



## WOODROW WILSON BRIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD TASK FORCE

The 10-member City Council-appointed Alexandria Woodrow Wilson Bridge Neighborhood Task Force developed guidelines to assure that the bridge construction project respects the integrity of the community and minimizes its impact on neighborhood residents.

In May, the City distributed a brochure that described the project and contact information for filing comments and complaints. The Task Force provides a check on project activity, impacts and citizen concerns.

## UPPER POTOMAC WEST/ARLANDRIA

City Council initiated an innovative program designed to attract new investment to the Potomac West/Arlandria area and resolve issues raised by the neighborhood. A collaborative effort between business representatives, citizens, and staff resulted in the development of a revitalization plan to define the community's vision for the area, which includes a business/retail strategy to re-energize the area through incentives and promotions.

The City purchased the Datatel building located at 3700 Mount Vernon Avenue, a blighting influence in the neighborhood for over a decade. The City demolished the building in September 2002 to create a new opportunity for public/private redevelopment in the area.



## *Did You Know?*



## ALEXANDRIA HERITAGE TRAIL

The Alexandria Heritage Trail, a 23-mile loop off the Mount Vernon Trail, was launched in June. The trail links Alexandria's many stream valleys, parks, historic museums and charming neighborhoods to provide a

\*In the 1850's, stoneware was manufactured in the Wilkes Street Pottery. Today, many examples of the pottery are preserved in the collections of the Alexandria Archaeology Museum, The Lyceum, and in private collections.

\*There are four historic districts in Alexandria, which are listed on the National Register of Historic Places - the Old & Historic District, Rosemont, Town of Potomac and Parkfairfax.

\*The railroad car used to carry President Lincoln's body to Illinois for burial was made during the Civil War at the United States Military Railroad compound, now Old Town Village (Duke and Route 1).

continuous system for exploring Alexandria history.

## TRAFFIC CALMING

Last winter City transportation staff formalized the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program and published and distributed to civic associations a traffic-calming guide, which explains how neighborhoods with traffic concerns can participate in the program. The Traffic and Parking Board acted on 12 applications for traffic calming projects this fall. The City has implemented traffic calming projects on Commonwealth Avenue, Russell Road, Monroe Avenue, Cambridge Road, West Taylor Run Parkway, S. Gordon Street, Vermont Avenue and near the MacArthur Elementary School.



## SCHOOL BOARD REDISTRICTING

Since 1993, the nine-member City of Alexandria School

Board has been elected from three election districts (A, B and C), each of which has three members. The 2000 Census results required the City to "redistrict," or redraw the three school board election district boundaries, so that each district would be roughly equal in population. A series of public meetings involving City Council, the Alexandria School Board, Alexandria Electoral Board, and interested citizens and civic community groups, discussed alternative redistricting

scenarios and criteria. City Council selected a redistricting option which made the least change to the existing school board electoral scheme, by moving James K. Polk School Precinct from District C to District B. The three resulting districts continue to elect three school board members each, and are approximately equal in population. The plan has been submitted to the United States Justice Department for approval, and once approved, will be used for School Board elections in May 2003.



## Did You Know?

\*Citizens can contribute to the Alexandria Living Landscape Fund to help plant a tree or install a bench in memory of an individual or a group. Call the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities at (703) 838-5041.

## SCHLESINGER CENTER/METROSTAGE

The Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Art Center, located at the Northern Virginia Community College, was dedicated on October 19, 2001. This regional 50,700 square foot cultural center includes a thousand seat concert hall, an open meeting space, an art gallery, and other meeting rooms.

Organizations producing the 2001-2002 season at the Center include the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra, the



Kathy Harty Gray Dance Theatre, and the Alexandria Harmonizers.

Metrostage, a professional equity theatre company, moved into a new fully-equipped, state of the art theatre in north Old Town. A capital campaign challenge grant from the City of Alexandria aided in raising the funds needed for this theatre.



The Captain Rocky Versace Plaza and Vietnam Veterans Memorial was dedicated on July 6.