

## Accomplishments and Events Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities



*Earth Day participants at Chinquapin Park make earth-friendly arts and crafts during the May event.*

### **Cameron Station Parks**

City Council, with extensive input from the public, the Park and Recreation Changing Perspectives: Commission and City agencies, has approved plans for the development of two parks in Cameron Station — Ben Brenman Park and the West End Park.

Construction of the 50.4-acre Ben Brenman Park and the 11.6-acre West End Park is scheduled to begin this fall. Improvements to the Ben Brenman Park include a regulation soccer field, a softball field, a little league field, a park entry facility with restrooms and concessions, a network of pedestrian and bicycle trails, a pedestrian bridge across Holmes Run, an urban plaza and picnic areas.

The West End Park includes a lighted softball field, with a youth soccer field overlaid on the outfield, a destination playground area, a three-court tennis/basketball complex, volleyball courts, picnic areas and trails. The park will be adjacent to the new elementary school in Cameron Station. Dedication of the Cameron Station parks is scheduled for spring 2000.

### **Windmill Hill Park**

Five parcels of land — known as Pommander Walk, Potomac View Park, the Gibbon and Wilkes Street Ends and the Old Town Yacht Basin — were combined into one park named Windmill Hill Park. The park was dedicated in June by members of City Council, members of the Park and Recreation Commission, the Waterfront Committee and neighbors. The park features a children's playground, a basketball court, a volleyball court, a passive area and a dog exercise area.



*The Charles E. Beatley, Jr. Central Library, located at Duke and Pickett streets, was designed by internationally renowned architect Michael Graves and will feature a reading garden donated by Alexandria resident Betty Wright.*

## **Ramsay Recreation Center**

Construction of the expanded William Ramsay Recreation Center will begin this fall. The design plan includes a large game room, a computer lab, a regulation-size gymnasium with spectator seating, an arts and crafts room and a dance studio. The Center, located on Sanger Avenue, will serve youth, adults and senior citizens.

*African-American sopranos Arevivia Renee Amos, Lee-Folia E. Brunt and Gina Watson perform selections from a variety of classical and African-American composers. This program celebrates the 66th year of the Alexandria Chapter of the NAACP, the 90th birthday of the NAACP and the 250th Anniversary of the City of Alexandria.*

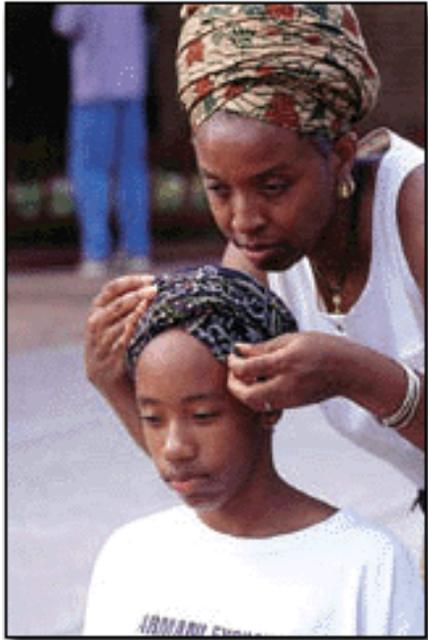


## **250th Anniversary Commission**

The Commission held a special Birthday Ball in July to raise funds to support authorship of an Alexandria history book that will be published by Time-Life Books in June 2000. The book will be written by noted historian and Alexandria resident William Seale, with the assistance of members of the 250th Anniversary Commission and the Office of Historic Alexandria. The Commission also sponsored a 250th Anniversary cake baking contest and a cookbook featuring local chefs also is available.

## Lyceum Exhibit

The Lyceum opened a major new temporary exhibition as part of the City's 250th Anniversary celebrations – Changing Perspectives: Charting Alexandria, 1590-1999 was an overview of Virginia and Alexandria's cartographic history that included a number of rare and valuable maps.



*A woman demonstrates headwrapping during the celebration of Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, Juneteenth, held at the Black History Resource Center in June.*