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Vol. 1, No. 6
July 2011

Zelora



Old Town Theater:

From Vaudeville to
Cinema Draft House

See page 4

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This entry is the last thing I do for every issue, and I am starting to wonder if anyone actually reads these little notes and thoughts I pop into this spot. But just for kicks, and for those of you purists who read publications page by page, here we go. This month I am proud to say we have hit our half-way mark, and it only happened because many generous people have helped get *Zebra* on its way. Our contributing columnists, writers and photographers have given their valuable time and talents towards creating an innovative niche print product, and our loyal advertisers have given us a strong foundation upon which we can continue to build.

So I guess this is a “thank you” letter – to the many people behind the scenes helping design our pages, scoot us off the presses, and effectively circulate our copies to the shops and restaurants around town. It is also a “thank you” to the many people who have written and called and said that *Zebra* fills a void, and proves that “print is not dead.”

Welcoming your thoughts and suggestions always, *Zebra* looks forward to being part of your regular reading list for a long time to come.

Light some fireworks, give a nod to the soldiers and statesmen that continue to preserve our freedom, and enjoy the summer.

Mary Wadland

Publisher

Zebra

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As Nat King Cole sang, “Roll out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer.” Publisher Mary and her trusty assistant Lucy on the docks again.

PHOTO BY JERRY KISH

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On Cover: Old Town Theater owner Roger Fons proudly invites you for libations and a show.



INBOX

HOW TO GIVE US FEEDBACK

If you would like to send us a comment, send your mail to mary@thezebra.org or Zebra, PO Box 6504, Arlington, VA 22206. Submission of a letter constitutes permission to publish it. Letters may be edited for reasons of space and clarity.

QUOTABLE:

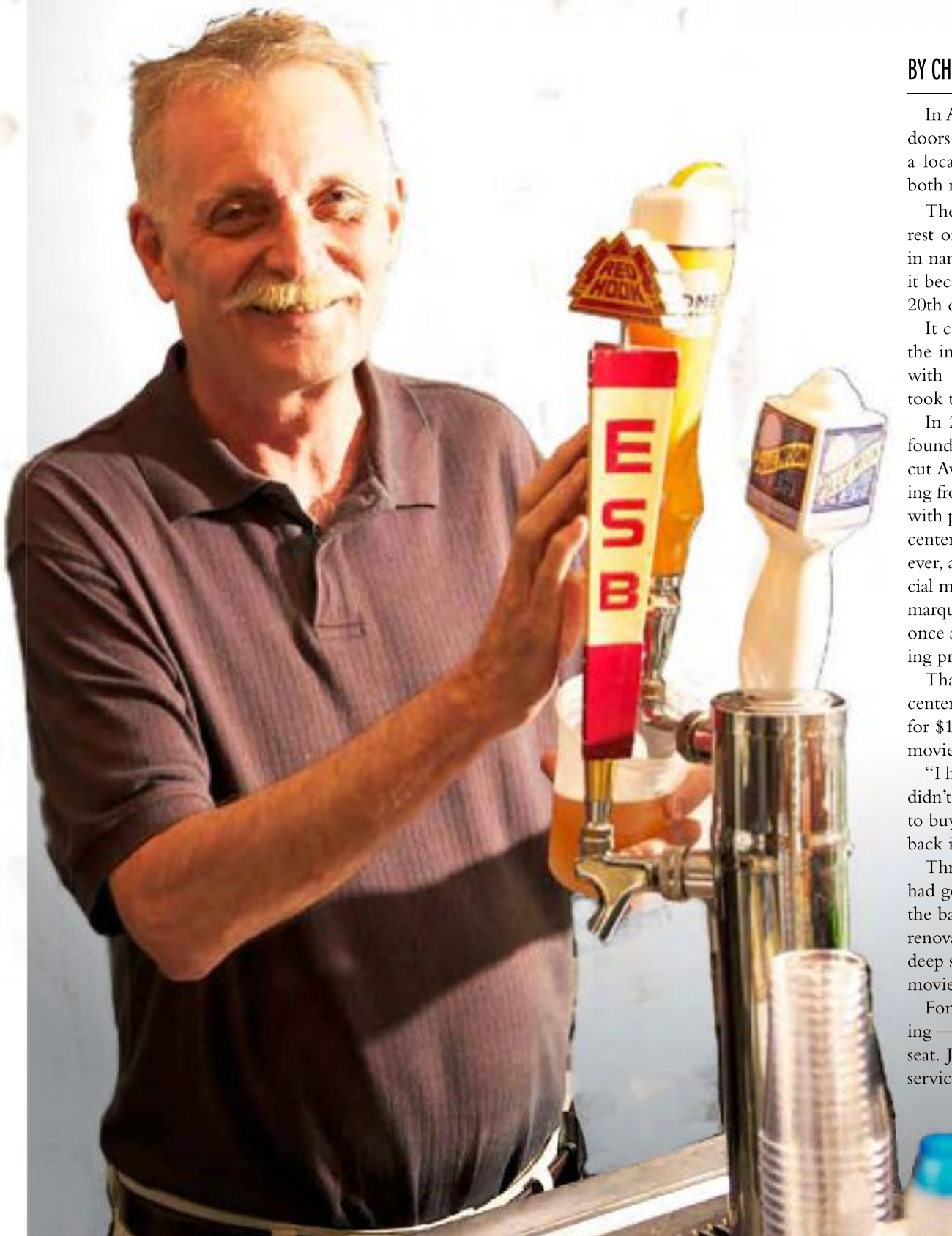
“When an American says that he loves his country, he means not only that he loves the New England hills, the prairies glistening in the sun, the wide and rising plains, the great mountains, and the sea. He means that he loves an inner air, an inner light in which freedom lives and in which a man can draw the breath of self-respect.”

--Adlai Stevenson



Roger Fons And His Labor Of Love

OLD TOWN THEATER



BY CHUCK HAGEE

In August of 1914 the Richmond Theater opened its doors to the delight of Alexandria residents. It remained a local entertainment center for decades — featuring both movies and live vaudeville.

Then came the Great Depression and, along with the rest of the nation, it fell on hard times. With a change in name from the Richmond to the Old Town Theater it became a bridge between the two world wars of the 20th century and into the Cold War era that followed.

It continued to operate into the late 1970s. But then, the increase of modern theaters in the area, combined with ever evolving television entertainment offerings, took their toll and the Old Town Theater went dark.

In 2002 along came Mark W. Anderson, one of the founders of Washington's Improv Theater on Connecticut Avenue, who took a long-term lease on the building from the Pedas Family Trust, owners of the building, with plans to reopen the theater as a dual entertainment center for both movies and live stage productions. However, after a series of misfires, misjudgments, and financial miscalculations, combined with low attendance, the marquee over 815 and a half King Street in mid 2003 once again advertised what had become its longest playing presentation — “For Lease.”

That's when, for the second time, Roger Fons took center stage. He purchased the building from the Trust for \$1.1 million with the intention of returning a local movie house to Old Town Alexandria.

“I had hoped to buy this place in 1999 but the owners didn't want to sell at that time. After Anderson, I offered to buy it again and this time I was successful,” Fons said back in 2004 after closing the deal.

Through its various gestations the Old Town Theater had gone from a single screen to a double theater, with the balcony partitioned off. Anderson, among his many renovations, took it back to a single screen venue with a deep stage. Fons has reconfigured it again back to a dual movie venue.

Fons also added a major change in the theater's offering — food and beverages to be enjoyed at each patron's seat. Just behind the front entrance he installed a full service kitchen area with a “Roast N Hold” oven. Each

▼ See OTT on page 5

PHOTO: GREG KNOTT



PHOTO: GREG KNOTT

▲ OTT from page 4

theater seat has an arm rest capable of holding food and beverages.

He also got approval to offer a wide variety of beer and wine selections. One of the summer specialties is a 16-ounce sangria. "I recently had one customer tell me it was the best sangria she had ever had and was worth coming here just for that," Fons said.

One of his greatest coups was to convince the various motion picture studio agents to allow him to present first run movies. To do that he needed the permission of his closest competition, the AMC Multiplex on Eisenhower Avenue, since they were less than two miles apart.

"I told the manager what I wanted to do and he had no objections. He just laughed and said, 'I don't think we are any competition to one another. Where do I sign.' And, that put Roger Fons into the movie/entertainment business — his fifth career change since arriving in the Washington Metropolitan Area as a U.S. Army Engineer at Fort Belvoir.

A native of Troy, Michigan, Fons graduated from Michigan State University in 1968 with a degree in Civil Engineering. "Three days after graduation I got this notice from Uncle Sam that starts with 'Greetings,'" he said sitting at one of the theater mezzanine cocktail tables surrounded by art decorated walls.

"After I was drafted I went to Officer Training School and then to flight school at Fort Walters and Fort Rucker. I flew helicopters in Vietnam for about a year and then was stationed at Fort Belvoir as the Commander of a Survey Unit," Fons explained. After five years of military service he was discharged at the rank of Captain.

"When I left the military I decided I really liked this area so I became an Alexandria resident and went into the used car business. Then I trained myself in the insurance business and became an independent agent representing a variety of companies for 15 years," Fons said.

While selling insurance, he also got into the building business doing both individual homes and shopping cen-

ters. That led him into banking, where he became a mortgage specialist with the now defunct Washington Mutual.

"The recent crash in the mortgage market was not the fault of the banks; it was the fault of the federal government. They funneled everything through Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae and then changed the rules so that the banks could not unload their portfolios," he explained.

It was while he was with Washington Mutual in their Washington Street office that Fons decided to enter the entertainment business by purchasing the Old Town Theater. "I had no experience with the movie business or theaters. And, I have to tell you, this is the hardest thing I've ever done in my entire life," Fons exclaimed.

He arrives at Old Town Theater every morning about 8 a.m. and doesn't leave until after 6 p.m. on weekdays and "usually 10 or 11 p.m." on weekends. Films run from 4 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 4 p.m. to midnight Friday; 11:30 a.m. to midnight Saturday; and 11:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Sunday.

"We change films about every three weeks with two movies running at all times — one upstairs and one downstairs. I usually run the one with the loudest soundtrack up stairs. That way there is little or no impact on the other," Fons said. The theater seats 200 on the main floor and 135 upstairs.

Old Town Theater is one of the few first run movie theaters in the United States that serves beer and wine. A lot of second run theaters offer that amenity, according to Fons. The food selections include salads, specially

prepared sandwiches, popcorn, and his special "Old Town Theater Dogs" with a variety of toppings. There are also sodas and bottled water for those who do not want beer or wine.

In addition to the purchase price of \$1.1 million, Fons estimates that he has put "over \$1 million into the building" since he purchased it. That includes \$250,000 in new HVAC, equipment to do 35 millimeter DVD, VHS, a new generation of LCD, a theatrical cinema projector, a new retractable screen, and a 12 by 22 foot stage. "There is always something that needs repair and upkeep as well," he said.

It was the possibility of offering a cinema draft house coupled with doing something of a business nature in Old Town that made Fons so tenacious about owning the Old Town Theater. "It also seemed like a very good business opportunity," he said.

"This theater is a very strong amenity for the citizens of Alexandria. It's up to them if this will continue. If they don't support it, it will not be here. I need to get 3,000 patrons a month to break even," Fons stated.

"Right now I'm only getting about one half that amount. These last two months have been the worst in attendance we've had since we opened. If I quit, this site will either become another sports bar or condos," he said.

"Coming here to see a movie and enjoy the food and drinks is the cheapest night out you're ever going to have," Fons insisted. "Our movies are only \$9 a person and we offer a \$2 discount for active military."

Fons sees a drop in business throughout the upper King Street area, not

just with Old Town Theater. "The increased parking costs and the trolley are killing upper King Street. Even the restaurants are hurting," he said. He attributes this to people riding the free trolley from the King Street Metro Station to the river and back but not getting off to visit the local merchants and eateries.

"When there was more walking traffic everyone benefitted. Plus, the increase in parking fees coupled with the new parking fare machines isn't helping the situation," he stated.

An Old Town resident, Fons has two grown children who live in Northern Virginia — a 30-year old son in Falls Church and a 33-year old daughter in Lynchburg. The rest of his family remain Michigan residents.

In addition to himself he has three employees — each of which performs a variety of tasks. "The one thing we all do is run the film projector. Everyone is a projectionist. That's a must," he emphasized.

Since Fons acquired the Old Town Theater it has enjoyed its most vibrant reincarnation since the golden days of the old Richmond Theater 97 years ago. Whether it celebrates its 100th birthday in 2014 is in the hands and desires of the audiences, according to Fons.

For Roger Fons the Old Town Theater is truly a labor of love. Will that love go unrequited with the marquee once again featuring "For Lease?" Only time and local support will tell.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE ROGER FON'S COLLECTION

BY MEG PETERS



Part 2: How Well Do You Know Four Mile Run?

Four Mile Run, the local stream featured in this column last month, has been dramatically transformed during the twentieth century by rapid and dense urbanization. Once brimming with wildlife, the stream has evolved from a natural wetland to a polluted swamp to an unstable suburban flood plain. It has flooded repeatedly along a 2.3-mile stretch of the Arlington-Alexandria border, costing millions in damage and requiring decisive government action. Today, however, Four Mile Run is undergoing yet another transformation: it will become “a model of urban ecological restoration,” according to the master plan for its revival.



Four Mile Run, looking towards West Glebe Road.

PHOTO BY MEG PETERS



Map showing the major roads that pass over Four Mile Run.

DRAWING BY MEG PETERS

The Early Twentieth Century

In 1927, the National Park and Planning Commission cited the “importance of the Valley of Four Mile Run from the point of view of the natural sciences” in its preliminary plan for a Four Mile Run Parkway between the Potomac River and Lee Highway. That plan never came to fruition. The boundary of the City of Alexandria shifted to Four Mile Run in 1929, encompassing all of Potomac Yard and the Town of Potomac (now Del Ray). Since Arlington had no centralized sewage system until 1937, Four Mile Run was polluted with trash and raw sewage. In 1969, *The Sunday Star* published comments from “the wife of one businessman” remembering this area, “the old Arlandria area”:

“It was large and swampy. In the evening there was an eerie feeling from the smelly black smoke that used to pour across the stream from the county dump. Coal-burning locomotives would move through the swamp and hobos would jump off the trains to warm themselves at the fire at the dump. It was a mess – the end of the earth.”

Urbanization and Flooding

Just prior to World War II, development in the Four Mile Run area boomed, continuing into the 1960s. Flooding began in the 1940s, with major floods during the 1960s and 1970s, despite the widening of the stream in 1962 and its subsequent dredging twice a year. Since much of the watershed was covered with solid man-made materials, water could not drain and be absorbed naturally, resulting in a large volume of surface water runoff.

After Hurricane Agnes in

June 1972, damage was estimated at 14 million. The Army Corps of Engineers rebuilt some of the bridges and “channelized” the stream in several areas, securing its banks with riprap.

The U.S. Congress held extensive hearings in 1973 on the Four Mile Run Flood Control Project prior to funding it. Major costs included further widening of the channel and the replacement of two bridges and the railroad trestle and culverts. Largely responsible for the flooding, the culverts ran under the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad tracks at Potomac Yard and greatly restricted the flow of water during storms. When the flood control project began in 1974, it was funded jointly by the federal government, Arlington, Alexandria, and the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad.

“The Beast of Four Mile Run”

Early in the summer of 1974, residents near the Barcroft Recreation Area along Four Mile Run heard the “nightmarish screeches” of the “mystery beast” that viciously attacked cats, dogs, and rabbits, maiming or killing them. Pets and children were kept indoors after dark while Arlington County police and National Zoo officials searched for the creature. *The Washington Star* quoted Mrs. Zan Morelock of South Randolph Street: “I’m afraid. We’re all afraid. That thing kills just for the fun of killing.”

The “beast” was finally captured in mid July, and zoo officials identified it as a male civet cat between 10 and 20 pounds. Native to Southeast Asia, civet cats eat birds, small animals, and fruit. Apparently this cat had been someone’s pet, as

indicated by the collar marks around its neck.

The Future of Four Mile Run

In 2003, Arlington and Alexandria began working on a plan for the revival of Four Mile Run’s flood plain – from Shirlington Road to the Potomac River. Adopted in March 2006, the Four Mile Run Restoration Master Plan describes the two jurisdictions’ shared vision:

“Through the sensitive and sustainable integration of natural areas with active urban nodes, the Four Mile Run corridor will be a place along which the communities of Arlington County and the City of Alexandria can gather, recreate and celebrate a shared waterfront legacy.”

Over the next 20 to 30 years, Four Mile Run will bloom once again, adorned with native plants and accented by scenic walkways, bike and pedestrian bridges, trails, sports fields, a promenade, and parks and recreational facilities. Check out the Complete Four Mile Run Restoration Final Master Plan at the Northern Virginia Regional Commission website: <http://www.novaregion.org/index.aspx?nid=215>

Meg Peters is a web designer, a history buff and a contractor at the Library of Congress. Formerly a resident of Arlington, she now lives in Alexandria, just over the boundary line.

Did you know?

- Four Mile Run flooded more than 80 times between 1965 and 1980.
- Approximately 85 percent of Four Mile Run’s 19.6-square-mile watershed is developed, and almost 40 percent is covered with impervious building materials.



STROLLING BY HISTORY

Captain’s Row

Along the 100 block of Prince Street, between Lee and Union Streets is the section of town known as Captain’s Row, where many sea captains built Federal style houses. Complete with cobblestones and charming architectural details, this is probably one of the most picturesque colonial village blocks anywhere in the United States.

Limited editions of this print are available at Todd Healy’s Studio at 320 King Street in Alexandria, 703-549-7883. Todd is also available for private commissions.

ORIGINAL WATERCOLOR BY TODD HEALY

Carol Burnett is returning to All My Children



ABC said Friday, June 25 that the actress will reprise the role of Verla Grubbs in a few episodes this September.

A longtime fan of the show, Burnett first appeared as the character, the long-lost daughter of Langley Wallingford, in 1983. She returned in 1995 for the 25th anniversary of the show, and again in 2005 to mark the soap's 35th year on the air. She also hosted All My Children's 25th anniversary primetime special. After 41 years on the air, All My Children will air its last show September 23, 2011.

QUOTABLE:

“We here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation shall have a new birth of freedom; and that this government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.”

--Abraham Lincoln



Congratulations! Alexandria's Garner Girls Graduate Same Year!!

Erin Garner graduated with honors from Radford University with a BS in Criminology, and a minor in Anthropological Sciences.

Younger sister Morgan Garner, celebrated her moment of "Pomp and Circumstance" in traditional white cap and gown at Alexandria's own T.C. Williams.

2011 has certainly been a banner year for the Garner family. Congrats!



Christine Roland Garner

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Del Ray



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Old Town



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3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, fireplace, off street parking, blocks to shops & restaurants in North Old Town.

Del Ray



\$525,000
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ASK THE CLOCKMAN

BY PHIL WADLAND



New hand-carved bird before stain.



Refinished German Quail cuckoo clock circa 1900.

PHOTOS BY PHIL WADLAND

Q: I found this old cuckoo in my grandfather's basement, which seems to be missing some parts. Can these parts be replaced and is the clock worth anything? Also, it appears that a carved wooden bird is broken off the top of the clock case. Can it be replaced?

A: A lot of so called clock makers do not work on cuckoos, frequently telling customers they are not worth repairing, simply because they are unable or do not know how to fix them. However, I am an expert in cuckoo restoration. I looked at your clock. First, you have a very special clock. It

is a pre-WW1 German Quail cuckoo, and is roughly a century old. A Quail cuckoo strikes the sound of a quail, "hoot-hoot-hoot", once for each quarter of the hour. It hoots one time on the first quarter hour, twice on the half, three times on the third quarter and four times on the hour, after which it then sounds "coo- coo" for the correct number of the hour. Yes, you have some missing parts, One of the cuckoo birds that comes out of the doors is missing, all three of the whistle bellows are cracked with age, one weight is missing, some of the rings and hooks are missing and the

clock movement NEEDS to be disassembled and cleaned, and any worn bearings replaced. As to the missing carved bird, I can carve a new bird that will blend into your old case. I would also replace all three of the weights so the clock has a matched set. When this clock is back in perfect condition I would put an insurance value of \$2000 on it.

Phil Wadland is a third-generation clockmaker and horologist, residing in Manchester, New Hampshire. If you have questions for the Clockman, email clockman@thezebra.org



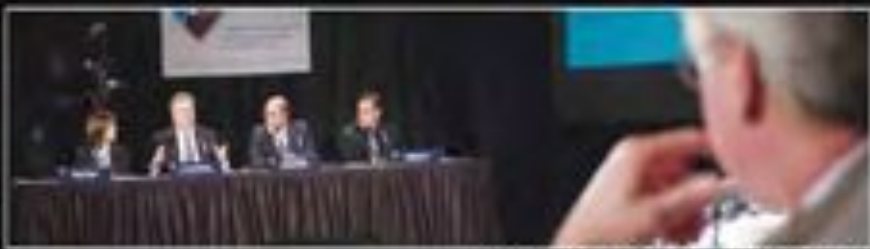
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QUOTABLE:

“Ours is the only country deliberately founded on a good idea.”

--John Gunther



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Cast Members of *Glee* in Northern Virginia

Glee cast members Corey Monteith (Finn Hudson), Naya Rivera (Santana Lopez) and Jenna Ushkowitz (Tina) met with fans at the AT&T store in Potomac Yard to sign autographs and get their pictures taken. This is all part of the *Glee* Live Tour 2011. Both AT&T and Samsung are associate sponsors of the event. Hundreds waited in 98-degree weather to meet the cast. Radio personalities from Hot 99.5 entertained the crowd in the parking lot. *Glee* has a very large following and has already won 2 Golden Globe awards.

PHOTOS BY HARRY MERRITT

Signature's Search for the Next Idol

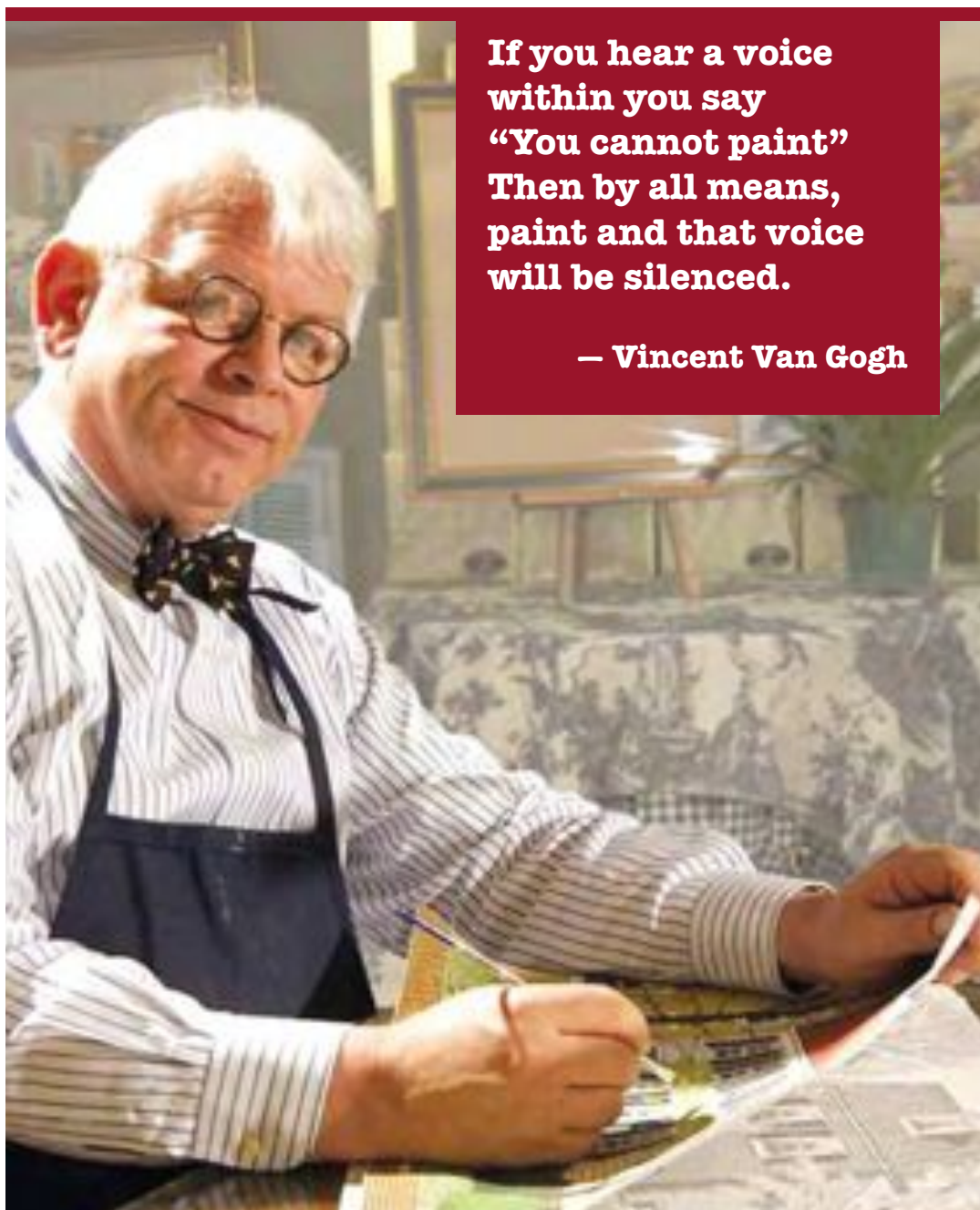


Last year's winner Gabriel Lopez.
COURTESY PHOTO

Signature Theatre is seeking the next "*Signature Idol*" with the return of their very popular Signature Idol Competition to be held July 23 during the theatre's annual Target Open House. Audition videos must be submitted in advance by July 11. So if you sing in the car, at parties or even in the shower, you are encouraged to try out. The competition winner will have the opportunity to perform in the "*Broadway on the Plaza*" finale concert during the open house.

Eric Schaeffer, Signature's artistic director stated, "After the great success we had with last year's Signature Idol, and all the fun that we had, there was no way we were not bringing this competition back. It provides a wonderful platform for undiscovered talent in a very safe environment."

Admission to the July 23 open house is free, so come out and audition to be the next idol or to enjoy the vast array of exciting performances, demonstrations, master classes and exhibits that Signature has to offer. For further Target Open House information and Signature Idol rules and guidelines, visit signature-theatre.org.



If you hear a voice within you say
"You cannot paint"
Then by all means,
paint and that voice
will be silenced.

— Vincent Van Gogh



Ultimate Dog Tease

We can't help it, but for the second month in a row, we HAVE to make this our pick of the month.

At press time, this video has now gone viral with over 47 million hits. Perhaps the most hysterical and enchanting 83 seconds our staff has ever seen. If you are a dog lover, this is a video not to be missed!

CHECK IT OUT on the HOME PAGE of ZEBRA www.thezebra.org



Todd Healy

Artist & Framemaker

320 King Street • Old Town Alexandria

703-549-7883

Mention Zebra for a 10% discount on framing or art during the month of July.



Start of the 90 km Crystal Cup, Air Force Cycling Classic Men's Pro/Am NRC Invitational race.



Canadian National Criteria Champion Leah Kirchmann receives check from Brian Morra of Northrup Grumman for the Women's Pro/Am race.

Air Force Cycling Classic in Arlington

Both Clarendon and Crystal City hosted the Air Force Cycling Classic sponsored by the Boeing Company and others. A number of different race categories were held from little kids on tricycle to the most sophisticated Pro/Am National Racing Calendar (NRC) level competition. Premier competitors come from all over the globe to participate in the races. As in past races the United Healthcare team dominated the Men's Pro/Am races. Thousands turned out in Crystal City and Clarendon to watch the race and cheer for their favorite cyclist. The event was recorded by our local news channel 8 station.

PHOTOS BY HARRY MERRITT



Winners of the Crystal Cup, Women's Pro/AM NRC on the podium Joelle Numainville (2nd place, Tibco-To the Top team), Leah Kirchmann (1st place, Colavita Forno D'Asolo team) and Lauren Tomayo (3rd place, Peanut Butter & Co Twenty12 team).



Dashiell Bushnaq shows off his medal from the kid's race.



Despite the heat thousands watched the race along Crystal Drive.



Canadian Leah Kirchmann crosses the finish line to win the Crystal City 60km Women's Pro/Am event.



Flora Pelton enjoyed the ride, training wheels and all.



On the podium for the 90km Crystal Cup, Men's Pro/Am Invitational NRC race are Lt. Gen. Darryl Jones (USAF), John Young (CEO Alenia North America Inc), Hilton Clarke (2nd place winner, United Healthcare), Jake Keough (1st place winner, United Healthcare) Robert Forester (3rd place winner, United Healthcare), Angie Fox (CEO Crystal City BID), Tim Peters (Boeing) and Caitlin Uze (Miss Virginia).



Racers routinely average 25 to 30 miles per hour during a race.



Web Poll Results

June's question was: "Do you Smoke?"

65%
YES

25%
NO

10%
ONLY THE
ILLEGAL KIND

July's Web Poll Question: If you were on the jury, how would you vote on Casey Anthony (the young woman in Florida accused of killing her toddler)?
 GUILTY of first degree murder with death penalty | GUILTY of first degree murder but no death penalty
 GUILTY of manslaughter | NOT GUILTY



WEB POLL

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A Democrat's View



BY RICHARD FOWLER

There has been a lot of debate swirling around Republicans and Medicare, and it's time to set the record straight.

Last year, I took some time out to visit my seventy-six year old aunt who depends on Medicare and its benefits to fill her Razadyne ER prescription, a medicine that is used to curb her memory loss. To think that House Republicans are more interested in making cuts and cutting taxing, than making sure that my Aunt, who has been working for forty five years, gets her prescription is almost ridiculous. Every one of us knows at least one person who cannot and will not be able to live without the benefits of Medicare, and yet, House Republicans have voted to take away the Medicare our seniors paid for their whole working lives. There's no question that reforms have to be made to the Medicare program for it to exist forever. That is why one must examine the GOP's plan for Medicare to understand why so many Americans are opposed to it. One thing we can all agree on is after a lifetime paying into Medicare, our seniors deserve the peace of mind to count on the health care they're owed.

The Republican plan to privatize Medicare won't do anything to fix rising healthcare expenses, the number one reason for why costs keep going up for Medicare. It just shifts the burden to our cash-strapped seniors, forcing them to almost double what they pay for private healthcare. There has been a lot of debate swirling around Republicans and Medicare, and it's time to set the record straight. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) reported that the GOP plan would require elderly people to pay more for their healthcare than they would pay in the status quo. To make matters even worse, the CBO has projected the by 2030, under the GOP plan, a Medicare beneficiary will be spending almost 70% more out-of-pocket for healthcare expenses. Regrettably, under the GOP plan, these cuts to Medicare are accompanied with almost \$4.2 trillion in tax cuts to big businesses, including oil companies, who have made billions in profits over the past few years. At the end of the day, no matter what is said in the media, it is clear that the GOP plan would result in cuts to our seniors' healthcare.

There is no question that Medicare needs reform which is why President Obama and congressional Democrats extended Medicare by eight more years in last year's Comprehensive Healthcare Reform Act. Non-partisan actuaries for Medicare have estimated that with the healthcare overhaul, Medicare will extend its existence from 2016 to 2024. Democrats, beyond passing Comprehensive Healthcare Reform are committed to protecting the healthcare options for people, like my aunt, who have contributed so much to our economy. We promised seniors that healthcare would not bankrupt them and their families in retirement, and Democrats have continued to uphold that promise. Our commitment to working families and seniors has never been stronger, no matter what reforms bills are proposed in Congress. Sadly, the same cannot be said about our Republican colleagues. Without Razadyne ER my aunt would probably forget to lock her door at night, take her high blood pressure medication or eat dinner. I guess the GOP doesn't care about people like my aunt.

More than 80% of our seniors, just like my aunt, say Medicare is central to their retirement security, and when it comes to handling Medicare, Americans trust Democrats over Republicans!

Richard A. Fowler is a political strategist and image consultant in Northern Virginia. He is a member of the Alexandria Democratic Committee, and be reached at his website, richardafowler.com. Follow him on Twitter @Richardafowler.

A Republican's View



BY CHERYLYN HARLEY LEBON

Changing demographics and escalating health costs mean that Medicare must change or the entire system will collapse.

If you are like me, when the nitty gritty technical details about Medicare start to flow, your eyes glaze over. Like you, I know that it's an important issue. I worry about health care for my parents and in-laws; but since Medicare is not staring me in the face, I am not worried about it at this I am wrong to feel that way. Here are reasons why all of us should be concerned. Approximately 80 million baby boomers are now entering a Medicare system designed for an era when people died earlier and lacked access to cutting-edge technologies. Changing demographics and escalating health costs mean that Medicare must change or the entire system will collapse. The situation was further complicated with President Obama's health care plan, which expands the health care entitlement system and further burdens Medicare by taking resources from that system to partially fund Obamacare.

The most recent Medicare Trustees report found that the Medicare trust fund will become insolvent in 2024 — about five years earlier than the Trustees had predicted last year. As it stands, if we do not implement reforms, when those trust funds are depleted, benefits would have to be cut by more than 20 percent in 2037, and then by even more each year thereafter. By 2084, it is estimated that the system will generate only enough revenue to pay for 75 percent of promised benefit levels.

Many have debated Representative Paul Ryan's (R-WI) Medicare reform plan, which seems to be the only plan in Congress. Under his plan, there will be no changes and no disruptions to benefits for Americans over the age of 55, and future beneficiaries will have access to the same health care options as Members of Congress. Ryan's reformed plan would work like Medicare Part D, the prescription drug plan that encourages market competition by providing the best rates and encourages business model innovation.

Democrats have been very critical of Ryan and the GOP plan, but what is their plan? Their energies might be better spent developing an alternative, but instead they propose cutting \$500 billion from the Medicare budget and implementing rationed health care (aka So-

cialist medicine) through the infamous and unelected IPAB, who would decide whether your Grandpa receives heart bypass surgery or waits to die.

Unfortunately, no one wants to acknowledge that our overall deficit crisis cannot be solved without reductions in Medicare and other entitlement programs. Polls have consistently shown that most people are generally uncomfortable with the concept of cutting entitlement spending. Republicans will need to combine their Medicare message with an emphasis on economic growth. Despite the need for entitlement reform, with 9% percent unemployment and an ongoing housing crisis, these arguments are falling on deaf ears in every sector of the political spectrum.

The Republicans have put forth a plan to guarantee benefits for existing seniors and those approaching retirement while ensuring that a sustainable program exists for Americans under 54 years of age. It may need work, but it is a start.

Medicare, as we know it, will be insolvent in a decade. Our elected representatives at the national, state, and local levels need to propose solutions that look beyond the polls or the next election.

I must admit, I agree with a recent quote from Senator Tom Coburn (R-OK), "Nobody can be critical of what Paul Ryan has done," Coburn said. "He's the only one out there with a plan. When you have a plan, then you have the right to be critical of what Paul Ryan has done. If you haven't put a plan on the table, you need to keep your mouth shut."

Enough said

Cherylyn Harley LeBon is a political strategist and former Senior Counsel on the U. S. Senate Judiciary Committee. She lives with her family in Northern Virginia. Follow her on Twitter @HarleyLeBon.

Taste of Del Ray Winners



Evening Star is presented the Judge's Choice 1st place award by Bravo TV Top Chef Carla Hall.



Taquerio Poblano took home the first prize as the People's Choice winner.

PHOTOS BY WAYNE HULEHAN



On Sunday, June 5, the Del Ray community celebrated with music and festivities and loads of tasty submissions from the neighborhood restaurants. Bravo TV's Top Chef Carla Hall was on hand to do the official judging, but the "people" had a chance to rate their favorites as well. And the winners are:

People's Choice

- 1st Taquerio Poblano
- 2nd Evening Star
- 3rd Pork Barrel BBQ

Judge's Choice

- 1st Evening Star
- 2nd Del Ray Pizzeria
- 3rd Pork Barrel BBQ

DASH Welcomes New Transit Manager

The Alexandria Transit Company recently announced Raymond Mui will serve as the organization's new transit planning manager, primarily responsible for the development of a new, high frequency, express bus service between the King Street Metro Station and Mark Center for personnel of BRAC 133, according to Allyson Teevan, manager, DASH Marketing and Communications.

A recent graduate of Purdue University with a degree in civil engineering, Mui's duties will also include development of new DASH routes and improvements to current services as a result of multi-year transportation funding approved by the Alexandria City Council in May. "I plan to work with the community, the city and our bus operators as we begin updating our long-range service plan and



expanding the system to meet Alexandria's growing transportation needs," Mui said.

Torpedo Factory Art Center Announces Summer Activities

The Torpedo Factory Art Center's Friends Artist of the Year Tory Cowles will open a solo exhibit in the center's Target Gallery on July 2, according to Gallery Director Mary Cook, which will run through August 14. On July 14 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM, a special reception and awards ceremony will be held to celebrate Cowles' selection as 2011's artist of the year. The event is free and open to the public.

An abstract painter, Cowles' work combines "a stream of consciousness, abstract expressionism and disciplined critical analysis. She paints from the heart and hopes viewers are moved to respond from the heart as well," according to Cook.

On July 5 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM, Rebecca Lasky will be the featured speaker at the center's "Morrison House Presents" program. Her topic will be "Ma-

terial Innovations from Artistic Expressionism." The inventor of "Goo," Lasky is a graduate of the world-renowned Rhode Island School of Design. Her presentation will focus on her invention of "Goo" and include a live demonstration of its use.

The center recently announced the names of 11 visiting artists who will be in residence throughout the summer. The Visiting Artist Program, now in its second year, aims to "expose visitors and patrons to a rotating group of accomplished artists and provide a unique opportunity to interact, explore and exchange ideas." The resident artists, selected from 43 applicants, will be working in studios throughout the center; their work covers a wide array of mediums including painting, sculpture, photography and drawing.

Visit torpedofactory.org/vap for further information.

Catch Our Mistakes

Gary Holmes of Alexandria caught the most, finding 17 typos, and wins two water taxi roundtrip tickets from Potomac Riverboat Cruises. Thanks for all the submissions, and keep them coming! We know we make mistakes, and to make a game of it, we welcome your catches. Please send them to info@thezebra.org for a chance to win a \$25 gift certificate from an area retailer, restaurant or cruise line!



Hot Oven, Hot Car... It's the Same Thing.

Some people take their dogs along on errands but leave them in the car. This can be deadly. A little heat outside a car can quickly make it very hot inside. For example, on a summer's day of only 85 degrees, even keeping the windows slightly open won't stop the inside temperature from climbing to 102 degrees in 10 minutes and to 120 degrees in 20 minutes. A dog whose body temperature rises to 107-108 degrees will within a very short time suffer irreparable brain damage — or even death. Leave Fido home in the cool air conditioning.

WEBA and DRBA Present "Two Successful Entrepreneurs"

On Tuesday, July 12 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM, the West End Business Association (WEBA) and Del Ray Business Association (DRBA) will present a joint program entitled "Creating a Business during the Recession." Speakers will include Mike Anderson, owner of Mango Mike's and several other restaurants, and Eric Nelson, owner of Artfully Chocolate.

The program will be held at the new Pork Barrel BBQ Restaurant at 2312 Mount Vernon Avenue in Alexandria. For further information, telephone 703/772-6716.

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Carylin Waterval and members of Girl Scout Troop #479 received the Allie McConnell Youth Service Award.



New Hope Housing Volunteer Coordinator Chris Bramante recognizes Arleane Clark from Bethlehem Baptist Church.



New Hope Housing Executive Director Pam Michel with Andrea Grimaldi recipient of the 2010 Volunteer of the Year Award.

New Hope Housing Celebrates Community Support

New Hope Housing proudly hosted its annual volunteer recognition event, a celebration of community support, on Thursday, June 16 at the Mount Vernon Unitarian Church.

The Kyle Randall Volunteer of the Year Award, given to outstanding New Hope Housing volunteers and civic partners who demonstrate Kyle's spirit of generosity and commitment, was presented to Andrea Grimaldi. Andrea developed and organized a comprehensive employment "boutique" for New Hope Housing residents complete with professional wardrobe advice, resume-writing support and job application assistance.

Linda Hill received the Jim Lund Award, given for exceptional length of service. Linda has been an active volunteer with the Alexandria Community Shelter for 20 years,

leading and organizing holiday gift programs with the help of scouts from Cub Scout Pack 614.

Carylin Waterval and members of Girl Scout Troop #479 received the Allie McConnell Youth Service Award for organizing special activities for children at New Hope Housing's family shelters.

In addition to these three awards, 11 other individuals and groups were given special recognition for their volunteer services over the past year. Pam Michell, Executive Director of New Hope Housing, commented, "We are so fortunate to have the commitment and dedication to helping people in our community demonstrated by Andrea and all of those recognized this evening. Our volunteers demonstrate a sincere commitment to helping others, and we are a stronger community as a result of

their support." Michell also acknowledged the thousands of advocates for New Hope Housing not present who also provide support to help homeless men, women and children shape a new future for themselves and for our community.

New Hope Housing Volunteer Coordinator Chris Bramante added, "Special recognition is also given to the Mount Vernon Unitarian Church for hosting the event, demonstrating its ongoing commitment and dedication to volunteerism and support of the New Hope Housing mission."

New Hope Housing is an innovative, award-winning agency providing shelter,

transitional and permanent supportive housing, outreach and support services for homeless families and single adults, in Fairfax County, City of Alexandria, Arlington County, and City of Falls Church. New Hope Housing is committed to finding creative and lasting solutions to end the cycle of homelessness by offering homeless men, women and children the services they need to change their lives and succeed. In 2010, New Hope Housing served over 1,100 individuals including 170 children. For more information about New Hope Housing, go to www.newhopehousing.org



Assistant District Commissioner for Alexandria and Cubmaster for Pack 614 Linda Hill accepts the Jim Lund Award from New Hope Housing's Life Skills Specialist Christine Trotter for service at the Alexandria Community Shelter.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF NEW HOPE HOUSING

MOVIE NIGHT

Movie Nights in Crystal City

Every Monday night through August 29th, Crystal City hosts a free outdoor movie. Located in the plaza across from the Crystal City Marriott on Bell Street, patrons bring blankets and lawn chairs to enjoy the evening's entertainment. The theme for this year's movies is movies by the numbers. All the movies have a number in their title. For information on the movie schedule, go to www.crystalcity.org.

PHOTO BY HARRY MERRITT

QUOTABLE:

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

--Maya Angelou

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DOGS AT WORK

Patent and Immigration attorney, John Dodds submitted his family's pack of working dogs:



Lucy Dodds hard at work under John's desk at 1707 N St NW in Washington, DC. Many clients ask if Lucy is there before they even ask if John is available.



Hoover Dodds heads up the security detail at the family's second home in Mexico. He patrols the grounds and catches anything that moves in the gardens.



And Lily is the indoor alarm system at the Dodds' Mexico home, where if she sets off her little alarm, Hoover gets into the act and takes charge.

>> Thanks to John Dodds for his submission. If you have fun pictures of your dogs hard at work in your life, please send them to mary@thezebra.org. We will be happy to try and get them published as soon as we are able.

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Did You Know?



While it's assumed that the little bottles of shampoo, conditioner and hand lotion are free for the taking in hotels, so are the disposable shower caps, shoe polishing sponges, soaps and sewing kits. These items are placed in the room for your convenience and replenished daily if used. So, on the last day of your stay, take them with you. Hotels factor these items in to the price of their rooms. Certainly don't use these items and then put them back. No one wants to open a sewing kit only to discover all the black thread is missing. If you take or discard the item, the staff then knows to replace it with a new one for the next guest.

Also, when you order room service, you will receive a sampling of small jars of jellies and honey for breakfast and miniature bottles of ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise and sometimes even hot sauce with lunch and dinner trays. Again, these items are provided as accompanying condiments for your food items. The hotel expects you to use them, so take them. They are great to keep in your office desk drawer when you need more mustard or want to brighten up an otherwise bland morning bagel.

Lastly, don't forget about the slippers! While it is strictly taboo to attempt to sneak out a provided hotel robe (they do keep track of these and will charge your credit card after your stay or you can purchase one), if the hotel has a swimming pool, fitness center or spa, it is not out of the norm for you to call housekeeping and request a pair of hotel

slippers – even if you are not planning on splashing, cycling or soaking.

In a few minutes, a housekeeping porter will deliver a complimentary (free) pair of slippers, sealed in plastic, to your door, for which you should render a customary \$2 tip. Most slippers will be white with a skid-proof bottom, one-size-fits-all, some with closed toes, embroidered with the hotel logo on top. But each hotel attempts to make theirs different, and some, such as New York's famed Plaza Hotel, in blue with white embroidery, are now collector's items. Consummate travelers amass hotel slippers and take pride in wearing them at home, at the gym, local spa or nail salon. Since they are free and disposable, when a pair wears out, toss and grab a new one from your stock. They are equally great to wear on planes, for hospital stays or any time you are experiencing swelling, and are also a nice treat to have on-hand if a house guest shows up with no slippers. If you want to build your collection quickly, some heavy travelers, especially businessmen, sell them in bulk on eBay, offering a dozen from different hotels around the world for a flat fee.

So while the *Zebra* does not endorse pilfering from hotels, we encourage you to take those items you have rightfully paid for or that have been provided or made available to you as part of a hotel's guest experience. So no towels, linens or flatware please, but the Bvlgari soaps at the Ritz-Carlton are to die for! A single bar costs \$27 at Neiman Marcus.

MATCH GAME Classic TV



BY HOLLY BURNETT

Match the characters at left to their classic TV shows in the right column. Correct answer will be revealed in our August issue. Enjoy the game!

Mr. Baxter	Family Ties
Miss Beadle	The Waltons
Carolyn Appleby	Facts of Life
Mrs. Naugatuck	Petticoat Junction
Sam Drucker	Bonanza
Uncle Joe	Gunsmoke
Ike Godsey	Hazel
Mr. French	Maude
Mrs. Garrett	All in the Family
Dr. Zachary Smith	Green Acres
Mike Stivic	Little House on the Prairie
Dr. Bombay	Lost in Space
Hoss	The Jeffersons
Mr. Bentley	Golden Girls
Floyd	The Dick Van Dyke Show
Alex P. Keaton	I Love Lucy
Murray Slaughter	Family Affair
Dorothy Zbornak	The Andy Griffith Show
Alan Brady	The Mary Tyler Moore Show
Miss Kitty	Bewitched

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BY ROBERT KNAPP



How does one live to a ripe old age and still have a quality life? That question has been around for years, and the answer is constantly changing in our high tech and rapidly moving world. First, all things have to be equal. For example, the pedestrians here in Alexandria had better start to look both ways before they cross the street. I learned how to cross streets in New York and I will tell you: Look both ways! The second issue, other than accidents, is choosing your parents wisely. They must have given you the right DNA and a non-dysfunctional upbringing.

Okay, so what have I learned about living longer. I recall going to one seminar concerning "telomeres," which basically bind up the ends of our DNA so they can reproduce without being damaged. If our DNA can replicate throughout our lifetimes without damage, we will live longer and happier lives. The professor's theory was that we were filled up with a certain amount of telomeres at the beginning of life, and we wear them out as we proceed through our journey. Of course, the question is begged, what wears them out? According to the professor, it is stress. If you have a death in the family, divorce, etc., you use up your supply of telomeres as these events tax your body, not to mention some idiot swerving in front of you on I-95. The more stress, the shorter our lives. It's an interesting theory, and many more abound, but it does have merit.

So the first thing we need to do is avoid killing ourselves unnecessarily, so stress must be avoided as much as possible. Stress

is the releasing of adrenalin into the system. Another word for stress could be fear. It's interesting if one perceives stress as fear. So why fear the small stuff? It's a mental paradigm shift that one has to accomplish first.

The next step is to get plenty of sleep. Most people should be getting between seven and eight hours a night. Teenagers need more because they are still growing...maybe not smarter, but growing nonetheless.

To help your mental state, you must have close contact with other people on a regular basis. Hang out with happy people, and be an optimist! So Alexandrians, stop walking your dog alone and walk with your spouse or friends as well. Get involved with other people; it's the healthy thing to do.

Also, take the correct vitamins and watch your food intake. Fresh vegetables, organic red meat (yes, vegans you need it for strong bones), fruits, fish and nuts. Avoid all grains and milk products. For the vitamin components, I recommend vitamin D each day unless you play outside. Most all the other vitamins we can get through a balanced diet. Magnesium is a mineral that is coming into focus along with D, and encourage 800 milligrams per day. Lastly, don't forget your Omega-3s! Read up on them, and start a daily regimen as soon as possible.

Now to exercise! Women should do more weight-lifting, and most men should do more aerobic workouts. Men, you will live longer if you do. Women, you will

have less joint problems. And don't forget to stretch! I would suggest researching the proper exercises for yourself or working with a personal trainer to provide a kick-start.

Yes, red wine and chocolate in moderation are good for you. MODERATION FOLKS!

Chiropractic treatments will give you an advantage over others out there, including staving off arthritis.

Finally, you must exercise your mind! Yes, your brain! Don't retire and go brain-dead. You can help your brain keep alive and well by doing crossword puzzles, going back to school, learning another language or how to play a musical instrument, taking math courses, writing, starting a new job...or stay with your old job. Do whatever it takes to keep your brain active! Stay current with the new literature on living longer. Glean what is necessary from your readings, and don't go haywire over momentary crazes.

Most importantly, look forward, not backward...unless you want to go that way

Dr. Robert Knapp constantly strives to improve and update his knowledge in the field of chiropractic medicine; he participates in advanced orthopedic post-graduate courses and numerous seminars across the country. If you have a question for Dr. Knapp, please email him at dr.knapp@aachiropractic.com or call his Alexandria office at 703-823-2201.



Alexandrians are Living Longer!

Americans are living longer, but not in every corner of the country. A new study shows that in hundreds of U.S. counties — mostly in the South — life expectancy has fallen. The researchers believe problems like smoking and obesity are partly to blame.

Overall, life expectancy in the U.S. is at an all-time high. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently estimated that a baby born in 2009 could expect to live 78 years and two months.

The counties with the largest increases in male life expectancy were metro areas lush with jobs and universities — almost four years in Georgia's Fulton County (Atlanta) and more than three years in New York City, Washington and nearby Alexandria, Va.

For women, the biggest jumps — 3½ years — were in Alexandria and a Wyoming County that includes the affluent Jackson Hole.

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PET OBIT

We are saddened to report that on June 25, 2011, Newt, the office groundhog, met his untimely death. Only two feet from his safe burrow, Newt was apprehended at approximately 2:15 PM by the dog neighbor from next door (all other names have been removed to protect the innocent and the guilty), who administered the unexpected death sentence. Newt's demise was sudden and shocking, especially for him, we are sure.

A simple ceremony was held at the Church Street Baptist Church Sunday, June 26 at 1:00 p.m.

We are sure we'll all miss Newt. But please remember him fondly as he digs new holes in heaven.

Submitted by Friends of Newt



BY MARCUS FISK

A FAREWELL TO ARMS

As the outgoing Secretary of Defense Robert Gates prepares to vacate his office on the E-ring in the Pentagon, many of the news reports will be about his successor and how Leon Panetta will fill those big shoes. But I found myself thinking about Gates, this dedicated, humble and extraordinary man. Before he came back to the swamps of Washington, he was relishing life as president of Texas A&M University and enjoying his hard-earned, post government career. Despite his comfortable twilight job in Texas, he agreed to return to government and tackle the most turbulent, precarious and explosive cabinet position since the Vietnam era.

Not in recent memory has a secretary of defense faced so many problems and issues as the ones Gates has faced. Granted, many of his predecessors endured periods of armed conflict, sending young men and women into battle or to a hot spot somewhere in the world, dealing with rising tensions between peer nations, or even facing huge budget-cutting dilemmas. But looking back at the past five years of Gates' reign as secretary, one has to be impressed and amazed at his skill at the helm of our nation's defense department.

Let's take a brief look at what he has faced and his accomplishments.

Despite his policy disagreement on the "Surge" in Iraq, he took the advice of his senior uniformed leaders, planned for it, got the political backing from Congress and supported the successful execution of the plan. Then he followed that with a force reduction in that country, driving our structure in Iraq from over 200,000 to less than 40,000 troops in less than two years. He also provided the resources and political leadership for a similar strategy in Afghanistan, and that, too, seems to be working.

His strong sense of stewardship was equally matched by his political courage. After decades working in national security, he saw the world as it really was and what the cold, hard future had in store for us. He opened our eyes to counter-insurgency – the future, not cold war strategic thinking that was our past.

Seeing that the military's fiscal ship was on a collision course with reality, he boldly cut expensive procurement

programs that were over-budget and over-schedule. He treated the military as his family and as a father would, asked us why we were buying things that we really didn't need, especially when our bank account was in the red.

As the secretary of defense he personified "Support the Troops" and didn't suffer fools gladly. When our soldiers, sailors and airmen came home with debilitating post-traumatic stress disorders (PTSD) or traumatic brain injuries (TBI) to inadequate facilities at Walter Reed Hospital, he fired the commanding officer and fixed the problem with new facilities, services and funding for follow-up programs for our wounded warriors.

When he was traveling and meeting the troops across the globe, he was frequently at military hospitals on evening calls to visit the injured. Equally at ease with heads of state as he is with a soldier at an entry control point or a family member at a town hall meeting whose spouse is deployed, he answered our questions, talked about our missions and soothed our worries. Despite the enormity of his job and the responsibilities he shouldered, this humble man was frequently brought to tears when visiting our troops and their families or in relating the stories of his meetings with them.

Never one to shirk his responsibility, Gates led a campaign to reduce military medical program costs by asking retirees to foot some more of the bill. Although, on the surface, this seemed to run contrary to his pro-troop policies, I, for one, believe that an increase in Tricare premiums is a small price to pay to cut costs and ensure future benefits for all retirees. He only asked us to do something he felt was right for all concerned, and something he wouldn't ask unless he too was willing to pitch in himself.

Not only did he shake the military awake to the unconventional threats in the world today and led by example with efficiency efforts to only pay for what was important, he courageously stood alongside Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Mike Mullen and told the country that "Don't Ask – Don't Tell" didn't have a place in today's military. After decades with the CIA and the National Security Council,



Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates, center, observes flight operations aboard the aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN-72) in December 2010.

PHOTO BY US NAVY PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS BRIAN MORALES



Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates congratulates a candidate from Basic Underwater Demolition/Sea, Air and Land (BUD/S) class 284 after securing him and his peers from Hell Week. During the 107-hour Hell Week, dozens of candidates endured constant stressful training with little sleep, making it one of the most arduous evolutions of the 50-week SEAL candidate training at the Naval Special Warfare Center in San Diego.

PHOTO BY US NAVY MASS COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST 2ND CLASS KYLE D. GAHLAU

Gates, who served with gays and lesbians, felt that a new day was dawning for the Department of Defense, too, and it was time to address a basic fact of life. Recognizing that our society continued to function perfectly fine with same sex relationships, it was only just, honest and prudent to let Americans – all Americans – serve their country openly and with pride. He maintained this stance throughout his tenure and weathered the fallout from that decision, exhibiting to all

that he was every inch a leader.

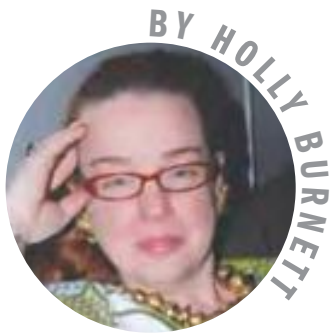
There is an old Navy tradition that when someone retires, the ship's bell is rung, the petty officer of the watch announces the departing title over the loud speaker, side boys are stationed at the quarterdeck, and the bo's'n mate pipes the retiree over the side as he or she leaves the ship for the last time.

So, Secretary Gates, in that same Navy tradition, we thank you for a job well done and wish you "fair winds and fol-

lowing seas."

Now, bo's'n mate, pass the word – "defense, retired, departing" and render honors.

Marcus Fisk is a retired Navy Captain, Naval Academy graduate, sometime actor, sculptor, pick-up soccer player, and playwright. He and his wife Pamela live in Alexandria.



Just the Right “Tempo”

In Alexandria’s West End, at 4231 Duke Street, sits a remarkable dining experience named Tempo Restaurant, just “Tempo” to its friends. A converted Shell gas station, the property was reinterpreted in 1990 by Serge and Wendy Albert, husband and wife restaurateurs, who wanted to introduce a modern take on Northern Italian cuisine, infused with their French and California up-bringsings. The result looks like an adorable white beach house with large windows and a small gang plank entrance, reminiscent of seaside bistros where couples might retreat above Malibu and the Pacific Coast

Highway.

Once inside, the space is modern and sophisticated, very much a West Coast retreat with knowledgeable staff providing first class service. Achilles, the seasoned maitre d’, is the immediate face of the establishment, and you will get to know him well on your regular nights in the dining room or during your drive-bys to pick up take-out, which waits for you at the intimate wine bar within insulated containers stacked in petite purple bags. But I digress.

Tempo’s ultimate distinction is its food, and more than one Alexandria restaurant owner has quietly confided that Tempo is



where they go on their nights off, a restaurateur’s restaurant, the ultimate compliment. Classic appetizers range from Carpaccio (sliced tenderloin on a bed of garlic vinaigrette, capers and Parmesan that is utterly delectable) to weekly specials such as Insalata di Spinaci (baby spinach salad tossed with mushrooms, strawberries, apples and warm bacon dressing that should be bottled and sold!). Especially appealing are their array of freshly

made, daily soups.

Their entrees are spot on in both taste and presentation, but the Capelli d’Angelo Napoletana (very thin egg pasta with tomatoes, garlic and basil) is a perennial favorite along with the Scaloppine di Vitello Rosemary (veal scaloppini with fresh rosemary, cream and Dijon mustard).

Ideal for special occasions as well as the weekly night out, the Alberts finish the meal with decadent desserts that rival the

finest French pastry shops, their Grand Marnier Cheesecake topping the list. Tempo is consistent, quality cuisine and casual elegance, a family business that is just the right “tempo” for its Alexandria neighbors.

Tempo serves lunch, dinner and Sunday brunch. For hours and reservations, call (703) 370-7900 or visit temporestaurant.com. Join the Tempo eClub online for special discounts.

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June 23 **PAJAMA CLUB** feat. **NEIL & SHARON FINN** CAL EVERETT

25 **ELIZABETH COOK** LESLIE STEVENS

28 **Todd Rundgren** feat. Jesse Gress, Kasim Sultan, Prairie Prince and John Ferenzik

July 1 **Eric Roberson** Abby Dobson

7 **Down To The Bone**

8 **SIMON & GARFUNKLE RETROSPECTIVE** performed by AJ Swearingen & Jonathan Beedle

9 **KASEY CHAMBERS**

14 **Edwin McCain** SETH GLIER

16 5th Annual **OLD TIME BANJO FESTIVAL** w/ Bruce Molsky, Buddy Wachter, The Hot Seats, Cathy Fink & Marcy Marxer www.oldtimebanjofestival.com

18 & 19 **JONNY LANG** NATALIE YORK

20 **Dave Koz**

21 Gentlemen of the Night feat. **PAUL TAYLOR, MARION MEADOWS & WARREN HILL**

22 **CARBON LEAF** Acoustic

23 **JOHNNY WINTER** TERRY GARLAND

24 **MARC COHN** MATRACA BENE

25 An Acoustic Evening with **JULIA FORDHAM & PAUL REISER**

26 **AVANT**

27 **TIM ROBBINS** & The Rogues Gallery Band

28&29 **VINCE GILL** An Evening of Bluegrass

30 **RARE EARTH**

31 **Morris Day & The Time**

Aug 2 **DAVID GRISMAN SEXTET**

3 **Joan Osborne** (Acoustic) Cris Jacobs

4 **TANK**

5 **POCO** (Band) & **Firefall** (Acoustic)

7&8 **FOUNTAINS OF WAYNE** AVIRLE ATKINS (7-Full Band, Electric 8-Full Band, Acoustic)

9 **ERIC JOHNSON**

11 **Chrisette Michele**

12 **Euge Groove**

13 & 14 **STEVE EARLE & THE DUKES** (& Duchesses) feat. ALLISON MORRER

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QUOTABLE:

“And I’m proud to be an American, where at least I know I’m free. And I won’t forget the men who died, who gave that right to me.”
--Lee Greenwood

BY MARI STULL



From Buckingham Palace to The White House Wines Sipped



Did you watch the Royal Wedding? I did, with a cadre of my best friends. The room sounded something like this: “Oh – fabulous dress, who was the designer?”

“What a hideous hat, where on earth did she find that!”

“I wonder where they found those fabulous flowers...”

“Is it true Kate scented the Cathedral with Jo Malone candles?”

“I wonder what Champagne they’ll be sipping at the reception...”

“Really, Vixen? You’re curious about the reception CHAMPAGNE?”

Yes. I can’t help it. I have an obsessive curiosity about the wines served at momentous occasions. The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge served Pol Roger Brut Reserve Non Vintage to their wedding guests at Buckingham Palace.

Pol Roger N/V was an interesting choice for William and Catherine. Pol Roger Champagne was a favorite of Sir Winston Churchill – and to honor his loyalty to the brand, Pol Roger produces a luxury vintage called “Cuvee Sir Winston Churchill” (what Dom Perignon is to Moet Chandon) – it is bottled only in magnums. So close was the relationship to the former British Prime Minister, that the Cuvee Sir Winston Churchill label is navy blue with a deep red stripe – based upon Churchill’s Naval uniform. Pol Roger showed even deeper loyalty to Churchill when, upon Churchill’s death, they printed a black band around the labels of all her Champagne destined to the United Kingdom.



Buckingham Bubbly

So, is it longstanding tradition that Pol Roger is served at Royal Weddings? Nope. At the reception for Lady Diana and Prince Charles, Buckingham Palace poured primarily Bollinger – in addition to Krug and Dom Perignon (Moet Chandon), and Veuve Clicquot. The Dom served was incredibly rare – just 99 bottles of 1961 vintage (the year of Lady Diana’s birth, and one of the finest Champagne vintages ever produced) was shipped from Champagne to Buckingham Palace for the reception. All of these 750ml bottles are believed to have been consumed at the soiree. However, one magnum made its way to auction in 2008, where it was sold for a whopping \$11,950.

At Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson’s 1986 wedding, 1973 Krug Grand Cuvee was the choice of Champagne. And you can pick up a bottle of this vintage for the relatively paltry sum of about \$1,000...

Next Month – White House Wines

Cheers!
VV

The *Vino Vixen*™ is a syndicated wine writer whose musings appear in over 25 publications nationwide. She’s also a correspondent on Wine Taste TV (WineTasteTV.com), national and international wine judge, and Wine Critic to WinesTil-SoldOut.com – one of the Internet’s largest (and cheapest) source of fabulous wines. Have a question or wine tip for The Vixen? Email her on VinoVixen@VinoVixen.com

Buckingham Palace has one of the largest wine cellars in the world – about 25,000 bottles worth.



The following Champagne houses have been granted Royal Warrants to supply Champagne to the Royal Family:

Moet Chandon, GH Mumm, Veuve Clicquot, Laurent-Perrier, Louis Roederer, Krug, Pol Roger, Bollinger.

It is widely rumored that Wallis Simpson, the American woman who married King Edward VIII, learned but one phrase of Mandarin while her (first) husband and she were posted in China. The phrase? “Boy, pass me the Champagne.”



Having House Guests this Summer? Try the “Revolving Frame” Trick



BY HOLLY BURNETT

The day before, or perhaps even hours before, if you are like me, you clean the house from top to bottom. Like a CSI with a blue light, you carefully scour every inch of the guest room to remove dust bunnies, bad Christmas presents shoved under the bed that you didn’t have the heart to throw away and the spillover of clothing that no longer fits in your closet. Your makeshift storage area must now be deployed for a higher purpose – a guest room!

You want guests to know you’ve been anticipating their arrival for weeks, even months, and that you’ve thought of them daily since last you were together. Or, at least, you want them to think this is true.

Hence, you should employ the “revolving frame” trick, a strategically-placed emotional device, guaranteed to make family, friends, and even the crazy spinster aunt who floats her false teeth in a glass at night believe you adore them.

Have an attractive table picture frame on hand, a 5” x 7” preferably. (T.J. Maxx always has a nice selection at more than reasonable prices.) Anything smaller will kill the impact. The frame should allow you to drop a picture in from the top – no dismantling with screws or little metal swivels to hold the backing in place. Next, ensure you have one photograph of each person who may fall out of the sky onto your doorstep. (And it would be optimum if you were in these pictures with them.) Then, load the photos into your frame, placing it in a prominent location in your home – atop a piano, on a foyer table or a fireplace mantle (if the visit is horrendous, toss photo into roaring fire upon their departure).

Just before their arrival, place current guest photo in front of the others, and as they enter, you will hear them exclaim, “You have a picture of me!” Works every time. Little do they know who was the “top” photo yesterday.

THE VINTAGE RECIPE BOX

Green Chile Pie



This quick and easy appetizer will be gone in a flash! Consider making two. Ideal for summer parties.

- 3 4.5-oz cans Old El Paso green chiles chopped
- 1 10-oz package grated cheddar cheese
- 4 eggs, well-beaten

Lightly grease a 9-inch baking dish with butter. Spread chiles evenly over bottom of dish. Layer cheese over chiles. Drizzle beaten eggs over cheese. Bake at 275 degrees for one hour. Serve hot with French bread or crackers.

Submitted by
Carolyn C. Burnett

If you have a tried and trusted recipe that is quick and easy and gets rave reviews, please share it with us by emailing us at recipes@thezebra.org.



Z P I C K O F T H E M O N T H

What a find! Okay, they may seem a tad geeky, but they really work. We have to face facts here: cutting onions makes most of us cry. It's not the strong odor that does it, but the gas the onion releases when severed. A member of the lily family, the onion itself contains oil, which contains sulfur, and it is an irritant to both our eyes and nostrils. To be specific, cutting an onion arouses a gas contained within it called pro-

panethiol S-oxide, which then couples with enzymes in the onion, producing a sulfur compound. When this upwardly mobile gas encounters the water in our tear ducts, it creates sulfuric acid. OUCH! Then we blink, trying to flush it away, and next you know, we're crying. FINALLY a SOLUTION! These goggles are air tight and keep your eyes dry as toast no matter how many onions you have to slice and dice. Available for around \$20 at numerous locations all over the Internet.

-Mary Wadland



C A T I N A B O X



Molly watches the water drip while sitting in the second sink.

SUBMITTED BY WARREN FINTNER

Send your photos of your cats in boxes to mary@thezebra.org

R E A L L Y ? H O W I N S E N S I T I V E !

BY MARY WADLAND

A few weeks ago, a friend asked me to be his designated driver and friend of record (meaning the person who raises her hand when the nurse asks, "Do you have someone with you?") when he underwent his annual colonoscopy at Inova Alexandria Hospital. Basically, my role was to take him there, sit in the waiting room while the procedure was done, then deliver him home. So there I was, just outside the outpatient suite, reading a book, sitting among a quiet, yet intense, array of people, many of whom, I came to realize, were anxiously awaiting news of their loved one's test results. Some paced; others stared at the same magazine page for close to an hour. While my friend was undergoing this procedure as part of his yearly physical, some of these folks were anticipating, or, rather, dreading bad news. You could see it on

their faces — a somber group.

Suddenly, a teenage girl walked in with a little boy who immediately fancied a metal contraption with bells stationed in the corner of the room. He began sliding shapes up and down the brightly painted rods, setting off dinging sounds again and again. I gave him the evil eye, but to no avail. I gave the teenager, his sister I presumed, the same eye, yet she had no intention of stopping him. The entire room was ready to throttle the kid! I know the toy was installed there to occupy children, but really?

This was no place for them or for teenagers who lacked the maturity and sensitivity to acknowledge their surroundings. Had my friend not been ready to return home soon, I would have yanked the mangled, metal mess up and tossed it in the hall. The hospital should remove this ear sore from the waiting room immediately. How insensitive!

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Z - H O T S A U C E P I C K O F T H E M O N T H



There is a reason it comes with a little tasting spoon. It's hot!

I love hot sauce and this is one of the best. This sauce changed the nickname of one of the regulars at Ramparts to "Hot Lips". He flipped when I added it to some Au Jus and he dipped his French fry into it. The face he made was priceless.

This hot sauce has a great flavor but you must be judicious with the dose. Don't treat it like Tabasco. I love adding a touch to some blue cheese dressing for my wings. It also goes great in any other sauce to add a punch.

If you like heat like I do you will love this stuff. But start slow and use the spoon.

CONTRIBUTED BY MIKE SADE

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JULY

A C T I V I T I E S A N D E V E N T S



Independence Day at George Washington's! July 4

Mount Vernon Estate
George Washington Parkway
703/780-2000
Alexandria
mountvernon.org

Historic Mount Vernon salutes our first commander-in-chief with a dazzling display of made-for-daytime fireworks during its annual Independence Day event! Visitors will be treated to spectacular smoke fireworks in patriotic colors fired over the Potomac River. New this year - Mount Vernon will have more than 400 bottles of the George Washington Rye Whiskey available for sale beginning at 10:00 a.m.! Each 375 ml bottle retails for \$95. The whiskey will be available for sale in person only at The Shops at Mount Vernon and the Distillery & Gristmill site, located three miles from the Estate.

The special Independence Day event also includes an inspirational naturalization ceremony for 100 new citizens, military reenactments, a special wreath laying ceremony, free birthday

cake for all (while supplies last), and a visit from the "first" first couple, "General and Mrs. Washington." All events are included in regular Estate admission: adults, \$15.00; children ages 6-11, \$7.00; and children under 5 are admitted free.



Alexandria Symphony Celebrates Alexandria's Birthday July 9

Oronoco Bay Park
100 Madison Street
703/548-0885
Alexandria
garvin@alexsymp.org

The ASO annual pops concert entitled Dreams of Summer corresponds with Independence Day and is part of the yearly 262nd birthday celebration for the city Alexandria.

The orchestra concert is at 8:30 pm, led by Maestro Kim Allen Kluge. The performance will feature hits from blockbuster movies such as E.T.: The Extraterrestrial and Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone, as well as marches by John Philip Sousa and a selection from Gustav Holst's The Planets. At 9:30 p.m., the orchestra will provide the soundtrack to Alexandria's spectacular fireworks display with Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture, in addition to cannon support by the United States Marine Corps Basic Training School in Quantico, VA. Free!



"Made in the U.S.A." Del Ray Artisans July 1-22

Del Ray Artisans Gallery
2704 Mount Vernon Avenue
Alexandria
DelRayArtisans.org
703/407-6992

Del Ray Artisans will be celebrating Independence Day and the month of July with artwork inspired by U.S. people, places and/or things. Artists are asked to create artwork with U.S.-made materials so as to emphasize both the origin of the materials and that we represent a large, important purchasing bloc. The goal of this exhibit is to reflect everything that represents the U.S., including the actual artistic materials themselves. Free!

Holiday cheer paired with warm weather will hit the streets of Old Town when the **2nd Annual Christmas in July Celebration** returns to Union Street the weekend of **July 15-17, 2011**. The event is co-presented by The Christmas Attic and the businesses of Union Street. Approximately 15 retailers and community organizations will host a variety of festive activities either inside stores or on Union Street ranging from pictures with "Summer" Santa & Mrs. Claus, historical tours, holiday trunk shows, food and wine tastings, cookie decorating, story time for tots, ornament making, arts & crafts, ice cream, paint your own nutcracker, green holiday home tips, fashion styling, pooch pictures, musical entertainment and much more. The entire weekend will be filled with activities, raffle drawings, shopping/ dining deals and holiday delights for all ages.

Union Street Gives Back: Every year, the Union Street businesses pick a charity organization to support during the event weekend. This year a portion of sales proceeds from the weekend benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation of the Mid-Atlantic. The Make-A-Wish Foundation of the Mid-Atlantic grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy.

For a complete schedule of the weekend's events, musical entertainment and updates visit www.christmasattic.com or the event page on Facebook.

2nd Annual Christmas in July Celebration ON UNION STREET

CO-PRESENTED BY
The Christmas Attic & the Businesses of Union Street
July 15-17, 2011
Old Town Alexandria Waterfront
(Union Street between Cameron & Duke Streets)

Join Union Street businesses for a festive summer celebration filled with family friendly activities, entertainment, shopping deals and holiday delights!

Historic Union Street Tours • Pictures with Summer Santa & Mrs. Claus • Holiday Trunk Shows
• Artists Demonstrations • Ornament Making • Fashion Styling • Cookie Decorating •
Tots Storytime • Christmas Cocktail Party • Ice Cream • Paint Your Own Nutcracker
• Green Holiday Home Tips • Pooch Pictures, and much more!

Special Thank You to American Medical Group Association for the music location at One Prince Street.

Help Us Give Back: A portion of sales proceeds from the weekend benefit the **MAKE-A-WISH FOUNDATION**

Participating Businesses:
Alexandria ArtBridge
Antiques & Crafts
Ben & Jerry's
Blue Bird
Crown Confectionery
Jenkins Bakery & Confectionery
The Flower Shop
The Greenery
The Holiday Shop
The Vintage Shop
The Wine Shop
The Zebra

Visit www.christmasattic.com for a complete schedule of weekend activities.

Hadeed Carpet Alexandria West End Art & Wine Festival 2011

October 8-9
10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Sat.
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Sun.
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150 YEARS ON OUR DOORSTEP

BY CHUCK HAGEE

This past April ushered in the 150th anniversary of the commencement of The Civil War. And, northern Virginians have the majority of the primary venues of that conflict well within driving distance — or in their own backyards.

One of the most famous battle sites and certainly the bloodiest, is less than two hours north on Route 15. The Battle of Gettysburg was fought July 1-3, 1863. When it ended there were 8,000 dead and more than 22,000 wounded on both sides of the battle. The fields were literally soaked with the blood of both men and horses.

It was the turning point in the war. Confederate troops never again challenged Union troops in the north.

Beginning this year Gettysburg will commemorate this 150th anniversary with special events through 2015. This year marks the 148th anniversary of that historic battle which, if it had been won by Gen. Robert E. Lee's Army of The Potomac, would have undoubtedly changed American history and possibly that of the world.

During the weekend of July 1-3 the National Park Service will sponsor walks that follow the course of the Gettysburg battle. There will be reenactments, a series of lectures and a living history encampment. Additional information is available by calling 717-334-1124 or visiting the web site at www.nps.gov/gett.

Other July events focused on The Civil War and easily reachable include, but are not limited to the following:

Antietam Salute to Independence Celebration July 2 where the Maryland Symphony Orchestra will offer a two-hour concert followed by fireworks. It commences at 7:30 p.m. at the Antietam National Battlefield Visitors Center, 5831 Dunker Church Road, Sharpsburg, MD. Additional information is available by calling 301-432-7672.

Three perspectives on The Civil War will be presented at the Manassas Museum, 9101 Prince William St., commencing on July 16 and running through September 4. Entitled "Virginia's Civil War" it presents the conflict from the point of view of the Union, the Confederacy, and African Americans. From July 21 through 24 the First Battle of Manassas will be commemorated by the National Park Service. Additional information is



150 years ago this nation embarked on a war that would test the very premise not only upon which it was founded but also the historical significance of democratic government vested in the hands of the people. It's outcome would also stand witness as to whether or not a conflict of brother against brother could ever be overcome in spirit as well as geography.

available by calling 703-368-1873 or visiting www.manassascity.org.

Closer to home there is a particularly intriguing presentation for those into war intelligence and counter intelligence. It's the "Civil War Rangers, Raiders and Spies" presentation on July 31 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, just off Braddock Road past the Pinecrest Shopping Center. Information is available by calling 703-642-5173 or visiting www.greenspring.org.

Heading for the beach? That can also include some Civil War history. In Newport News there is the Mariner's Museum, 100 Museum Drive, featuring the U.S.S. Monitor Center which highlights the first confrontation in U.S. Naval history when two



ironclad warships faced off. Visit www.MarinersMuseum.org for more information.

On the way, don't miss the many treasures of the Civil War in the Capital of the Confederacy — Richmond, Virginia. Sites include the American Civil War Center, the Museum of the Confederacy, the home of Confederate President Jefferson Davis known as the White House of the Confederacy, and Monument Avenue with its statues to key personalities of the war.

A little over two hours north, straight up I-270 onto Rt.15, is The National Civil War Museum at 1 Lincoln Circle, Reservoir Park, Harrisburg, PA. Information is available by calling 717-260-1861 or 1-866-Blu-Gray or by visiting www.NationalCivilWarMuseum.org.

Closer to home are an array of Civil War sites and events throughout Northern Virginia, as well as within Alexandria, the District of Columbia, and Maryland. One of the most memorable is the collection of Civil War photographs on display at the Library of Congress in the Thomas Jefferson Building, 10 First St., SE, Monday through Saturday from 8:30 am until 4:30 pm until August 13. The exhibit features photos of soldiers on both sides of the conflict

who died during various battles.

Washington and the Alexandria environs are home to numerous historic Civil War sites such as Fort Stevens, Mary Surrat's Boarding House, Ford's Theater, Battleground National Cemetery, Fort Ward, Fort Ellsworth, Arlington House, and Freedmen's Cemetery, to mention only a few.

Maryland Civil War events throughout July include the following: July 2 the Antietam Salute to Independence Celebration at the Antietam National Battlefield Visitors Center; July 8-10, the Retreat Through Williamsport at Springfield Farm, Cushwa Basin, River Bottom Park; July 9-10, a Civil War Encampment at Rose Hill Manor Park in Frederick; and July 16-17 the Battle at Funkstown.

For one of the most intriguing perspectives on the Civil War and the call for secession there is no better place to visit than West Virginia. Its very existence came about because it refused to join the Confederacy and separated from Virginia. In this case it was not a war of North versus South but rather of East versus West.

When the Confederacy established its capital in Richmond, West Virginia declared its independence from the mother state. There is much to learn of America's great conflict by visiting Harper's Ferry and other venues in West Virginia.

These are only a few suggestions for combining summer vacation time with one of the most crucial events in American history. There are a host of other sites and events accessible on day trips or extended visits. It's well worth the time and effort for the whole family.

150 years ago this nation embarked on a war that would test the very premise not only upon which it was founded but also the historical significance of democratic government vested in the hands of the people. It's outcome would also stand witness as to whether or not a conflict of brother against brother could ever be overcome in spirit as well as geography.

That challenge was eloquently stated by President Abraham Lincoln on November 19, 1863 in his Gettysburg Address. "That this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom — and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

facts and dates and places. It is flesh and blood, life and death, happiness and heartbreak. To paraphrase Pogo, we have visited history and it is us.



MONTHLY HOME SALES RECAP

June 7- June 22, 2011

What's happening with home sales in your neighborhood?

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ADDRESS	LISTPRICE	CLOSEPRICE	CLOSEDATE	BR	FB	HB #	GAR	LVLS	BSMT	DOMM	ADV	SUBDIVISION	STYLE
OLD TOWN													
555 WASHINGTON ST S #102	"\$1,750,000"	"\$1,625,000"	15-Jun-11	3	3	1	2	3	Yes	511	GENERAL WASHINGTON CLUB	Colonial	
2050 JAMIESON AVE #1015	"\$694,900"	"\$680,000"	7-Jun-11	3	2	1		1	No	289	THE JAMIESON	Contemporary	
1210 QUEEN ST #1	"\$499,900"	"\$492,500"	8-Jun-11	2	2	0		1	No	241	CROMLEY LOFTS	Contemporary	
509 LEE ST S	"\$1,750,000"	"\$1,600,000"	22-Jun-11	5	2	1		3	No	234	OLD TOWN	Federal	
131 HILTON ST	"\$549,000"	"\$540,000"	15-Jun-11	4	2	0		2	No	217	GLENMORE	Cape Cod	
2050 JAMIESON AVE #1405	"\$629,900"	"\$575,000"	15-Jun-11	3	2	1	2	1	No	98	THE JAMIESON	Contemporary	
456 UNION ST S #7	"\$629,900"	"\$620,000"	15-Jun-11	2	1	1	2	2	No	88	HARBORSIDE	Colonial	
512 WEST ST N #1-1	"\$369,000"	"\$364,000"	15-Jun-11	2	2	0		1	No	76	COLECROFT	Colonial	
103 SKYHILL RD #2	"\$299,000"	"\$299,000"	16-Jun-11	3	2	0		1	No	5	SEMINARY WALK	Colonial	
2151 JAMIESON AVE #1804	"\$925,000"	"\$910,000"	10-Jun-11	3	2	1		1	No	109	CARLYLE TOWERS	Transitional	
605 FAIRFAX ST S	"\$575,000"	"\$577,000"	16-Jun-11	2	1	0		3	Yes	75	THOMAS SHELTON ESTATE	Colonial	
603 QUEEN ST #7	"\$595,000"	"\$555,000"	14-Jun-11	2	1	1		2	No	34	ANCHORAGE HOUSE	Federal	
170 CAMBRIDGE RD	"\$449,900"	"\$440,000"	15-Jun-11	3	2	0		2	Yes	65	CAMERON HEIGHTS	Rambler	
616 PITT ST N	"\$799,000"	"\$755,000"	15-Jun-11	3	3	1	2	4	No	57	PORTNERS LANDING	Colonial	
680 COLUMBUS ST S #5	"\$775,000"	"\$766,500"	23-Jun-11	3	3	1	2	4	No	48	OLD TOWN	Colonial	
1100 QUAKER HILL DR #327	"\$230,000"	"\$226,000"	15-Jun-11	1	1	0		1	No	45	QUAKER HILL	Contemporary	
715 HAWKINS WAY	"\$823,500"	"\$815,000"	20-Jun-11	4	4	1	2	4	No	15	OLD TOWN GREENS	Traditional	
714 FAYETTE ST S #21	"\$210,000"	"\$210,000"	23-Jun-11	2	1	0		1	No	41	FAYETTE COURT	Federal	
719 GIBBON ST	"\$779,000"	"\$751,500"	22-Jun-11	3	3	0		3	Yes	4	GOLDFARBS	Victorian	
1100 QUAKER HILL DR #225	"\$279,900"	"\$274,000"	15-Jun-11	2	2	0		1	No	45	QUAKER HILL	Colonial	
816 GREEN ST	"\$538,000"	"\$525,500"	20-Jun-11	2	2	0		3	Yes	36	HUNTING CREEK	Colonial	
702 KAHN PL	"\$1,850,000"	"\$1,800,000"	9-Jun-11	5	2	2	2	4	No	29	FORDS LANDING	Colonial	
414 N. FAYETTE ST	"\$925,000"	"\$895,000"	14-Jun-11	4	3	1		3	Yes	19	OLD TOWN/PARKER GRAY	Other	
305 QUEEN ST	"\$849,000"	"\$849,000"	10-Jun-11	2	2	1		2	No	28	OLD TOWN	Contemporary	
322 PAYNE ST N	"\$564,900"	"\$565,000"	16-Jun-11	2	1	1		2	No	8	PARKER GRAY	Colonial	
722 UNION ST S	"\$1,270,000"	"\$1,210,000"	7-Jun-11	3	3	1	1	4	No	3	FORDS LANDING	Colonial	
1220 FRANKLIN ST	"\$435,900"	"\$425,000"	17-Jun-11	2	1	1		3	Yes	13	JEFFERSON HOMES	Traditional	
11 TAYLOR RUN PKWY E	"\$289,990"	"\$293,500"	7-Jun-11	3	1	1		3	Yes	12	TAYLOR RUN PKWY	Colonial	
723 HAWKINS WAY	"\$838,000"	"\$826,000"	20-Jun-11	4	3	1	2	4	No	24	OLD TOWN GREENS	Colonial	
202 SAINT ASAPH ST	"\$2,360,000"	"\$2,100,000"	10-Jun-11	4	4	1		4	Yes	0	OLD TOWN	Federal	
500 CROWN VIEW DR	"\$799,000"	"\$785,000"	23-Jun-11	4	3	0	1	3	Yes	8	CLOVER	Cape Cod	
5091/2 FAIRFAX ST S	"\$1,295,000"	"\$1,295,000"	22-Jun-11	3	2	1		3	Yes	0	THOMAS SHELTON ESTATE	Victorian	
UPPER BRADDOCK/ PARKFAIRFAX													
3342 VALLEY DR #808-33	"\$259,999"	"\$255,000"	9-Jun-11	1	1	0		1	No	97	PARKFAIRFAX	Colonial	
3368 GUNSTON RD #739-33	"\$312,900"	"\$300,000"	21-Jun-11	2	1	0		2	No	64	PARKFAIRFAX	Traditional	
2500 VAN DORN ST N #319	"\$109,900"	"\$102,000"	17-Jun-11	1	1	0		1	No	85	PARK PLACE	Contemporary	
3306 WYNDHAM CIR #226	"\$145,000"	"\$145,000"	22-Jun-11	1	1	0		1	No	28	POINTE AT PARK C	Contemporary	
1713 OAKCREST DR	"\$679,000"	"\$675,000"	6-Jun-11	4	3	0		3	Yes	2	DYES OAKCREST	Cape Cod	
3712 KING ST #7	"\$354,900"	"\$354,900"	10-Jun-11	2	1	1		2	No	22	FAIRLINGTON TOWNE	Colonial	
3200 28TH ST S #304	"\$110,000"	"\$105,000"	17-Jun-11	1	1	0		1	No	62	BOLLING BROOK	Other	
2506 CENTRAL AVE	"\$779,900"	"\$760,000"	6-Jun-11	4	3	1		3	Yes	8	BRADDOCK HEIGHTS	Colonial	
3103 EDGEHILL DR	"\$875,000"	"\$875,000"	23-Jun-11	3	2	2		3	Yes	15	BEVERLY HILLS	Colonial	
3313 WYNDHAM CIR #4203	"\$294,500"	"\$294,500"	20-Jun-11	2	2	0	1	1	No	20	POINTE AT PARK C	Contemporary	
3605 GREENWAY PL #530-36	"\$339,999"	"\$339,999"	15-Jun-11	2	1	0		2	No	1	PARKFAIRFAX	Colonial	
1608 PRESTON RD #801-16	"\$312,000"	"\$312,000"	17-Jun-11	2	1	0		2	No	9	PARKFAIRFAX	Colonial	
3337 MARTHA CUSTIS DR #827-33	"\$229,500"	"\$228,000"	22-Jun-11	1	1	0		1	No	13	PARKFAIRFAX	Colonial	
DEL RAY/ ROSEMONT													
121 RAYMOND AVE E	"\$679,000"	"\$669,000"	15-Jun-11	4	2	0		3	Yes	25	DEL RAY	Cape Cod	
5 SUNSET DR	"\$799,700"	"\$799,700"	13-Jun-11	3	3	1	2	3	Yes	67	OLD TOWN	Traditional	
18 CLIFF ST E	"\$735,000"	"\$735,000"	6-Jun-11	3	2	1		2	No	46	NONE	Bungalow	
9 WALNUT ST E	"\$1,195,000"	"\$950,000"	6-Jun-11	3	3	1	1	3	Yes	56	ROSEMONT	Craftsman	
308 WINDSOR AVE E	"\$699,000"	"\$685,000"	17-Jun-11	3	3	0		3	Yes	40	DEL RAY	Colonial	
391/2 BELLEFONTE AVE E	"\$549,000"	"\$549,000"	15-Jun-11	3	2	0		3	Yes	6	DEL RAY	Colonial	
107 MONROE AVE W	"\$895,000"	"\$840,000"	7-Jun-11	5	1	1	1	4	Yes	0	N/A	Farm House	
607 LITTLE ST	"\$650,000"	"\$650,000"	17-Jun-11	3	2	1	1	3	Yes	33	ROSEMONT PARK	Bungalow	
ARLINGTON													
2719 CLEVELAND ST	"\$269,000"	"\$260,000"	10-Jun-11	2	1	0		3	Yes	51	PARKWAY	Colonial	
2502B WALTER REED DR S #2	"\$444,000"	"\$441,000"	10-Jun-11	2	1	1		3	Yes	43	WINDGATE OF ARL	Colonial	
4522 28TH RD S #12-1	"\$249,900"	"\$250,000"	22-Jun-11	1	1	0		1	No	60	HEATHERLEA	Contemporary	
2458 WALTER REED DR #2	"\$475,000"	"\$465,000"	20-Jun-11	2	2	1		3	Yes	5	WINDGATE OF ARL	Colonial	
4617 28TH RD S #C	"\$299,000"	"\$295,000"	8-Jun-11	2	1	0		2	No	13	THE ARLINGTON	Colonial	
4612B 28TH RD S #B	"\$305,000"	"\$295,000"	16-Jun-11	2	1	0		1	No	23	THE ARLINGTON	Colonial	
2909D WOODSTOCK ST S #4	"\$439,500"	"\$440,000"	10-Jun-11	3	2	0		3	Yes	4	COURTBRDGE I&II	Contemporary	
2910 DINWIDDIE ST #3361	"\$409,990"	"\$400,000"	15-Jun-11	2	2	0		3	Yes	36	FAIRLINGTON VILLAGE	Colonial	
2121 CULPEPER ST	"\$475,000"	"\$475,000"	14-Jun-11	3	2	0		3	Yes	7	HISTORIC CLAREMONT	Cape Cod	
2939 DINWIDDIE ST S #3385	"\$325,000"	"\$325,000"	6-Jun-11	2	1	0		2	No	4	FAIRLINGTON VILLAGE	Colonial	
1211 EADS ST S #1901	"\$569,990"	"\$554,000"	24-Jun-11	2	2	0	2	1	No	41	BELLA VISTA	Contemporary	
1101 ARLINGTON RIDGE RD S #704	"\$424,900"	"\$423,398"	21-Jun-11	2	2	1	1	1	No	34	THE REPRESENTATV	Contemporary	
2202 JOYCE ST	"\$644,900"	"\$644,900"	8-Jun-11	3	2	0		3	Yes	5	ADDISON HEIGHTS	Cape Cod	
3600 GLEBE RD S #513W	"\$310,000"	"\$300,000"	22-Jun-11	1	1	0	1	1	No	33	ECLIPSE ON CENTER PARK	Contemporary	

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Bob Lorenson, owner, The Virginia Shop on South Union Street, finds tourists to be mainly “lookers” not “buyers.”



Amanda Lasker, owner of Gossypia, sees no business advantage to tour bus passengers.



Frank Kozuch, owner, Whistle Stop Hobbies, has seen little or no business from the increase in visitors to historic Alexandria.

Alexandria Tourism: Retail Boom or Bust?

BY CHUCK HAGEE

Alexandria visitors spend \$600 million in the city annually. But who really benefits from this cash cow?

That question was left unanswered at the Tourism Marketing Summit held May 19 at the Masonic Temple where Alexandria Mayor William Euille announced the monetary sum garnered from tourist visits. “Tourism has been the bright spot in the Alexandria budget,” Euille told the assembled audience of tourism marketers.

“Everything you do to attract more people benefits the city,” said Euille, who co-chairs the US Conference of Mayors’ Committee on Tourism. Introducing Euille at the Summit luncheon, Alexandria Convention and Visitors Association (ACVA) President and CEO Stephanie Brown stated, “Mayor Euille walks the talk supporting tourism.”

That was highlighted by Euille in announcing that ACVA’s \$2.9 million budget had been increased by \$448,000 in this year’s budget. That bump “is to pay for increased ACVA ads in new markets,” according to Euille.

There is little doubt that ACVA’s actions in promoting Alexandria as a tourism destination have benefitted the city revenue coffers. But where has most of that been generated?

Hotel room nights have been running at an average of 70 percent occupancy for the past 12 months with approximately 1.1 million rooms sold over that period, up two percent over the previous year, according to ACVA statistics. Restaurants, for the most part, are benefiting from increased tourism traffic as well.

And then there are the retail merchants. Here a very different story emerges. Not only from the standpoint of tourists as customers but also from changes in local business.

In her presentation at the Summit, Brown said, “People who love to visit this city are very much like people who live here.” Really? Not according to a survey of retail merchants throughout Old Town. She also noted, “Statistics show that 36 percent of visitors are less interested in shopping in malls.” Then where are they shopping?

That was the question asked of Old Town merchants. The answer was a mixed bag depending on the product and location of the merchant.

Robert Lorenson, owner, The Virginia Shop, 104 S. Union St., said, “All they (tourists) are doing is staying and eating. We’ve become the new form of entertainment. They come in look around and leave.” He

pointed out that if you look at most tourists walking the streets of Old Town “very few are carrying shopping bags. It’s not happening here for Old Town merchants. The income has not trickled down to us,” he stated.

That was buttressed by Todd Healy, owner, Gallery LaFayette in Gadsby’s Arcade at 320 King St., “I’m not seeing any benefit from tourism. Overwhelmingly, most of my business is from local residents,” he said. Admitting that his location, tucked back in the Arcade, is not conducive to attracting tourists, Healy questioned the value of ACVA to local retail merchants. “I’m not benefiting from their advertising and I’m not sure we need them. With the budget crunch the city can’t afford them,” he said.

On the flip side of the debate, various merchants did see a value to tourism pro-

fits us. Tourism is our bread and butter during the summer months and the advertising helps,” Theobald stressed.

Amanda Lasker, owner, Gossypia, 325 Cameron St., had a mixed view. “Business from tourists is never as good as it is from metro area shoppers. They are the people that keep coming back especially for gifts for special holidays and occasions,” she emphasized. “However, since ACVA does push hotels we get spillover from them. And, we have benefitted from the sign on King Street and the ACVA map along with the hotel concierges. But, our real sales are local,” Lasker said.

The one tourism generator that Lasker saw no value in were the tour buses. “We get no business from tour buses. The only thing they do is get off to have lunch, walk around and get back on,” she insisted.

However, that was not supported by Cheri Hennessy, co-owner, The Christmas Attic, 125 S. Union St. “Tourism is really big for us. We find tourists to be good business especially from cherry blossom time through the summer,” she said. “We also get a lot of international tourists that come in groups which must mean they are coming from tour buses -- also groups of kids in the evenings. It seems that some of the merchants don’t actually want to cater to tourists,” Hennessy said.

Christmas Attic has changed its marketing strategy to offer many items not just connected with Christmas, including a variety of occasions throughout the year as well as general keepsake items. “But, Christmas ornaments are still the big seller. Everybody thinks they are the only one who collects ornaments from spots they visit,” she said.

Kate Schlabach, owner, Why Not?, 200 King St., finds tour bus riders a real plus. “The one thing we have been able to count on lately are the big tour buses. We definitely benefit from them,” she said. “And, thank goodness, because many locals have stopped shopping Old Town due to the new parking fees and those new parking meter stations. The 100 and 200 blocks of King Street used to be free parking -- not any more. And, people are getting more tickets because of the confusing signage. That’s driving them out of Old Town,” Schlabach insisted.

In the opinion of both George R. Viteri, owner, Raul’s of Old Town, 604 King St. and Frank Kozuch, owner, Whistle Stop Hobbies, 130 S. Royal St., “hotels are the big winners of ACVA advertising campaigns” not the local retail merchant. “The



The Christmas Attic on South Union Street finds tourists an asset to their business, particularly during the summer months.



The former King Street Hallmark store is now being renovated to become the home of another national chain merchandiser, displacing a local retail merchant.



A sign at the corner of King and South Royal streets advertises Gossypia located a block away on the corner of Cameron and South Royal streets.



Tour buses fill the Unit Block of King Street as they load and unload passengers in the core of Old Town.



A typical Old Town retail merchant invitation beckons customers.

motion, despite the reduction in local customers, most notably due to the increase in parking fees and the installation of the new parking fare machines. “We see a lot of tourists but they don’t spend much money. However, they do keep us afloat during the slow summer months. But, we have never considered them a major part of our business clientele,” said Donna McIntyre, manager, Today’s Cargo, 1102 King St.

Kate McMahon, manager, Ten Thousand Villages, 915 King St., agreed saying, “There is some increased traffic by tourists. But, we may have an advantage because we have 80 shops across the country and are more recognizable.” About 20 to 30 percent of the Ten Thousand Villages customers are comprised of visitors to Old Town, according to McMahon. “There is an advantage to us to be here in Old Town where tourists visit. I also think the ACVA advertising does help us,” McMahon said.

Patty Theobald, owner, The Irish Walk, 415 King St., also had a positive view of tourist business. “I definitely think it ben-

▼ See TOURISM on page 25

BY STUART STONE



1. Dogs - West Virginia - Jefferson County.
2. Farm life.
(636.701 - 754 99, Dewey Decimal Classification)

One of the best parts about going to my friend's farm near Shepherd's Town, West Virginia, was the dogs. Of course, the horses were a big plus and so was the getting-out-of-the-city work...away from the desk! But, no doubt about it, the dogs were near the top of the list of benefits.



The farm dogs: Cashel (the golden retriever), Angus (the giant schnauzer) and Puck (the black and white Border collie).
PHOTO COURTESY OF STUART STONE

Angus (the giant schnauzer), Puck (the black and white Border collie) and Cashel (the golden retriever) were our buddies as my friend and I worked on his barn, the paddock area, the fencing in the fields, the car barn, work shed and the like. They were always nearby, waiting to see if they could entice us to play with them for a few minutes. Petting would do, especially behind the ears, but tossing a stick or a tennis ball was preferred.

Actually, if we were working far from the house, only two of the dogs went with us. Cashel, the only female, stuck close to home. She'd be on guard, waiting for us after the jobs were done. Angus and Puck went where we went. Unfortunately, they never helped carry the tools, but they did ride in the back of the Rhino (and not always happy about it). Puck would get on top of the wheelbarrow for a ride if we were transporting something to be dumped or planted. Angus was just too big for the wheelbarrow. It was impossible for one of us humans to push it with him aboard. He was possibly the largest lapdog in West Virginia and proud of it. One had to be careful about falling asleep on the sofa or one of the arm chairs in the living room. You could wake up under a giant schnauzer. Ugh.

"Rabbits?" Did someone say "rabbits?" The word was used only to excite and tease as the dogs rarely needed help noticing any rabbit within sniffing range. If one were detected, the

hunt was on. The boys, Angus and Puck, were out of the starting gate like brothers of Secretariat. Much noise accompanied the beginning of the chase, and Cashel was always in the rear letting the boys tear through the underbrush and wear out the rabbit(s). She knew rabbits were rarely caught in the first 30 seconds, or the first five minutes, as it often turned out. Yet, strangely enough, she was more often than not the one who carried the hunt to its successful end. Angus and Puck would begin the venture with much fanfare, but it was she, Cashel, who usually stuck to it and got the prey. She was serious about her food!

As I have already mentioned, Cashel was guardian of the property. The boys were living life big on the farm and always knew where the dry dog food tray was kept (in the basement under the house) if the hunting had been poor that day. The boys patrolled, and Cashel guarded. Angus and Puck announced their presence with loud joy, but it was Cashel who had to be watched if a stranger were on the premises.

Once, I stopped at the farm when I was driving back from St. Louis. It was a work day, and my friend was away from the farm. I turned up the drive to the house and parked, got out

and was looking for the dogs, who were nowhere to be seen, when I suddenly realized I was being stalked by Cashel. She had not heard me say a word, and was closing in on me from behind when I saw her and said her name. Thank goodness. Her head jerked, and she converted her body language from "stalking" to "joyful greeting." It was just in time to save one of my legs ... possibly!

And how could I talk about the dogs on the farm without mentioning the wake-up routine. Of course, they would always want to go outside in the mornings, and my friend (smart man) slept with his bedroom door closed while I didn't (a huge tactical error). So the dogs knew that they could rouse 'ol Stu to let them outside to chase the chirping birds. This morning ritual sounds very cute and somewhat pastoral...farm animals, dogs, horses, fresh air... right? Well, it isn't quite so cute when you sense the presence of aliens at the edge of your bed, all lined up with their heads resting in the same pecking order each day.

Tails in the distance wagging, mouths open and slight whimpering, eyes glistening...and, oh yes...the bad breath! Angus always smelled like his last road kill. Never pleasant.

My buddies all died in their early teens. Forever my definition of farm dogs, I miss them very much.

Stuart Stone is a 26 year veteran of trench warfare at the Library of Congress, currently a Lusohispanic Acquisitions Specialist (Portugal, Brazil, Colombia, Bolivia, and Ecuador) and the Gaelic Recommending Officer for Scots Gaelic. Bruidhinn riumse 'sa Ghàidhlig! He bikes to work, weather permitting, and frequently stops at stop signs.

▲ TOURISM from page 24

benefit is mostly to hotels and small gift shops. We do very little tourist business," Viteri said.

"Benefits from tourism to me are very little. They mainly come in to look. Most of my customers are from Alexandria and the immediate area. It's the hotels and restaurants that are the main benefactors of ACVA advertising," said Kozuch.

That lack of benefit from tourism was even more pronounced in the West End and Del Ray areas. However, several merchants did say they were seeing some benefit from National Harbor

visitors coming to Alexandria.

One of the more disturbing factors in Alexandria's retail merchandising is the continuing loss of small local stores. This was accented recently by the closing of the Hallmark store in the 600 block of King Street, reportedly to be replaced by another national chain retailer.

Tourism is a \$760 billion industry nationwide, according to Brown's Summit presentation." Alexandria is on track to get one million visitors this year," she noted. How that will translate to the retail business community remains debatable.

"By way of nourishment, not by way of knowledge."

— Rabbi Isaac the Blind



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BY DAVID GOLDHAGEN



Decisions, Decisions....PC or Mac?

price range, the choice between the two is fair game.

Design/Looks

Since its debut in 2008, Apple's metal unibody design has attracted a loyal following. This design is great if you like it, but if you don't, Apple has no other option. On the other hand, PCs come in an almost limitless array of colors, sizes and materials. If you don't like the design or size choices in Apple laptops, you are sure to fall in love with any number of PCs.

Operating System

The biggest difference between a Mac and a PC is that they run on completely different operating systems. Almost everyone is familiar with Windows computers and knows how to use them efficiently. Apple computers are different. Although Apple has made improvements to their system in recent years, some people still find it difficult to switch from a



PC to a Mac. One of the biggest complaints is that there is no "right click." This tends to cause some initial frustration, but it is by no means impossible to make the switch. But expect a bit of a learning curve. Apple does have its advantages in the multimedia sector, running suites like iLife and iWork. This is a major area where Mac's excel. On the other hand, the majority of computer programs are written for Windows machines and will not run on a Mac unless the user sets up a "virtual desktop," which defeats the purpose of a having Mac in the first place. As technology ad-



You can't talk about laptops without talking about price. In today's market, laptops range anywhere from \$500 to \$5,000.

vances, more and more software is being written to be comparable with both systems.

Tablets

With the success of the iPad and the avalanche of tablet computers on the market, you may want to think about how to make the most of your computer budget. For the cost of a Mac-

Book laptop, you can get both a powerful PC laptop as well as an iPad or other tablet.

I have owned both Macs and PCs and love them each for different reasons. When it comes down to it, you really can't go wrong in your decision. Both systems will provide a great experience and will be able to get you through all of your notes, term papers and exams that college life will throw at you.

David Goldhagen is a 17-year-old junior at Ronald Reagan High School in San Antonio. He serves on the student council and is a class officer. A straight-A student, he is ranked #18 in a class of 780.

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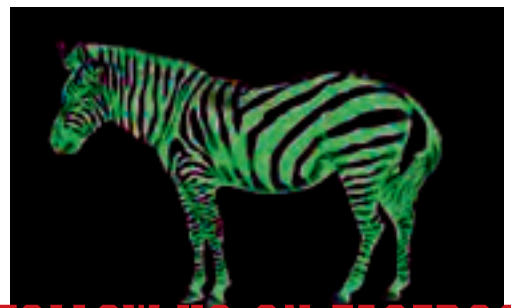
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✓ Upper and lower back pain	✓ Stomach and digestion disorders
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Baby the Chi - (Female) - Available

Breed: Chihuahua

Age: 3 Years

Weight: 5 Pounds

History: Owner Release

Description: Isn't she just adorable! Baby came to us from a shelter in West Virginia last year with a badly broken femur. After several surgeries her rear leg was not able to be repaired so it was amputated. Baby is now learning to get around on 3 legs. She is a wonderful little girl. She loves other little dogs but is not good with larger dogs or cats. Due to her tiny size (4lbs) she will not be placed with small children for her safety. She is mostly housebroken using potty pads. Baby is a love bug but will also sound the alarm when someone comes to the door or she sees or hears something that she feels needs attention.



Buddy the Retriever - (Male) - Available

Breed: Retriever Mix

Age: 4 Years

Weight: 63 Pounds

History: Owner Release

Description: Buddy was returned to AFH because his parents went through a divorce. Buddy is now looking for a new home to call his own. He is housebroken and loves people. He's a great dog that really deserves a permanent loving home. Please come meet him. You won't be sorry.



Cassie: Chloe's Cuties - (Female) - Available

Breed: Yellow Labrador Retriever Mix

Age: 12 Weeks

History: Shelter

Description: Cassie, Charlie and Curly came to AFH with their mom. Cassie is still available for adoption. Carrie is such a sweet girl and can't wait to find her forever home.



Gracie - (Female) - Available

Breed: Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen Mix

Age: 2 Years

Weight: 15 Pounds

History: Owner Release

Description: Gracie is a 2 year old 15lbs PVGV mix. Her owner left the area and does not want to keep her anymore. Gracie is really coming along nicely. She is gaining weight and becoming more & more relaxed around new people. She is very good with the big dogs, in fact I would say she keeps them in line. She is very affectionate and is quite happy to cuddle up next to me while I am working in my office or sitting on the sofa watching TV. She prefers to sleep with one of the kids or on my bed at night. Gracie is "puppy pad trained" in terms of house breaking. It took me a few days to figure this out, but it explains why the owner transferred her with a package of potty training pads. She is learning from the big dogs and the more time she spends playing



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Desi - (Male) - Available

Breed: Chihuahua

Age: 6 Years

Weight: 7 Pounds

History: Puppy Mill - Parkersburg

Description: Hello! My name is Desi and I am a purebred Chihuahua and weigh only 7 pounds. I was rescued from a place called a puppy mill. I lived in a cage 24/7. I received little to no socialization so I need a lot of patience to understand that people are okay. I just learned what toys are and I LOVE to play with my foster brothers and sisters. My foster mom and her dogs are teaching me what it is like to be a family dog. In time I am sure I will overcome my fear of people and the outdoors, but I am going to need a family to show me lots of patience. I will need a family to continue my socialization, to teach me that I do not need to be so fearful with strangers. I am going to need someone to keep me on a schedule so that I know what to expect and help me get house trained and crate trained. I am looking for a family with older or no children, as the little kids are very noisy and intimidating for a nervous guy like me. I'm hoping my family will have another small dog as they could help show me the ropes.



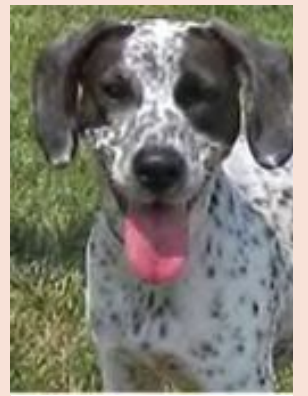
Esme (Wren) - (Female) - Available

Breed: Pointer Mix

Age: 20 Months

History: Owner Release

Description: Esme, who was originally Wren, has been returned because she was too active for their family. She is now available for adoption. She is an adorable girl who loves everyone. She is super smart and learned to walk on a leash in a very short period of time. She will make a great addition your family.



Jasmine - (Female) - Available

Breed: Chinese Crested Dog

Age: 12 Months

History: Owner Release to Shelter

Description: Jasmine is a young adult female, Chinese Crested. She has been around young children and was trusted alone in the house in her previous home. She is very loving and would love to be in your lap. She is housetrained and just a nice girl.



Willie - (Male) - Available

Breed: Border Collie Mix

Age: 4 Months

History: Shelter

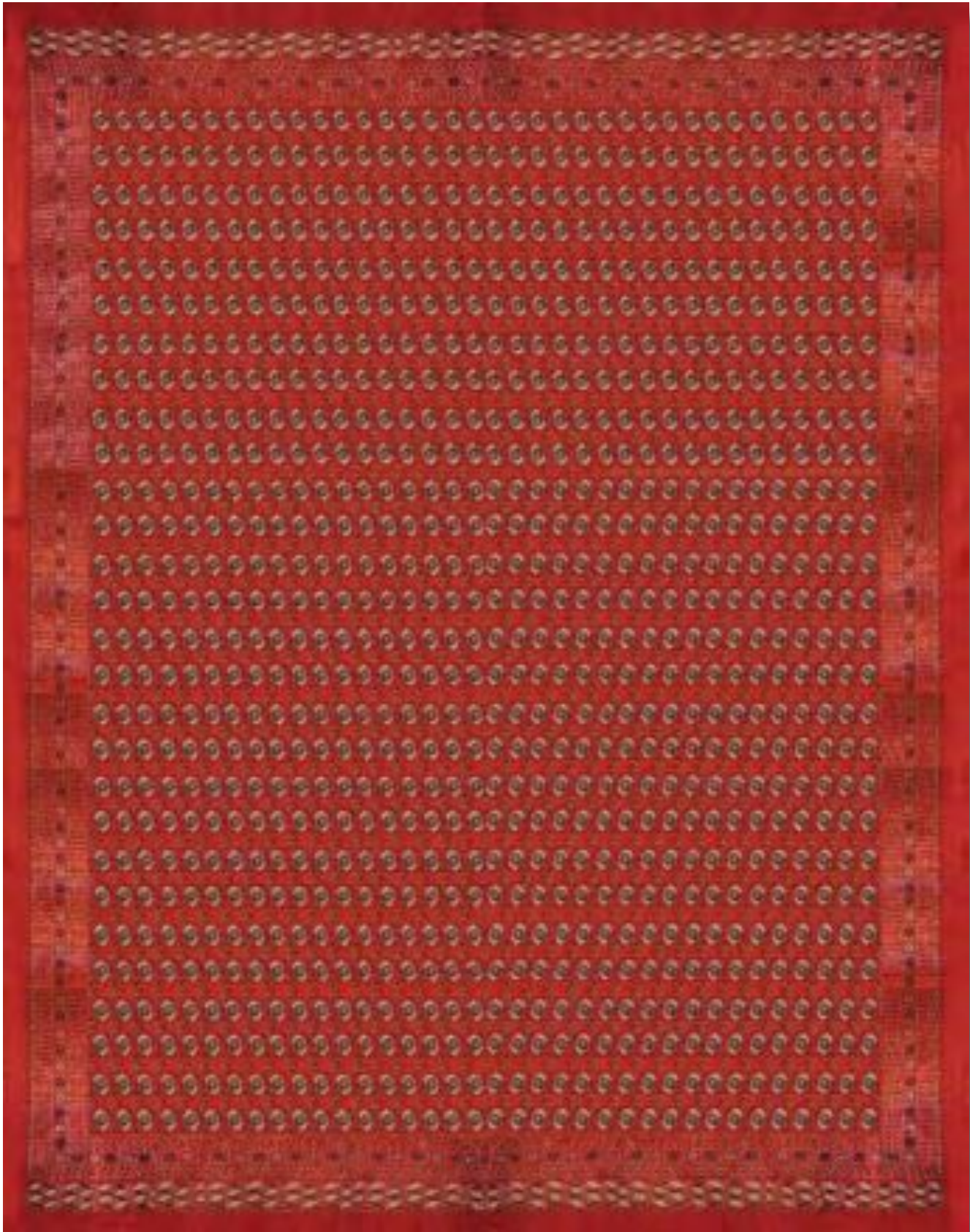
Description: This boy is super sweet. He loves people and gets along great with other dogs. He is good with kids and is very playful. He will be medium sized dog when full-grown



accustomed to going potty outside. I suspect she was kept indoors a lot previously.

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