brookside Koopman, Susan Lowell Butler Lifetime Achievement Award.

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Proceeds from this event support the City of Alexandria's Sexual Assault Center, which provides critical services to victims of sexual assault, including a 24-hour hotline that offers victim advocacy, counseling, support services and school education programs.
Students Glimpse First Family Dogs at the White House Easter Egg Roll

Students from Cora Kelly School for Math, Science and Technology and William Ramay Elementary School rolled eggs down the South Lawn of the White House on Monday as part of the White House Easter Egg Roll.

They used wooden spoons to race their colored hard boiled eggs down the gentle slope to a backdrop of cheering teachers and music by well-known bands, but ahead of the starting whistle, however, all eyes looked up at the First Family’s two dogs Bo and Sunny bounded across the lawn of the West Wing. The Portuguese Water Dogs were on a leash held by a member of the president’s security team.

“The children couldn’t believe it. It was a really fun thing to see and completely unexpected. They were really excited to see the dogs run across the lawn and everyone just stopped and stared,” said Cora Kelly Assistant Principal Tanisha Martin. “Everything at the Easter Egg Roll was so special that right from the start when they got temporary tattoos to the final egg dyeing activity it was a fun experience that these children will probably never forget.”

The students were among 35,000 children, their parents, teachers, musical performers and celebrity guests invited to the day-long event hosted by President Obama and first lady Michelle Obama. In addition to the egg roll, children could take part in an egg hunt, egg dying and egg crafts and listen to music by Doug E. Fresh and girl group Fifth Harmony.

Students also got to watch TV hosts Kelly Ripa and Michael Strahan of Live! with Kelly and Michael broadcast their show from the White House while they were there. Unfortunately, their tuned wrist bands meant they were ushered out minutes before the President and first lady came out onto the lawn.

This year’s theme for the 137th egg roll is #GimmeFive, challenging Americans to make five healthy lifestyle changes. It’s part of the fifth anniversary celebration for the First Lady’s “Let’s Move!” campaign. Activity and exercise stations were set up across the South Lawn featuring hands-on training with professional athletes and healthy cooking demonstrations from celebrity chefs, such as Bobby Flay and Gail Simmons.

“The students had a fantastic time. It was a great opportunity for them. We learned how to make new inventions, dyed eggs, saw magic and famous people,” said William Ramay counselor Wanda Weaver who accompanied fifth-grade students from the school.

The White House egg roll dates to the 1800s, when local children would roll eggs down the Capitol Hill grounds the Monday after Easter. Annoyed by the crowds, Congress passed an act banning the event. In 1878, children eggs down the Capitol Hill grounds the Monday after Easter. Announced by the growing crowds, Congress passed an act banning the event. In 1878, children asked President Rutherford B. Hayes to host the egg roll in his backyard. Since then, it has become the largest annual event held at the White House.

Arlington Ranks #7 on National ‘Most Hipster’ List

Arlington has come in #7 among the “Most Hipster Cities” (we know; it’s a country in the nation, according to findthehome.com. What constitutes a hip city? Findthehome.com says it has to do with four things: age, education, yoga studios and cafes.

“We first decided to only look at cities with over 50,000 people that also had a high population of people between the ages of 20 and 34. Then we looked at the cities with a fairly educated population (a high percentage of residents with at least a Bachelor’s Degree), many cafes and yoga studios. We calculated a composite score for each city by multiplying the number of yoga studios per 10K people with cafes per 10K people, and used this final number to rank the cities.”

Here are the top 10 Hippest Cities in America, according to Findthehome.com: Hoboken, NJ; Ames, IA; Boulder, CO; Cambridge, MA; College Station, TX; Somerville, MA; Arlington, VA; Auburn, AL; Santa Monica, CA and Davis, CA.
ALEXANDRIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HOSTS LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

The Alexandria Chamber of Commerce hosted members of City Council and the Virginia General Assembly at its annual Legislative Breakfast at the Hotel Monaco.

City representatives participating in the event, which was presented by Dominion Power, were Mayor Bill Euille, Vice Mayor Allison Silberberg and council members John Chapman, Del Pepper, Paul Smedberg and Justin Wilson. Virginia state senators George Barker, Adam Ebbin and Del Charlene Herring were also in attendance.

This informative roundtable discussion commenced with the state delegations discussing the recently concluded General Assembly session. Each representative highlighted what he or she considered the most significant results from that session. High on each of their lists was workforce development and how it is impacting our Northern Virginia region.

City Council members then revealed several issues they felt were significant in the current council session including parking, the waterfront, the development of Landmark Mall, Carlyle and Eisenhower East/West Districts expansion including an update about the forthcoming National Science Center and expansion plans around Van Dorn Metro, as well as the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station.

“We are pleased to host an enthusiastic crowd to quiz our elected officials on upcoming challenges in the region,” John Long, President & CEO of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce acknowledged. “This event provided a forum for our members to meet directly with their local elected officials and discuss the issues most important to them.”

The chamber also used the occasion to announce that it will be hosting a mayoral debate sometime in May. More information about this debate will be posted on the Chamber’s website as it becomes available: www.alexchamber.com

The Alexandria Chamber of Commerce is one of the oldest chambers in the country, having been founded in 1906, before the United States Chamber of Commerce.
Hunting Creek Opens on King Street

Alexandria Chamber members and staff joined Mayor Eulelle and former Governor Gilmore in welcoming Hunting Creek to King Street, owner Mike Nayeri, who also owns a La Lucia, has renovated the former Notting Hill, les Galois space and turned it into a warm and welcoming steak house. After the ribbon cutting, Chamber guests were treated to a delicious sampling of Hunting Creek selections. Photo courtesy of Alexandria Chamber of Commerce.

As usual, there are lots of openings and changes coming to Alexandria this month. Aldi is coming to Alexandria like a horde of locusts. In addition to the stores that will replace the former Magruder on Van Dorn and the former Mango Miles on Duke St., Aldi’s is also planning to take over the Giant on Monroe St. They will be enclosing the front area to add almost 1700 sq. ft. to the store.

Dolci Gelati is coming soon to 107 N. Fairfax St. in Old Town Alexandria, according to papers filed with the City Planning Commission. Dolci Gelati is currently in Takoma Park and the DC Shaw neighborhood. Expect gelato, shaved ice granitas, pastries, coffee and bottled drinks. Gianluigi Dellaccio uses an authentic Italian recipe that has been in his family for generations and mixes in local ingredients and exotic flavors to create a modern twist to a traditional Italian favorite, according to the company Web site. There will be limited seating available. Proposed hours are 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. weekdays, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturdays, and 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Sundays.

More sweetness will arrive on April 7 when Kim Gustafson and Bruce Gustafson open Blueprint Chocolatier at 1001 King St. Specialties will include “truffles, bonbons and chocolates in whimsical flavors (solo, or gift boxed),” according to their Web site. You will also find espresso, coffee, tea, and hot chocolate.

The Del Ray Business Association will hold a ribbon-cutting Saturday, April 11, at 9 a.m. to celebrate the grand opening of Emma’s Espresso and Wine Bar, owned by Connie Desmonier and daughter Jackie Desmonier, in Del Ray. After the ribbon cutting, look for specials and special events planned throughout the day to celebrate Emma’s grand opening. Located at 104 Hume Ave., the business was named for the 1925 Emma P. Hume subdivision, where the business resides. The eatery is open daily from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., except Sundays and Mondays, when the hours are 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

I found a great way to have a delicious dinner at home on Thursday nights without cooking. Harris Teeter features a prime rib dinner for $9.99. Each flavorful, well-seasoned slab is accompanied by roasted potatoes and a fresh vegetable. The serving is large enough for 2 dinners for me. For just a little bit more work and a little more money, pick up a Thursday Little Big Meal at The Fresh Market in the Bradlee Shopping Center. They provide a choice of protein, vegetables, seasonings, and a carb like potatoes or rice. The meal makes enough for 4 meals.

I love brunch. There are lots of other good brunch places throughout the area. I always order the Eggs Benedict. They get it right every time. Lots of other wonderful dishes to try too. Fireflys, 1501 Mt. Vernon Ave., offers live bluegrass music. The Evening Star Café, 2000 Mt. Vernon Ave., is a perennial favorite of mine. I always order the Eggs Benedict. They get it right every time.

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CONTINUED ON PAGE 11
Foodie News ... CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

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If you prefer buffets, there are lots of choices. Raaga provides a Sunday Indian brunch buffet. There is a wonderful mix of vegetarian and meat dishes from mild to spicy. The Liberty Tavern at 3195 Wilson Blvd., offers a wonderful brunch.

The restaurant is housed in a restored historic property. The buffet is upstairs in the main dining room and offers thick-sliced French toast, several varieties of eggs, quiche, fried chicken, smoked salmon, and nice assortment of desserts. An old stand-by for brunch is the Royal Restaurant at 734 N. St. Asaph St. They feature made to order omelets and waffles. This is plain good food, nothing fancy, just good home style cooking.

Last but not least, The Zebra and Foodie News is proud to be recognized by the Harris Teeter on St. Asaph. Senior management liked the write up of their new store and presented a framed copy of the article to Sharon, the store manager. Thank you Harris Teeter.

FOODIE NEWS ... CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

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At 1807 King Street is the Antiek Haus, which Steve Young opened in 2003. With an unbelievably rich collection of paintings, sculpture, china, porcelain and many other collectibles abounding, it is obvious he has had the eye, the opportunities and the well-traveled background it takes to assemble everything you’ll see inside. If you’re a collector like me, this place is a dream come true because the emphasis is on the work itself and not so much the slickness of a popularly-found gallery.

This place is like many, very sought-after art destinations in major art cities of the world. There are three connecting rooms, very narrow (one person at a time can get by) and you won’t see much of the walls for they are stacked with every manner and style of work and fine art, arranged in such a way that only an art lover would understand. You’ll have to look and choose very carefully though and Steve will give you the provenance and suggest a price. The prices I saw, from my longtime gallery business experience, are very reasonable and way below what would be the going retail cost of similar pieces. The real attraction is the wide choice and styles of paintings in the collection. In fact, it was a great surprise to find so many significant Russian artists available. Since I have a special concern and affinity for Russian art and artists it was wonderful to see vintage and modern paintings, landscapes, watercolors, portraits and florals. Some of you will know that works coming out of Russia by Russian artists are becoming scarcer as the political gaps tighten again.

Within the collection there are several paintings by Dutch, German and other European known artists. Prominently displayed are a few appealing, realistic landscape and water scenes by Moscow painter, Goluska, as well as another Moscovite, Gusev. On a table to the left, as you enter, there’s a particularly nice bucolic/pastoral scene by Nikolai Bagdanov. And so the rooms go on and on filled with large and small jewels towards the ceiling is a typically Russian church scene by Nikolai Bagdanov. And so the rooms begin again, after 20+ years of openness, are becoming scarce as the political gaps tighten again.

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How to create a vanity license plate in Virginia

BY TOM SHERMAN

Long before she designed a license plate commemorating native pollinators, Alexandria resident Sam Gallagher always liked bees. Even in grade school, when her principal instructors should have been acutely aware of their evolutionary danger.

While children on the playground were scared of bees, Gallagher said she “always knew they were harmless” and wanted to help the persecuted insects. She embraced bees as her own. Gallagher decorated her binders with their images, collected anything bee-related, and talked incessantly about the insects. As the year wore on, classmates realized that bees were both friendly and harmless, and soon joined her crusade.

“The end of the year, my whole class was obsessed with bees,” says Gallagher. “I’m sure my teacher just thought ‘oh God, what are all these kids doing?’” Apparently, they were trying to save the world a few decades too early. In recent years the pollinator population has been in dire straits—Virginia only has 35% of the bee population compared to the 1970s, according to Virginia Department of Agriculture statistics.

Meanwhile, agriculture is a $52 billion business in the state, and pollinators play a crucial role helping crops mature and flower.

Gallagher continued her life as a staunch advocate for bees and pollinators, but decided to make the plate after a frustrating trip to the DMV. When she and her husband moved to Alexandria from out of state they were astounded by the array of customized license plates available (current total is over 200 different plates). The pair scoured them all to find one designated for pollinators.

“There were so many plates for specific conservation groups and causes we figured there had to be one for pollinators. There was even a Parrot Head plate for fans of Jimmy Buffett,” she said with a laugh. “Jimmy Buffett, in a way, is the nicest lady in the whole world.” Rather than buy the “most painful” aspect of her endeavor was one person at the DMV to go through, who is taking a long time, Gallagher said there was only one person at the DMV to go through, who is “the nicest lady in the whole world.”

To get a new plate minted, the approximate “best case scenario” timeline is nine months, according to a DMV memo on special interest group license plate development. So Gallagher set about on her new mission to get “Protect Pollinators” plates on the road in no time. That was in 2010.

However, before any punchlines about DMV taking a long time, Gallagher said there was only one person at the DMV to go through, who is “the nicest lady in the whole world.” Rather than buy the “nicest lady in the whole world.”

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So the got a business license and bank account to give the cause an air of legitimacy (“although I just as easily could have taken the money then, too, I suppose”) and decided to put the “active” in activist.

For four years she was as busy as bee, attending Earth Day events, nature festivals, and conservation days—anything tangentially connected with pollinators. While a backdrop of the rolling green mountains of the Shenandoah. The plate features only native Virginia pollinators: seven species of bees, an eastern tiger swallowtail (the state butterfly), a monarch butterfly, and a ruby-throated hummingbird.

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Ana Bonilla-Galdamez, a school social worker known for her work in turning around students who are gang members, has become the only school social worker from Virginia in 50 years to win the prestigious National Social Worker of the Year Award.

Bonilla-Galdamez is a social worker at Charles Barrett Elementary School and a former social worker and gang counseling specialist at the Minnie Howard Campus of T.C. Williams High School. She will receive her award at a reception in Washington, D.C. this month.

“This is an honor, but it’s really an award for all the kids I’ve worked with. They gave me permission to enter their lives and be part of who they are. I’m very passionate about what I do, but I’m also aware it’s a great responsibility,” Bonilla-Galdamez said.

Bonilla-Galdamez, who came from El Salvador as a non-English-speaking immigrant at the age of 12 years old, set up a program called LatinoYouth for Excellence (LYFE) at Minnie Howard to help create healthier relationships and living environments for her students.

Through LYFE, Bonilla-Galdamez was able to provide her students the sense of belonging and self-worth that at-risk teens often seek through gang membership. If she had a student who was in trouble for graffiti, she would turn their creativity toward designing T-shirts and posters. The students in LYFE took ownership of their members’ success, and worked together to ensure members attended class on time and made positive decisions.

Bonilla-Galdamez has seen some of her students, such as Tammy Cavazos, who had practically dropped out of school and was homeless when she met Bonilla, end up at colleges such as the University of Virginia. Others, who were not lucky enough to find intervention, are serving a life sentence in jail for crimes she will not even name.

“I was struggling and not planning on going back to school when I met Ana in ninth grade. I had no idea that college was a way out of all this. She is the reason I am still in school. She never left me alone,” said Cavazos.

After 13 years at Minnie Howard, Bonilla-Galdamez wondered how her students’ lives would have been different had interventions and supports been put in place earlier. This is when she decided to transfer from the high school level to the elementary level.

Bonilla-Galdamez’s arrival at Charles Barrett coincided with a dramatic population shift at the school. Many families requiring support and services had recently moved into new housing in the school zone, and felt disjoined from their previous school community. She worked with school administrators and staff to ensure that these families and students were immediately welcomed, supported and valued.

Seeing a need for positive role models for students at Barrett, she set up a mentoring partnership between the school and the Alexandria Police Department. Initially, this program had just one teacher and a handful of police officers and connected eight students with teacher or police officer mentors. Four years later, her program has 52 mentees participating along with 30 teachers, members of the Sheriff’s department, police officers and members of the U.S. Marshall’s office. This program has also improved the relationship between the school and these law enforcement groups.

“What Ms. Bonilla-Galdamez does is outside the typical box,” said Charles Barrett Principal Seth Kennard. “She is able to balance all the responsibilities of a school social worker with truly innovative programs to bring our students into our school and better support our students. What she has done is something radical. She has created a different reputation for school social workers.”

Bonilla-Galdamez’s parents decided to leave war-torn El Salvador when she was 12 years old because of the dangers of the armed conflict. Students were being killed or taken away from their families to join the military or the guerrilla. Fighting between government troops and guerrillas left a path of death for children and supports been put in place earlier. This is when she decided to transfer from the high school level to the elementary level.

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**ALEXANDRIA AREA HOMES SALES FEBRUARY 26 - MARCH 28, 2015**

**Information provided by area Metropolitan Regional Systems. It may include sales running businesses as not made by named agent of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage. Deemed background ranging subsidies and also receive a free evaluation of your property!**

**I can offer you my unique expertise whether buying or selling by using my background ranging from residential & hotel construction development to running businesses as well as a realtor!**

I will personally guide you through the entire process of:

- **SELLING**
- **STAGING**
- **CONTRACTS**
- **NEGOTIATIONS**
- **CLOSING**

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Call or email me for details on sales prices, days on market, seller subsidies and also receive a free evaluation of your property!**

Jim Larsen, Realtor®
Member NAR 2014 Multi-million Dollar Club Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage
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730-518-8300 (Office)
Northern Virginia Regional Science and Engineering Fair Yields Many Local Winners

Ana Humphrey, an eighth grader at George Washington, received the Best of Fair award for middle school students for her project. The Digital Identification of Bacteria Colony Forming Units Through MATLAB. Special recognition also goes to Isabella Lovain, a junior at T.C. Williams. She received a nomination to compete at the Virginia State Science and Engineering Fair, which hold at Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, VA on March 27-28, 2015. Additionally, Ana Humphrey, Ava Benbow, Emmett Cocke and Townsend Cocke received nominations for the 2015 Broadcom Masters (Math, Applied Science, Technology and Engineering Rising Stars). This competition is the premier middle school science and engineering fair competition.

Acceptances

BY ETHAN ROTHSTEIN

Brandi Moore is far from your typical high school student. Most days, she goes to bed at midnight or later to study or finish. Some days, she wakes up at 5:00 a.m. to get in a few extra hours of studying before attending classes at Washington-Lee High School. In the evenings or on weekends, you can find her performing in one of a handful of theater groups — at school or otherwise — or volunteering to clean up streams and mark sewer grates.

High-achieving students, especially in Arlington, are hardly news. But what makes Brandi stand out, her father George tells Arlingtonnow.com, is her own self-possessed drive.

“I never had to push her to read or anything,” he said. “I used to have to tell her to stop reading and go to bed. I’ve never even had to look at her grades online. She just naturally absorbs stuff and wants to learn.”

Brandi’s hard work has paid off. This week, she received acceptance letters from all five Ivy League universities she applied to: Cornell, Brown, the University of Pennsylvania, Columbia and Harvard. Those letters came after she had already been accepted at eight other schools, making her 13-for-13 in college applications.

A month before her flood of Ivy League acceptance letters, Brandi said she received “likely” letters from four of the schools, something she said the Ivy League universities only send to a few hundred students.

“They helped the process a lot. I knew my fate would be decided, because I was already pretty sure I was getting in,” she said. Before she got those “likely” letters, it was a different story. Her first letter and package was from Brown University in Providence, R.I., which had been her dream school since she was 8 years old.

“When we got a pretty sizeable package from Brown, we didn’t know what it was,” she said, referring to the piece of mail that came. After

Attending her neighborhood schools,” said School Board vice-chair Chris Lewis.

“The last time Alexandria City Public Schools changed school boundaries was in 1999. Since then, ACPS enrollment has grown by more than 3,200 students. Student enrollment is projected to rise by four percent every year for the next five years.

In April, the School Board and ACPS staff will finalize the framework for redistricting that includes the timeline and the process. There will then be extensive public consultation in the form of student and community engagement, public hearings and multiple discussions at School Board meetings. The final proposal is likely to go before the School Board in February 2016.

The Alexandria City School Board has started the work of redistricting elementary schools across the city, in an effort to reduce overcrowding and strengthen the sense of neighborhood schools.

In shifting the boundary zones for schools for the start of the 2016-2017 school year, the School Board intends to balance enrollment needs across the entire division and create suitable learning environments in each school. Crowded conditions are proven to have a direct impact on the delivery of instruction and the use of core spaces, like cafeterias and libraries.

“Redistricting doesn’t add more space to solve our city-wide capacity issue, but it will balance zones to match our growth. Most importantly, it will benefit the hundreds of families who are currently displaced from
Noah and Josephus Lyles.

Father’s of students at Matthew Maury Elementary School are invited to join an innovative program that encourages the involvement of fathers and father figures in schools. The program, called WATCH DOGS, (Dads Of Great Students), was brought to Maury this year by Principal Lucretia Jackson and PTA President Brittany Fraser. The dads who participate provide positive male role models for the students and serve as an extra set of eyes and ears to enhance school security and reduce bullying.

There’s been great success with 13 “Dogs” that have already served a day in the school and 17 more who are scheduled to volunteer in the near future. There has been a noticeable impact on the students because of this program, and more volunteers are looking to get involved as they hear from their own children about their experiences with the “Dogs.” Contact the school at 703-706-4440 to find out how to get involved.

Matt Estabrook and his son Jack.

T.C. Williams High School marketing students recently competed at the 2015 DECA State Leadership Conference held in Virginia Beach. DECA is an international association of marketing students. Twenty-six marketing students earned the right to represent T.C. at the statewide conference. More than 3,500 students attended the DECA State Competition and T.C. Williams students competed in role plays and written events.

Seventeen T.C. students received individual medals or state trophies. The students who won medals are: Noah Taylor, Abby Nelson, Alex Eggleston, Williams Donohue, Julia Ruffino, Jackson Moser, James Bambara, Scott Passalugo, Surafel Adere, Destiny Williams and Minya Shabazz.

Noah Lyles, a junior at T.C. Williams High School, became the United States National Champion for 200 High School, became the United States National Champion for 200 500 meters with a time of 1:03:57. There, the T.C. Williams team of seven runners and follow in the footsteps they both aim to become professional from T.C. Williams in 18 months’ time, which was less than half the size of other teams.

Champions despite fielding a team in third place in the 400 meter final as the winner. His brother, Josephus, 16, came close to winning the 60 meter final, which required a photo-finish to put him in second place. The scoreboard showed him recording a time of 6.65, the same time as the winner.

Noah, 17, also came close to winning the 60 meter final, which required a photo-finish to put him in second place. The scoreboard showed him recording a time of 6.65, the same time as the winner.

His brother, Josephus, 16, came in third place in the 400 meter final with a time of 47.35. Days earlier at the Virginia State Track meet, he placed number one in the U.S. in the 500 meters with a time of 1:03.37. There, the T.C. Williams team of seven athletes became Virginia State Track Champions despite fielding a team that was less than half the size of other teams.

When the Lyles brothers graduate from T.C. Williams in 18 months’ time, they both aim to become professional runners and follow in the footsteps of their father, Kevin Lyles, who ran for the United States in the World Championships 400 meter relay team in 1995.

Example of an estate ring redesigned and made more contemporary. Before, adding the baguettes and final redesign. Schedule an appointment to discuss the design possibilities with our Award Winning Designer, Mary Ehlers, featured in National Geographic’s book entitled, HOW THINGS ARE MADE. Currently one of her presentation gift pin commissions is touring and on display at the major art museums across the nation in the Madeleine Albright READ MY PINS EXHIBIT.

Mary is in Old Town Alexandria, but is working as a private jeweler. By Appointment Only. Please contact her at 703-548-3010. You will be glad that you did!

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JEWELERS • GEMOLOGISTS • GOLDSMITHS
Call for an appointment - 703-548-3010
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Matt Estabrook and his son Jack.

Matt Estabrook and his son Jack.

T.C. Williams Student Breaks Records to Become National 200 Meter Champion

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SCHOOL BRIEFS
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

Maury Seeking ‘Dads of Great Students’

Fathers of students at Matthew Maury Elementary School are invited to join an innovative program that encourages the involvement of fathers and father figures in schools. The program, called WATCH DOGS, (Dads Of Great Students), was brought to Maury this year by Principal Lucretia Jackson and PTA President Brittany Fraser. The dads who participate provide positive male role models for the students and serve as an extra set of eyes and ears to enhance school security and reduce bullying.

There’s been great success with 13 “Dogs” that have already served a day in the school and 17 more who are scheduled to volunteer in the near future. There has been a noticeable impact on the students because of this program, and more volunteers are looking to get involved as they hear from their own children about their experiences with the “Dogs.” Contact the school at 703-706-4440 to find out how to get involved.

Social Worker
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

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**Capital Dames by Cokie Roberts**

Cokie used Todd Healy’s colored rendering of an 1861 print of the Capital during reconstruction. Come in TODAY and purchase your own copy of the amazing Healy-colored print Cokie Roberts loved so much she wrapped her words within it!

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**Marketing students from T.C. Williams excel at marketing competition.**

Photo courtesy of ACPS

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**QUOTABLES**

I hate housework! You make the beds, you do the dishes and six months later you have to start all over again.

— Joan Rivers

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**SCHOOL BRIEFS**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

Two teams of three T.C. students each were awarded trophies on stage as finalists in their events and will compete at DECA International Career Development Conference in Orlando, Florida in late April. The first team is Razan Adam, Edom Tilahun and Jerry Wessen, who completed a marketing research and promotion project for the local business, Fairlington Pizza. The second team is Abby Hamilton, Reel Mustafa and Grant Chamberlain, who completed an Entrepreneurship Growth Plan for the business Patriot Portraits, co-founded by Abby.

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**Douglas Macarthur Students Raise Thousands for Leukemia**

Douglas Macarthur Elementary students collected pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters to raise $8,443.17 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society’s Pennies for Patients campaign. Third-grade student Renado Diaz-Pau, pictured here on the left, was so eager to help that he began saving his coins at the end of last year’s drive and brought in $349.50 for the cause. Fourth-grade student Lily Arakiwala, also pictured here, took the fight online, raising $385.15 through online donations from Florida to California. One fourth-grade class alone raised $1,034.20. Each year the Pennies for Patients program brings together more than 12 million students from across the country to help find a cure for leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin’s disease and myeloma, and to improve the quality of life of patients and their families.
Beware Fee-based Financial Aid and Scholarship Services

Some T.C. Williams High School students have been receiving letters from private companies offering to help determine college admission and financial aid eligibility. An unnamed parent of a T.C. junior contacted the school for advice saying, “We received a letter informing us about an upcoming appointment for our son with the company; however, no one in our family had requested a meeting. It was confusing, so we contacted the school.”

Parents are urged to “do their homework” before scheduling an appointment with a for-profit company that offers financial aid services for a fee. Additionally, families should not have to pay or provide a credit card number to apply for scholarships or academic honors. Executive Director of the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria Beth Lovain explains, “Our concern is that families will be misled to believe they can receive college and financial advising only if they pay a fee. That is simply not the case. The Scholarship Fund of Alexandria provides all T.C. families with free support for completing scholarship and college applications as well as federal financial aid forms.”

For more information, contact Beth Lovain at the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria via scholarshipfund@acps.k12.va.us or 703-824-6730, or visit www.AlexScholarshipFund.org.
SUCCESSFUL GARDENING STARTS FROM THE GROUND UP

SPRING FERTILIZING: NO MANURE, NOT YET

BY RAY GREEN STREET

Nearly all plants rely on mycorrhizal fungi for nutrients and moisture. The plant performs photosynthesis and other above-ground functions, and the fungi handle underground nutrition-gathering and protect the roots. Soils are greatly improved by the fungi sending millions of tiny root-threads far out from the plant roots. These root-threads separate clay plates to allow essential air and water into the root zone, or will bind together read soil to form a moisture-holding biomas. Marginal, salty, and damaged soils can often be made productive with the introduction of mycorrhizal fungi.

Soil amendments should be added in a 70/30 mix (70% existing soil to 30% amendment). If your soil is exceptionally heavy with clay go a little heavier with the amendment. Till it into the ground at least a foot, the deeper, the better. When planting a tree, perennial or shrub add it to the hole you dig and work it in around the new plant's roots.

Over the years we spend a great deal of time looking for products that make sense, ones that improve our gardener’s chance of success. Products that have been perhaps something else or are a bi-product that we can use in the garden, that we can repurposed instead of ending up in a landfill. Lobster compost is just one of those products. What in the world do they do with all those Maine lobsters shells? Dump them in the ocean? Put them in the land fill? No! Compost them for our gardeners. One of the other challenges that face vegetable gardeners is blossom end rot on that beautiful tomato you have been watching ripen, only to not on the end just before you harvest. Blossom end rot is a lack of moisture and calcium to the tomato fruit; calcium is the number one nutrient plants need. Lobster compost is body or shells of a lobster after the meat has been removed. The shell has nitrogen in it, calcium from the shell is release as the shell compost, it rich in calcium which feed the microorganisms that feed on it and excrete waste which is food for the plants. It is rich in humic acid great for growing roots, it a sweet waste which is food for the plants. It is rich in nitrogen to improve bone. As I walk our greenhouses I’m constantly impressed with how much bone of all kinds we are using in the greenhouse, in the vegetable garden and in our pots. A whole world of bacteria, actinomycetes, fungi, algae, and protozoa, plant roots, mycorrhizal fungi, chemical reactions are just below the soil surface. The good news is you don’t need to be a soil scientist to be a great gardener. Just a little common sense, thinking about soil, add a good amendment and/or compost and let Mother Nature do the rest.

One final important ingredient: Seek advice. My garden center staff loves to talk about plants, and they’ll help you make well-informed choices. Because “Success Grows Here” at Green Street Gardens.
CLAIMING DAMAGES FOR WRONGFUL PROSECUTION

There are times when a person is wrongfully accused of a crime. Vindictiveness, discrimination, revenge, hate, or other improper motives may cause such accusations. An action for malicious prosecution is the remedy for baseless and malicious criminal prosecution. It is generally limited to criminal prosecutions (as opposed to civil suits), for example when a person swears out a false criminal complaint against another for an alleged assault and battery which never occurred for a malicious purpose or other vindictive purpose. The defendant in the initial case becomes the plaintiff in the malicious prosecution suit, and the plaintiff or prosecutor in the original case becomes the defendant. In most states the claim must be filed within a year after the end of the original case.

A claim of malicious prosecution is a tort action. A tort action is filed in civil court to recover money damages for certain harm suffered. The plaintiff in a malicious prosecution suit seeks to win money from the defendant as recompense for the various costs associated with having to defend against the case and other personal damages suffered, and send a message to the defendant to refrain from future wrongful conduct.

An action for malicious prosecution is distinct from an action for false arrest or false imprisonment. If a person is arrested by a police officer who lacks legal authority for the arrest, the proper remedy is an action for false arrest. If a person is confined against her or his will, the proper remedy is an action for false imprisonment. An action for malicious prosecution is appropriate only when the judicial system has been misused.

The tort of malicious prosecution in Virginia has four main elements. The criminal prosecution must be malicious; instituted by or with the cooperation of the defendants; without probable cause; and terminated in a manner not unfavorable to the plaintiff.

In most malicious prosecution cases, the second and fourth elements are not at issue. It is usually clear that the defendant instigated the prosecution by going to the police and the magistrate and it is clear that the prosecution ended in a manner favorable to the plaintiff when the charges were dropped or dismissed. However, the plaintiff must show all four elements to succeed in the action. Under Virginia law the plaintiff has a relatively high burden since actions for malicious prosecution are not favored in Virginia. Therefore, the plaintiff must demonstrate probable cause. Oxenham v. Southland Corp., 219 Va. 23, 26 (1978). The two remaining elements are probable cause and malice. For malicious prosecution in Virginia, probable cause is defined as “knowledge of facts and circumstances that excite the belief in a reasonable mind at the time the action complained of was taken that the person is guilty of a crime for which he is charged.” This probable cause must have existed at the time the complaint of action was taken. Reilly v. Shepherd, 273 Va. 728, 733 (2007).

While having an arrest warrant issued from a magistrate judge is helpful to the argument that the defendant had probable cause, it is not conclusive. The arrest warrant is only a complete defense if the defendant provided all of the pertinent details to the police and the magistrate prior to the magistrate issuing the warrant. Am. Rwy. Express Co. v. Stephens, 148 Va. 1, 13, 138 S.E. 496, 500 (1927) (finding that the defendant had a “perfect defense because of the fact that all through this unfortunate affair it acted under the advice of the counsel . . . who were in possession of all the facts known” to the defendant). On the other hand, if the Defendant did not share all of the facts with the Magistrate or police, then the arrest warrant does not conclusively demonstrate probable cause. Otenham v. Johnson, 241 Va. 281, 291 (1991) (pointing that the arrest warrant was “was so totally lacking probable cause” despite the magistrate finding probable cause from the statement of the defendant). Instead, probable cause must be determined from the facts by demonstrating that the Defendant responded to circumstances that “excite the belief in a reasonable mind” that the Plaintiff is guilty of a crime. If the Plaintiff is able to show that the Defendants lacked probable cause then the fact finder could infer malice. Reilly, 273 Va. at 733 (“Malice may be inferred from a lack of probable cause, but a lack of probable cause may not be inferred from malice”). But, if the Defendants are able to demonstrate that there was probable cause then it does not matter if the Defendant acted maliciously since both elements are essential to the cause of action. “In the context of a malicious prosecution action, malice is defined as any controlling motive other than a good faith desire to further the ends of justice. Fundamental law, that one side is more believable than the other. Whether you ultimately win or lose, bringing the malicious prosecution case accomplishes the proper ends of justice. The Defendants lacked probable cause then the fact finder could infer malice. Reilly, 273 Va. at 733 (“Malice may be inferred from a lack of probable cause, but a lack of probable cause may not be inferred from malice”). But, if the Defendants are able to demonstrate that there was probable cause then it does not matter if the Defendant acted maliciously since both elements are essential to the cause of action. “In the context of a malicious prosecution action, malice is defined as any controlling motive other than a good faith desire to further the ends of justice.”
Close-in Northern Virginia neighborhoods are a hotbed of home improvement projects as households upgrade, renovate, add on rather than move out of long-established homes. The search for skilled, reliable, and fairly priced contractors is often an on-going, and frustrating, challenge. But residing in North Alexandria, Old Town, and South Arlington in need of an electrician can avoid that problem altogether.

Based in the Parkfairfax neighborhood, Allegro LLC is a full-service, Class A electrical contractor specializing in the older homes and structures that are so much a part of Alexandria’s identity. Its services range from changing out a light fixture to whole-house renovation.

Allegro has been a business since 2007, but owner Greg Drone’s knowledge of this area goes back much farther. Raised in rural Illinois, Drone first came to D.C. in 1975 as a musician (French horn) with the Marine Band. Seven years later, he moved on to the San Juan (PR) Symphony, but returned to join the Washington Opera at the Kennedy Center. After 29 years with the opera, he accepted an offer to join the Washington Orchestra at the Kennedy Center. After 29 years with the opera, he returned to join the Washington Orchestra at the Kennedy Center. After 29 years with the opera, he

Drone stays up to date on industry research and education through membership in the National Association of the Remodeling Industry and the National Fire Protection Association. NFPD developed the National Electrical Code, adopted in all 50 states as the benchmark for safe electrical design, installation, and inspection.

When Johnin and Shelly Biechman decided to double the area of the first floor of their mid-century Beverly Estates home, Greg Drone suggested working with builder Bob Odmark. Together with the Biechmans, Drone and Odmark drew up plans to knock out the home’s back wall and add a spacious family room and screened porch.

This evolving, six-month project included numerous decisions made and changed along the way. “Greg and Bob were Renaissance men,” says Johnin Biechman. Pointing out eight recessed LED light fixtures, he said he’d envisioned having a dozen installed, but Greg tuned that number for optimal lighting in the room. “He watched out for us on our needs rather than our perhaps overly active imagination,” Biechman says.

Focus on a defined market

Allegro LLC gets calls from people throughout the metro area, but concentrates on residential work in neighborhoods from Old Town north and west to South Arlington, including Del Ray, Parkfairfax, Beverly Hills, and Fairlington. The Allegro staff includes Drone and other one full-time electrician, plus part-time employees when needed, and they collaborate with renovation companies working in Alexandria’s service area.

Before estimating a job, Drone asks multiple questions about the problem or project and the home’s construction and accessibility. Not every potential customer appreciates the process, but “the last thing you want,” Drone says, “is someone who quotes you $100, then gets on-site and says, no, this will be $300.” Pre-determining the scope of the job tells the customer what to expect in both price and experience.

“Greg gave us a reasonable estimate, handled the permits, coordinated the gas line installation, and wired and installed the 1kw whole house generator,” reports Dave Cavanaugh in Alexandria. “He was courteous throughout the process. We are pleased with the installation and it works as advertised.”

Online reviewer David F in Arlington noted: “Not only did he fix the problem, but he was also able to give me helpful tips with a better understanding of the problem as well as how it was fixed…I highly recommend Greg. Extremely professional, quick service, and very friendly.”

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CAN KIDS HAVE FUN AT THE DENTIST?

I knew from the moment that I stepped into Dr. Joseph Lopez’s practice, that this was something new and different. It was everything that I wish my childhood dentist could have been. From the entertaining and colorful pictures on the bright happy walls to the teddy bears just waiting for cuddles from playmates, this is the perfect place to bring your kids.

Let’s start from the beginning. When I was asked to profile a dentist, I thought to myself: there really can’t be anything more boring and dull than this. Isn’t all that they do is just stick annoying metal things in your mouth and tell you everything that you have been doing wrong? Well, as I found out, there’s some time chatting with Dr. Lopez, my mind was quickly changed. Going to the dentist at Alexandria Pediatric Dentistry is actually quite a bit fun.

“The space is filled with splashes of bright, cheerful colors that just make you smile as you walk in. Okay, maybe that one kid who hates the dentist won’t smile right away, but once he sees all of the stuffed animals and toys waiting to be played with, it’s really hard not to. But best of all, and I think all dentists should have this, Dr. Lopez has set up TVs on the ceiling above the cleaning chairs so that kids can watch compelling Disney movies while getting their teeth cleaned. I almost wanted to stay and get my teeth cleaned just so I could hold a stuffed animal and watch Despicable Me 2.”

One of the main things that Dr. Lopez likes to focus on is making sure that the parent is comfortable and feels like their child is in good hands. Especially when it is a new parent. To do this, the cleaning room is a large open space so parents can sit in on the check up with their kids, and also learn new things on how to keep those teeth looking good. This helps the parents relax and overall create a more calm and casual environment. And I mean, let’s not forget that there are teddy bears, because really, who doesn’t like those?

Also Alexandria Pediatric Dentistry is a bilingual practice where Spanish is also spoken, which comes in handy since there is a significant Latino population in the Alexandria area.

Some of you are probably reading this and thinking well this sounds all well and good, but what is it? Well, just as I’m a pediatrician and how is it any different from a regular dentist? Well instead of me looking something up that might be wrong, here is what Dr. Lopez says, “A pediatric dentist has two to three years specialty training following dental school and limits his/ her practice to treating children only. Pediatric dentists are primary and specialty oral care providers for infants and children through adolescence, including those with special health needs.”

Now for a little bit about Dr. Joseph Lopez. When I asked him why he chose dentistry, his first response was actually not what I expected, “I was never that kid at four years old saying, hey I want to be a dentist.” But he changed his mind during grad school at George Washington University when he got to learn more about dentistry through shadowing some of his colleagues. At one point he told me, “I was looking for my own little niche,” which turned out to be dentistry.

Before coming to the Alexandria area, Dr. Lopez studied at the University of Pittsburgh. Different opportunities over 10 years led him to Alexandria and eventually the opening of Alexandria Pediatric Dentistry a little under a year ago.

So why should you choose Alexandria Pediatric Dentistry? Well first and foremost, as the doctor said himself, they are honest. If something is wrong he will make sure that the parent understands what is going on, then help fix the problem. “While we may be an authority in the field, I feel like we should come down to a level where you can easily distribute and summarize that information so that the parents can more easily understand and appreciate the help.”

Another thing that Alexandria Pediatric Dentistry offers is up to date technology. This allows for better work to be done. But overall Dr. Lopez wants to create a stimulating and comfortable environment to keep those teeth in perfect shape!

Alexandria Pediatric Dentistry is located at 3223 Duke St in Alexandria VA, 22314.
S

uppose you must select one word to describe 2015 Living Legend Alice P. Morgan. There are many choices: groundbreaker, activist, and martyr come quickly to mind. But perhaps the most all-encompassing is inclusive. Morgan is about including people. For example, when Morgan chaired Alexandria’s annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebrations, she found a way to include anyone who showed an interest, even children. “Youngsters were never too young to help, even if all they did was distributing programs. If they wanted to help, they could,” she explained. “Some of those young volunteers returned each year. It gave them their first experience as volunteers.”

Perhaps it is the pioneering side of Morgan (another good word) that motivates her to undertake challenges no one like her has attempted. It is part of why she was selected in 2010 by the Alexandria Commission on Women for the Marguerite Payten Lifetime Achievement Award. Her nomination cited that Morgan was the first woman and the first African American woman to be appointed to the Alexandria settlement house, and St. Elizabeth’s Hospital which began as a Federal Government hospital now serving the city of Washington, D.C.

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Carpenter’s Shelter Hosts 13th Annual Cook-Off
Sunday, April 26, 2015
Carpenter’s Shelter is bringing together new and old local restaurants at their 13th annual Cook-Off from noon to 3:00 p.m. at The Birchmere. Cook-Off is a fundraising event designed to raise money and awareness for Carpenter’s Shelter, one of Northern Virginia’s largest homeless shelters.

At Cook-Off, over twenty of the area’s best restaurants will offer samples of their finest dishes and compete for four different awards determined by judges and guests. While guests snack, they will also enjoy a musical performance by the Alpha Dog Blues Band and get the chance to bid on a live auction featuring one-of-a-kind trips and getaways. All auction item proceeds go toward funding Carpenter’s Shelter’s programs and services.

Carpenter’s Shelter is serving homeless individuals in Northern Virginia for 27 years. Contributions from organizations, community partners, and individuals assist Carpenter’s Shelter in doing the following: operating a 60-bed emergency residential shelter with comprehensive case management and supportive services; offering the only day shelter in the City of Alexandria that addresses the basic needs of the chronically homeless population; providing a Winter Shelter from November to April; and offering a Community Case Management program for formerly homeless clients to help them maintain their stability in the community.

In its 13th year, Cook-Off has consistently been an Alexandria favorite, drawing in over 500 attendees each year. Along with showcasing many local Alexandria restaurants, Cook-Off represents a partnership between Carpenter’s Shelter and active community businesses and members. Tickets are $50 for adults and $15 for children under 12. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.carpentersshelter.org/cookoff2015 or tweet @CookOff2015.

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**APRIL 18**

**Alexandria Historic Homes & Garden Tour**

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Celebrating the 62nd anniversary of Historic Garden Weekend in Virginia, this tour features privately owned Old Town homes and gardens. Offering visitors the rare opportunity to see behind the brick walls into some of the most gorgeous residences in this unique neighborhood. The tour ticket also access to the following historic properties: the Lee-Fendall House Museum & Garden, Carlyle House Historic Park, George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate, and George Mason's Gunston Hall. Tickets and information available at the Alexandria Visitors Center, 221 King St. and The Lyceum, 251 S. Washington St. in advance. $40 in advance / $45 day of for single sites

**APRIL 19**

**Eclipse Chamber Orchestra: Spring Concert**

3:00 pm

George Washington Masonic Temple

101 Casadale Drive

World premiere of David Teie's adaptation of the Brahms Piano Quartet in C Minor orchestraled for the full resources of Eclipse Chamber Orchestra. In the program: Brahms Piano Quartet in C Minor, Brahms: No. 1 in D Major. All ECM concerts and recitals are "admission without charge" with donations always gratefully accepted. To make a donation, please call the ECO office at 703-635-2770.

**APRIL 22**

**Spring3ActTrio: Alexandria's Biggest Day of Giving**

Times vary

Spring3ActTrio celebrates its fifth year with the goal of engaging 10,000 donors to raise $1,000,000+ to support local charities in 24 hours. More than 30 participating local shops and restaurants are joining Spring3ActTrio by donating up to 20% of purchases to any school or charity the customer chooses. To donate, visit the Old Town Boutique District will award $500 to the school or charity that rallies the most customers to one of its member stores. Customers need only mention "Spring3Act" when paying.

**APRIL 23**

**Shakespeare’s Birthday: The Mad Woothing**

7:00 pm

The Athenaeum

201 Prince Street

Celebrate Shakespeare’s birthday with a staged reading of Kimberley Lynne’s new play, The Mad Woothing. 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm.

**APRIL 25**

**Rebuilding Together Alexandria’s National Rebuilding Day**

Starting at 7:30 am

Event kicks off at First Baptist Church, 2926 King Street.

Throughout the day, volunteers will restore and upgrade homes for limited income, elderly, and disabled homeowners in Alexandria. To participate, contact a local volunteer organization, Alexandria. Check out Rebuilding Together Alexandria works to preserve homeownership and revitalize the city’s housing stock while providing healthy home repairs. Volunteer/sponsor deadline is April 10, 2015.

http://rebuildingtogetheralex.org/ 703-836-0021

http://www.rebuildingtogetheralex.org/index.php/news/events

**APRIL 25**

**Splendid Fabulous Affair**

Scholarship Fund of Alexandria (SFA)

6:00 pm - midnight

Alexandria Hilton Mark Center

5000SeminaryRd.

Join a who’s who of Alexandrians at this great event! Wine for dress-up and seeing friends and neighbors! The evening begins with a full open bar reception with passed hors d’oeuvres while guests mingle and then have bidding on silent auction items. After the reception, guests move to the dining area for a 5-course Revolutions tail and bistro steak. Dessert and coffee will be available just as the amazing live bands, Greenville, begins. All proceeds benefit our City’s graduates who cannot afford to attend college. The Gala is the Scholarship Fund’s biggest single fundraising event. Tickets at www.501auctions.com. dr. 703-824-6793 or scholarshipsfund@kpsl212.us

**APRIL 25**

**Northern Alexandria Native Plant Sale (formerly the Parkfairfax Native Plant Sale)**

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

The Church of St. Clement

1701 N. Quarter Lane

About a dozen vendors from VK, MD, PA, and WV will be selling plants native to our area. www.facebook.com/NorthernAlexandriaNativePlantSale

**MAY 2-3**

**Historia Alexandria-Accia and Alleys Tours**

Saturday 9:00 am - noon

Lee-Fendall House & Garden, 614 Greens St. or Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St.

The curious are invited to visit rarely seen spaces at four of Alexandria’s historic sites on this tree walk! Call Aline at 703-635-6909 (Advanced reservations required). Tickets reserved online at www.shopalexandria.gov. 703-746-4242.

**MAY 2**

**Revolutionary War Encampment**

Mount Vernon Estate

Mount Vernon’s largest-ever Revolutionary War encampment! Step back in time and walk through a reproduction of the marquee tent that served as General Washington’s field headquarters throughout most of the Revolutionary War. This special tent is on loan to Mount Vernon this weekend only from the Museum of the American Revolution. Meet more than 450 Revolutionary War military re-enactors, learn more about life in the 18th century, discuss military techniques, and watch battle re-enactments.

The original sleeping and office tent was one of a pair of marquees made for Gen. Washington in early 1778, at the end of the Valley Forge encampment. Washington returned to his Mount Vernon home with his tents and other military equipment in December 1783 after he resigned the presidency.

**MAY 7**

**Dog Days in Del Ray**

6:00 - 9:00 am

Mt Vernon Ave.

Del Ray Business association and “Your Dog’s Best Friend” hosts this First Thursday evening event. Businesses along the Avenue will provide dog-themed activities. Several animal rescue groups including Homeyard Trails and Last Dog Rescue will bring dogs available for adoption. See them in front of the elementary school.

**MAY 10**

**Free Mother’s Day Museum Tours**

Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum

10:00 - 5:00 pm

Friendship Firehouse Museum

10:00 - 5:00 pm

In honor of Mother’s Day, moms enjoy free admission to any of Alexandria’s premiere historic sites. At the Friendship Firehouse Museum, mothers will receive a complimentary family photo.

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**[Editor’s Note: Judge O’Flaherty passed away peacefully, at home, age 89 on March 25, 2016. This is a tribute piece originally published in 2011 in The Covert Letter]**

BY HARRY M. COVERT

THE COVERT REPORT

Judge Becky Moore needs a substitute defender. Kevin Gaynor was working hard in their defense.

I listened. I was just happy the boys had appeared for court. To pass the time, I looked in the file. My son peeked up when the prosecutor asked for 12 months in jail. Suddenly, I realized I was re-reading the file, that in the note to the sheriff’s property deputy, the boys could barely speak English, yet were using it. I stood up and walked to the front, asked to speak with the Mr. Gaynor, the public defender. Judge O’Flaherty appeared a bit startled, didn’t challenge me, and agreed to my intrusion. I showed Gaynor the handwritten note, explaining these Haitians didn’t understand English very well and probably didn’t know what the policeman was saying.

The prosecutor saw the nearly illegible note and took it to Judge O’Flaherty. The charges were dropped. Gaynor always appreciated Judge O’Flaherty. He’s a wise man. He always pays attention to the cases. And, he’s always available if Chief Judge Becky Moore needs a substitute for the courts she administers.
exercise, it was an effective way to expose people to the plight of the bumblebee, as well as connect with other like-minded pollinator protectors.

After finally acquiring the required signatures, Gallagher’s last hurdle was to find a state legislator to sponsor a bill that would commission her new plate. Both of her local legislators, Senator Dick Saslaw and Delegate Charniele Herring, refused to submit a bill on her behalf.

Fortunately, Gallagher knew of a high-profile fellow pollinator enthusiast in Virginia politics: former gubernatorial candidate Senator Creigh Deeds. Deeds already introduced pro-pollinator legislation in 2012, and Gallagher figured he would be a like-minded ally to help bring her cause to fruition.

“The problem is we’re losing pollinators’ population dramatically – whole colonies of bees at a time,” Sen. Creigh Deeds said in a telephone interview. “Not just our agricultural economy, but our whole economy is based on pollinators.” According to the Virginia Department of Agriculture, bee colonies in the Commonwealth sustain a 30 percent loss every winter, much higher than the national average.

“Sam is a leader statewide raising awareness of the plight of pollinators,” Deeds said. “She did a great job with the design, and when people see the tag they will wonder about it, ask questions, learn what they can do help pollinators.”

While various charities have helped champion the “Protect Pollinators” plate over the past five years, Gallagher felt there was no incentive to make her plate affiliated with any single one. Regular custom plates cost $10 for a DMV processing fee, whereas non-profit plates (like the Parrot Head one) add a $15 donation to the organization atop the fee. “The DMV is going to get their money either way,” she said.

Besides, Gallagher cares more about the cause than collecting money from people. “Hopefully, the lower price will get a higher volume of drivers to purchase the plate, and then they can still donate $15 to a charity that benefits pollinators if they want,” she said.

When asked if she had advice for people who want to help pollinators thrive (besides getting the license plate), Gallagher said that it is crucial to “refrain from using any pesticides” in the home or garden, and beyond that “plant flowering native plants that bloom throughout various seasons.” She recommends milkweed, which “attracts a food source for the monarch butterfly, recommends milkweed, an important

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Many clients perceive that since their pet is eating normally that he/she must not be in pain. This is not the case because animals have a strong natural instinct to hide pain. By the time they stop eating, the pain is more severe than the will to survive and eat. Normal eating is not a reliable indicator of pain. Your pet’s mouth should be evaluated by us at each visit to determine when a dental cleaning is needed. Most clients notice a dramatic improvement in their pet’s behavior after dental disease is treated appropriately.

Many people are concerned about the risk of anesthesia as their pet gets older. There is always a risk associated with anesthesia but that risk is minimized by having a thorough physical exam completed before the procedure and having pre-anesthetic bloodwork done. This bloodwork, in particular, looks at the liver and kidney function which is important because it is the way the body filters the anesthetic. If your pet has a heart murmur, additional diagnostics will be recommended prior to proceeding with a dental cleaning.

It is very important to try and prevent dental disease from developing in your pet. Brushing the teeth at home and having dental cleanings done when minimal tartar is present will help prevent major oral surgery from being necessary in the future. Unfortunately, many pets we see have severely diseased mouths that require more advanced, and costly, procedures. You should always feel free to discuss your pet’s dental health with your veterinarian so we can develop a treatment and prevention plan to allow your pet to have a pain and infection free mouth.

Adrienne Hergen, DVM is a veterinarian at the Shirlington Animal Hospital, 2770 S. Arlington Mill Dr., Arlington, VA.
All-star pup lineup featured in “Acappela” group.

Remember that adorable lab puppy that fell in love with one of the Budweiser Clydesdales in the 2014 commercial titled “Puppy Love”? In the commercial he was adopted away from the horse ranch, but managed to find his way back to the Clydesdale stables and be escorted up the road home by 5 of the beautiful horses to be reunited with his BFF.

Cooper was one of the six puppies that were each trained to do different shots in the commercial. Cooper was the one that touched noses with a Clydesdale in the stable.

After the commercial Cooper ended up in the capable and loving hands of Susan Guillot of Second Hand Souls Animal Rescue & Animal Actors in Perris, California. It was a lucky place for a dog that had been trained to be in commercials and movies. Lucky, too, for Cardinal Laboratories!

The “Botanifits” is an acappella singing group of dogs.

Susan heard that Cardinal’s commercial producer, Shira Lane of Unleashed Productions, was looking for dogs for their commercial. Susan contacted Shira and the rest, as they say, is history now. Of course, Cooper doesn’t look the same as he did in 2014. In the commercial he plays one of the 8 “Botanifins,” an acappella singing group of dogs. The other seven dogs in the commercial are also part of the Animal Actors of Susan’s rescue, so Cooper was right at home with his canine crew.

“I went to the shoot expecting total mayhem on the set,” says Barbara Denzer, VP of Marketing for Cardinal. “I knew Shira was calm and patient and had her own well trained dog, but couldn’t imagine one trainer tending all eight dogs while shooting on a sound stage. Plus, they would be wearing costumes since they were imitating a human vocal group!”

“My anxiety was due to the fact that I hadn’t met Susan Guillot. They were the most beautifully groomed, well cared for and highly trained dogs I’ve ever seen. Susan had helpers, and the dogs were well hydrated, fed, exercised and cared for the entire day without a single incident. She got them all to perform to the script and ‘sing’ their song. It was a calm, interesting and totally rewarding day. We can’t say enough good things about Susan and her adopted or rescued dogs-turned-actors.”

Look for the Botanifits dogs on www.facebook.com/PetBotanics too!

Meet Penny Lane

“Penny Lane climbed in and then wiggled around so much getting comfortable that she actually broke the box, but she stayed in it!”

— Submitted by Evan Labb and Courtney Fyfe from Del Ray in Alexandria.

The truth is the truth. Cats love exploring boxes. The next time your kitty finds his or her way into a cardboard predicament, snap a photo and send it to us and if yours is the cutest, you will be published. Be sure to include your name and neighborhood as well as your cat’s moniker. Please send photos and copy to mary@thezebrapress.com.

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If you're looking for a sweet, quiet kitty, you're in luck! Gracie is a cuddly boy who would love to go home with a quiet, laid-back family. He is a neutered male Domestic Shorthair, estimated to be about five years old. Though he is a little shy, he loves to be pet and cuddles up to you. Gracie would love a home with affectionate owners (who would prefer to be the only pet) with lots of time to take her on walks and give her all the attention she deserves!

Meet Chester! This sweet boy is a Domestic Shorthair, estimated to be about two years old. He is very friendly, outgoing, and always ready to lend a helping paw when you're in need! Chester is a cuddly boy who would love to be your new best friend! He is a neutered male Domestic Shorthair, estimated to be about three years old. He is an easy-going, gentle kitty who loves cuddles and being pet.
**King Street Cats**

King Street Cats is proud to be the only all-volunteer, cat-exclusive, no-kill rescue facility in Alexandria, Va. Because we are a free-roaming facility, you can come visit with the “cat-friendliest cats” in town.

To meet a King Street Cat, please email contact@kingstreetcats.org.

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**TAILS**
Female, age 1 year
Quiet girl loves to be held

**YUKI**
Female, age 10 months
Gorgeous snowflake loves to cuddle

**JOHN**
Male, age 2 years
Orange tabby born to be your “one & only”

**CAILLOU**
Male, age 1
Cute tabby boy is quiet sweetheart

**PRESTON**
Male, age 5
Stunning lap lover, total cuddler

**MAMA**
Female, age 4
Trusting girl will be your soul cat

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**After five years of waiting, New York pup finds a home**

Chester finally has a forever home. After a five year stint at a shelter (that’s 36 in dog years!), and partly thanks to this very photo that seemed to take the internet and social media sites by storm, Chester’s long wait, is finally over.

The North Fork Animal Welfare League on Long Island, New York posted Chester’s photo just this past Wednesday to their Facebook page. His adorable little face and sad eyes accompany a sign saying, assumed in his own words:

“Why doesn’t anybody want me? I’ve been waiting 5 years. Everyone at the shelter tells me what a good boy I am. So why has no one adopted me?

I promise to be good and love my new family. Please maybe you are my new family. I sit and wait for you to come.”

— Chester

After gaining a full head of steam in the way of over 2,900 “likes” and 20,000 “shares” on the Facebook page alone, that very Friday, Good Friday to some around the world, Chester had a new family.
About Us:
Homeward Trails seeks to find permanent adoptive homes in the Mid-Atlantic Region for dogs and cats from high-kill shelters or whose owners can no longer care for them. In so doing, we seek to reduce the rate of euthanasia of adoptable animals through the rescue and placement of homeless animals; to support proactive spay/neuter practices; to promote positive and ongoing behavioral training; and to educate the public about how to care for their animals in a humane way. Homeward Trails not only facilitates adoptions from local shelters, but also supports a large network of foster care providers who take homeless animals into their permanent adoptive homes, care for them, rehabilitate them when needed, and prepare them for their permanent adoptive homes. There are many ways to get involved with Homeward Trails, from becoming a foster parent to helping us plan events or assisting with administrative tasks. Go to our page about volunteering or contact our Volunteer Coordinator: volunteer@homewardtrails.org

Want to foster a dog or cat?
Go to our page about fostering or contact one of our Foster Program Coordinators directly:
Dog Foster Program: fosterdog@homewardtrails.org
Cat Foster Program: fostercat@homewardtrails.org
www.homewardtrails.org

Bandit
Breed: Husky Mix
Aprox. Age: 6
Bandit is a husky mix weighing around 40 lbs. Bandit has been waiting a long time for a home. She was given up over a year ago due to a divorce. She is very sweet and smart, and would prefer to be the only animal in her home. Bandit is house-trained and enjoys long walks as well as curling up on the couch. She is very adaptable and would make an excellent best friend!

Foxy
Breed: DMR/Terrier
Aprox. Age: 8
Foxy is a wonderful, friendly adult cat that has been waiting a very long time to find a home. Foxy came from a home with both dogs and cats and currently is in foster with another cat. He is a laid-back boy who enjoys his humans. Foxy would love a forever home.

Kota
Breed: Husky
Aprox. Age: 2
Kota is beautiful, white, and 71 pounds of love. Kota has a great personality, loves people, and gets along with other dogs and cats too. He really loves going for long walks and easy jogs. He’s a pretty quiet dog but will “talk” too. He enjoys riding in cars and likes to be near his humans whenever possible.

Herbert
Breed: Black & tan coonhound
Aprox. Age: 3
Herbert was found tied up outside with no food or water, completely emaciated. Because he was starved, he does guard his food around other dogs, but has absolutely no problem when his humans handle his food. Even with everything this poor boy has been through, he’s a complete sweetheart. He loves being around other dogs and cats too.

Lilly
Breed: Lab/corgi mix
Aprox. Age: 3
Lilly was abandoned at a doggie daycare by her original owners. Lilly has a sweet personality and house-trained and gets along well with other dogs.

Foxy
Breed: DM/R Terrier
Aprox. Age: 8
Foxy is a wonderful, friendly adult cat that has been waiting a very long time to find a home. Foxy came from a home with both dogs and cats and currently is in foster with another cat. He is a laid-back boy who enjoys his humans. Foxy would love a forever home.

Meadow
Breed: DSH
Aprox. Age: 5-7 years old
Meadow was found in an abandoned house with her litter of puppies. She is a sweet, gentle girl and gets along well with dogs and people of all sizes. She was underweight but with some time should be about 50 lbs. She is a lovely girl who would make a great addition to any family.

Scotty
Breed: Boxer
Aprox. Age: 6 months
Scotty is an absolutely wonderful 80 lb mix looking for a new home through no fault of his own. He has been a wonderful family companion and can’t wait to start a new life. Scotty is snuggly and super friendly, a true happy-go-lucky fellow. He is good with other dogs and cats too.

Smokey
Breed: DSH
Aprox. Age: 3
Smokey is a sweet shy girl who would love a home of her own. She is great with other cats and is a very easy kitty to be around. Smokey is quiet and cans and goes with her litter box.

Robin and Pigeon
Breed: DSH/Tabby
Aprox. Age: 6 months
Meet bonded sisters Robin and Pigeon. These adorably tabby sisters will give you nothing but love and affection. They are great with each other, people of all ages and other cats.

Frita and Sheila
Breed: DSH/Tabby/Tortie
Aprox. Age: Mom 2 years, Baby 4 months
This bonded pair would love to be adopted together. Frita and Sheila in when she was an orphan kitten. They sleep, cuddle, and green with each other. Please help this adorable pair find a loving home.

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