Memorial Cemetery Dedicated

Seventeen years ago on Memorial Day, a half dozen people gathered alongside the chain-link fence beyond Church Street overlooking the Capital Beltway on South Washington Street. Two neighbors, Lillie Finklea and Louise Massoud had organized a memorial service of remembrance for those believed buried on the site.

On Saturday morning, Sept. 6, the sun was shining and a quiet breeze occasionally found its way down Church Street. More than 700 people gathered for the dedication ceremony of the Contrabands and Freedmen Memorial Cemetery. Established in 1864, the cemetery was the burial place for more than 1,700 African Americans.

Saturday’s ceremony included musical selections from the Alexandria First Baptist Church Adoration Ringers, The Alexandria City Employees Choir and the Washington Revels Jubilee Voices. U.S. Rep. Jim Moran gave the keynote address along with a poem by city poet laureate Tori Lane, a historical reading by historian C. R. Gibbs, a reading by genealogist Char McCargo Bah and a history of the cemetery by Mayor Bill Euille.

Concluding the formal ceremony, members of City Council and invited guests read the names honoring the ancestors whose descendants were present for the dedication. After each name was called Char McCargo Bah tolled the memorial bell and a red rose was presented to a family member. Lillie Finklea and Louise Massoud began a procession with Mayor Bill Euille and the Washington Revels Jubilee Voices and the descendants up Church Street and into the cemetery.

Serial Killer?
Charles Severance indicted for murdering Nancy Dunning, Ron Kirby, Ruthanne Lodato.

“This is a very emotional crime. It’s a very personal crime.”
— Alexandria Police Chief Earl Cook

The Bean Counter
Hard Times’s Jim Parker dies at 69.

Cowboy philosopher Will Rogers once said he always judged a town by the quality of its chili. Chili parlors were where he would take the pulse of the nation for his popular syndicated columns. One of those parlors, a small roadhouse in Gracemont, Okla., ignited a passion for chili in a young Jim Parker, who would bring the tradition to Alexandria when he, along with his older brother Fred, opened Hard Times Café on King Street in 1980.

By Jeanne Theismann
Gazette Packet

Hard Times Café co-founder Jim Parker, shown with his wife Monica at a recent Supper Under the Stars event in Old Town, died Sept. 6 after a battle with pancreatic cancer. He was 69.
Old Wounds

The video is so shocking that it has everyone talking — even Mayor Bill Euille.

During Tuesday night’s City Council meeting, the mayor said elevator security camera footage of star N.F.L. running back Ray Rice knocking his fiancée unconscious has opened a new national conversation about domestic violence. Euille said that the timing of that discussion comes just as National Domestic Violence Month approaches in October. Euille also opened up about his personal experience with domestic violence.

“As a youngster growing up I witnessed domestic violence in my own family,” said Euille. “I know how harmful it can be.”

The mayor said the unfortunate events surrounding Rice are an opportunity for people to speak out against domestic violence and raise awareness of it.

“It’s a type of violence that should not be occurring,” said Euille.

Grabbing the Spotlight

Never miss an opportunity to grab the spotlight. That’s a lesson that Old Town attorney Mark Feldheim took to City Hall this week. During a presentation of a proclamation recognizing the 30th anniversary of MetroStage, Feldheim took a moment to comment on redevelopment of an old coal-fired power plant.

“Although there is nothing imminent, you know that we are on the north end of Old Town,” said Feldheim, who once ran for City Council. “There is some redevelopment that is probably coming there at some point in the future, so we ask you — we implore you to make sure there’s a place for us.”

Closing the Sale

This weekend, members of the City Council will vote to seal a deal that’s been decades in the making. The $5 million purchase of two waterfront properties will settle the long-running feud between Old Dominion Boat Club members and city officials and open up a key part of the waterfront to the public.

The two waterfront parcels complete a set city officials began to compile back in 2006, when the city purchased the old Beachcomber Restaurant and one-third of the parking lot next to it for $3 million. Now city leaders are on the verge of finalizing the sale of the remainder of the parking lot. “These are important parcels,” said Deputy City Manager Mark Jinks in July. “They are a missing link that will help us get one step closer to a multi-decade goal of having continuous public access along the water.”

Fair Trade City

Councilman John Taylor Chapman wants Alexandria to be the first Fair Trade Town in the Washington metropolitan area, a goal that he’s working with a group called Fair Trade Alexandria to make it happen. This week, members of the City Council unanimously approved a resolution endorsing the idea.

“With this resolution, the city of Alexandria has an opportunity to reaffirm its commitment to ethical and just business practices and position itself as a leader among cities,” said Chapman.

One more requirement needs to be met before the city before the Fair Trade Campaign will designate Alexandria as a Fair Trade Town. City officials must identify community organizations and nonprofits that use or serve fair-trade products. City Manager Rashad Young says city officials are still working to identify the required number. “There is no fiscal impact anticipated from this initiative,” said Young. “Procurement practices in the city are governed by the Virginia Public Procurement Act and the City Code.”

New Commissioner

Alexandria’s highest profile commission, the Planning Commission, has a new member, Cameron Station resident Mindy Lyle. She’s a former president of the Cameron Station Civic Association and a former member of the waterfront work group. Lyle beat out three other candidates for the coveted seat.

― Michael Lee Pope
NEW LISTING IN OLD TOWN

Old Town
$615,000
1122 Powhatan St.
Close to Braddock Metro & National Airport, this delightful TH is move-in-ready. Three finished levels & charming patio gardens give this home an abundance of space. Renovated kitchen & baths, wood floors & easy parking.
Diann Hicks
703-628-2440

OPEN SUNDAY 1–4
Alexandria/Del Ray
$839,000
409 E Bellefonte Ave. 3.50th-Den/2 BA Beautiful Detached Del Ray home with charming front porch, fabulous gourmet kitchen with stainless steel appliances & expansive island, high ceilings, large family room and beautiful fenced back yard. Driveway for convenient off-street parking. Short stroll to Braddock Metro and restaurants, shops & farmers market in Del Ray.
Bobi Bomar 703-597-2213

Alexandria
$939,000
on a lovely lot backing to trees.

END UNIT DELIGHT

Alexandria/Pairlonting Towne
$375,000
Julie Hall 703-786-3634

FANTASTIC AMENITIES

Alexandria
$359,900
5301 Pole Rd. Charming cottage living with 4 bedrooms, 1 bath. Large, level 1/2 acre lot, back deck, many updates including windows, HVAC. paint & carpet, original hardwood floors. Super-convenient to Fort Belvoir, G.W. Parkway and Old Town.
Nadine Wren 703-403-4410

WATERTAGTE AT LANDMARK

Alexandria
$99,000
Nancie Williams 703-608-6939

OPEN SUNDAY 1–4
Alexandria/Pairlonting Towne
$498,900
3033 Battersea Lane. Spacious 4 bedroom, 3 full bath, single-family home. Hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen, formal dining room, and a fenced backyard on a lovely lot backing to trees.
Susan Lynch 703-587-6391

OPEN SUNDAY 1–4
Alexandria
$1,100,000
1420 Desale St SW. Elegant New Home. 5 spacious BR, 3 Full Bath. Includes main level bedroom and Full Bath. Beautiful HW floors throughout the main level. Family room w/Gas FP and Coffe Ceiling. Spacious kitchen w/Large Island and SS appliances granite counter tops, MB with separate Soaking Tub, Shower, his and hers vanities lower level bedroom and Full Bath.
Dave & Debbie Ingram 703-380-9264

OPEN SUNDAY 1–4
Alexandria/Stratford on the Potomac
$845,000
8704 Parry Ln. TurnKey! Features $109K of updates and improvements since 2007 including open and spacious eat-in kitchen with wood cabinets, granite, bay window & appliances; new windows, siding, furnace, doors, roof, bathrooms & so much more. You can be a part of this vibrant, active community. Minutes from Old Town, National Airport and D.C.
Cindy Baggett & Leslie Rodriguez 703-593-1418

OPEN SUNDAY 1–4
Alexandria
$498,900
8605 Cherry Valley Ln. Wonderful home & community. Large 4 BR, 2 1/2 BA well-maintained colonial with hardwood floors, spacious finished basement, 2-car garage. Near Potomac River and scenic G.W. Parkway with bike, jogging, walking trail.
Mike Downie 703-780-2727

I-95 & Old Town!

Alexandria
$499,000
419 Cameron Station Blvd. Wonderful value in fabulous Cameron Station Community. Beautiful townhome-condos with 3 BRs, 2.5 BAs & 1,879 sq. ft! Hardwood ffs, high ceilings & Kit. w/granite & stainless. Luxurious master BR w/full BA. Lovely paint colors, trgs. balcony, attached gar. & extra parking. Amenities include free shuttle to Metro, pool, fitness, parks & more! mins. to D.C., I-395 & Old Town.
Lisa McCaskill 703-615-6036

FANTASTIC AMENITIES!

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$615,000
Old Town
$529,900
1115 Cameron St #215. Luxury 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo in the desirable Prescott with garage parking. Light-filled corner unit with 2 balconies, designer kitchen, open floor plan, lift, ceiling, gymnasia hardwood floors and quality finishes throughout. Fabulous rooftop terrace for grilling and entertaining. 1 Block off King St, 5 blocks to Metro. Christine Garner 703-587-4955

FANTASTIC AMENITIES!

Alexandria
$645,000
8704 Parry Ln. Turnkey! Features $109K of updates and improvements since 2007 including open and spacious eat-in kitchen with wood cabinets, granite, bay window & appliances; new windows, siding, furnace, doors, roof, bathrooms & so much more. You can be a part of this vibrant, active community. Minutes from Old Town, National Airport and D.C.
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Cindy Baggett & Leslie Rodriguez 703-593-1418
Severance Indicted for Murders

From Page 1

prominent real estate agent. Over the years, many speculated that the sheriff may have been a suspect — speculation that police say can now be put to rest.

“We had all the questions that everybody else had,” said Cook. “But I stand here today to say we never arrested Jim Dunning because we didn’t have evidence that Jim Dunning committed a homicide.”

For family and friends of the Dunning family, the years of waiting for a resolution have been difficult. The murder of Nancy Dunning remained an unsolved crime as speculation grew about the sheriff even after he moved to South Carolina, where he died in 2012. Shortly after Cook announced the indictment, members of the Dunning family appeared before reporters at the police headquarters and made a brief statement.

“Our family is grateful to the police and investigators who continued to pursue our mother’s case over these nearly 11 years,” said daughter Liz Dunning. “While nothing can bring her back, we are hopeful that today’s indictment is the beginning of a process that will offer our family and the other affected families some small amount of closure.”

For friends of the Dunning family, arrest of Severance is welcome news — clearing a cloud that had lingered over the memory of the former sheriff.

“Family members are almost always suspect in some measure when there’s been an unexplained murder, particularly when there was some kind of marital difficulties as there had been,” said former Councilman Lonnie Rich. “The good thing is that it does lift a cloud over the family, and it’s a cloud that’s been there for 10 years.”

Since the Dunning murder, two other city residents were gunned down in the middle of the day at their homes: transportation official Ron Kirby last year and music teacher Ruthanne Lodato earlier this year. Last spring, police officials said they had narrowed the focus of their investigation to one man, an eccentric former candidate for mayor and Congress.

“I thought he was eccentric and I thought he was odd, but I never felt threatened,” said former Mayor Kerry Donley, who ran against Severance in the 1990s. “It’s welcome news that we are going to get some closure here. Certainly the families need closure and the community needs closure.”

That might not happen for some time, though. The indictment represents the first step in a potential prosecution of Severance, who must first be ruled competent to stand trial.

Commonwealth’s Attorney Bryan Porter says he will not seek the death penalty in the case, which means that a maximum possible sentence would be life in prison.

“This case has to go to court,” said Alexandria Mayor Bill Euille. “And so we must allow the judicial process to unfold and be confident that justice will be served.”
A woman stops at the children's information desk right beside the front door looking for age appropriate books for a two- and four-year old for France. Diana Price, children's librarian at Beatley Central Library on Duke Street, takes the woman back to the near rows of children's book shelves to find Babar and Madeleine. Another mother is looking for a Pre-K book on reptiles. Price looks it up on the computer and says, “We should have it. Let me take you back there.” Then she helps a father find part of a series for eight-year olds. “It's really hopping tonight.”

Put on your glasses, open up your book. Diana Price, children's librarian at Beatley Central Library sings along with the children at her Pajamarama story hour on Tuesday nights.

A young girl steps up and proudly hands over her completed summer reading list of 10. Price fills out a colorful framed certificate and the girl heads for the prize box where she chooses a lighted magnifying glass. “It's really cool,” Price says. “You can read under the covers.” There are three levels of summer reading — 0-5, 6-12 and teen. The children’s section where Price works covers from 0-12 years.

Price spent a lot of time in the library as a child. Things are different now. These days there are series that begins as a picture book, then graduate up the reading scale until adulthood. If you like Batman, you can start with the pictures and read it until you’re grown. There are also a lot of tie-ins with TV and movies to get youngsters reading plus more graphics in the books to make them more interesting and easier for children who are struggling. The Dewey decimal system is still in use but the old wooden file drawers full of catalog cards of book titles have been replaced by the computer. She says some people look up the books themselves and others come to the desk for help.

It’s 7:30 p.m. and time for the weekly story program. Since this is a family story time, the children can range from toddlers to first grade. She announces over a microphone that if “you’re here for Pajamarama, it is about to start so just head on back.” She says, “Of course I like to read stories. But I add movement and music. I want it to be as fun as possible.”

As the children gather around her in the floor she asks if they want to get a stuffed animal for a friend. She points at the shelves and corners around the room. “We have plenty.”

“Put on your glasses and open your book,” she sings with the children as they mimic her actions making finger circles around their eyes.

The theme for tonight is the letter A. “What is this letter?” she asks the group, holding up a large card. All the books have the letter A in the title. Including the choices for the evening of “Again,” “Animals should definitely not wear clothes” and “An African Princess,” and “There’s An Alligator Under My Bed.” Price has an Excel spreadsheet with 1,300 titles to give her ideas for the programs. She says part of the program is also a literacy tip for the parents to help their kids with reading.

After graduating in English from William and Mary College, she looked around at the possibilities. “I wanted to do something positive for the community. I didn’t want to work in a cubicle.” So she got a Master’s in Library Science. Her first job was as a reference assistant in the library where she had grown up. Before starting at Beatley Central Library in June of this year, she had worked as a youth services librarian in Bucks County, Pa. for three years.

Price arrives an hour before the library opens to set up, working 9 a.m.-6 p.m. every day except Tuesday when she has the storytelling program and Saturday which is 9 a.m.-5 p.m. She spends several hours at the information desk and the rest of the time meeting with staff of other departments and libraries, planning her future programs and some outreach. Currently she is working on input to the library’s participation in the Virginia Science Festival from Oct. 4-11. It will involve a scavenger hunt, trivia, staff-led programs. She said the library has chosen a specific science theme so that things would be coordinated. It’s Brain STEM, a play on words with the STEM program, and “I’m really looking forward to the participation by graduate students who will be discussing the brain; won’t that be interesting?”

Register for Learn And Playgroups
The Center for Alexandria’s Children its Learn and Playgroups a program for children ages 0-5 that blends social, emotional and language development with good parenting skills. The registration drive provides city residents with the opportunity to enroll children in one of the center’s 14 Learn and Play Groups.

Photos by Louise Krafft/Gazette Packet

Diana Price one of the selections for Tuesday’s Pajamarama story time at Beatley Central Library on Duke Street — each book for the evening with the letter A in its title.

Sitting at the children’s library information desk, Diana Price answers questions about where to find books, availability and age-appropriate choices.
OLD TOWN $589,900
1025 N Royal Street 930
This gorgeous 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath home offers a large open floor plan, two story ceiling, and a beautiful outdoor view.

OLD TOWN $589,900
626 S Columbus Street
Located in the private courtyard of Washington Square, this gorgeous home offers 3 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms, a gourmet kitchen, and a spacious living area.

COLLEGE PARK $1,895,000
1160 Tribune Drive
Vacation all year long in this 6 bedroom, 4.5 bath home. This beautiful house offers a large open floor plan, a gourmet kitchen, and a beautiful outdoor view.

MASON HILL $1,089,000
1700 Hollywood Drive
This custom built contemporary home features two-story living and dining rooms, with floor to ceiling windows, 3 master bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, and a private backyard with pool.

VILLAMAY $995,000
1208 Tatum Drive
Located on a half acre lot, this one level, open concept ranch features a spacious living room with floor to ceiling windows, a private terrace, 2 fireplaces, and 3 bathrooms.

HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE $946,000
8046 Washington Road
This beautiful new construction home features 4 bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms, a gourmet kitchen, and a beautiful outdoor view.

HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE $941,000
8033 Washington Road
A stunning 5 bedroom home in Westwood School district, with 2 car garage, gas fireplace, high-end gourmet kitchen, pantry, and master bedroom.

HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE $905,000
8170 Stacey Road
This beautiful home features 4 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms, a gourmet kitchen, and a beautiful outdoor view.

MT VERNON TERRACE $695,000
5052 Burke Drive
Located in an exclusive Mount Vernon waterfront community, this 5 bedroom, 2.5 bath home offers a 2 car garage, water views, and community access to the Potomac River.

WELLINGTON $749,000
8010 East Boulevard Drive
This spacious brick colonial offers three finished levels, totaling over 6000 square feet, 5 bedrooms, 4.5 bathrooms, and a beautiful outdoor view.

GRAND VIEW $1,095,000
1902 Mattison Way
One of the luxury homes in this exclusive neighborhood, this grand colonial offers 4 bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms, and a beautiful outdoor view.

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HEATHER COREY | +1 703 980 1183

BELLE HAVEN
1900 Belle Haven | $1,425,000
Renovated 6BR, 5.5BA colonial with formal rooms, chef’s kitchen, nanny suite, spacious rec room with wet bar and FP, Wine cellar, garage, patio overlooking wooded vista.
JEANNE WARNER | +1 703 980 9106

GRAND VIEW ON THE POTOMAC
1934 Mallinson Way | $2,950,000
Located on a private road, and once owned by President George Washington, this elegant Georgian Colonial offers river views, 10’ ceilings, and luxurious appointments throughout! 20 Minutes to the White House along historic GW Parkway.
ROBIN WAUGH | +1 703 819 8809

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- Year built: 1763
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- Bedrooms: Four
- Full Baths: Five
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Change Is Coming, Right?

Legislators on changing the culture of cash and gifts in Virginia: Crickets.

With former Gov. Bob McDonnell and his wife Maureen facing what could be decades in prison after their convictions for corruption, a reasonable person might reasonably expect that members of the General Assembly would be gearing up to make some big changes.

Under Virginia law, there was no barrier to the McDonnells taking tens of thousands of dollars in gifts from a single donor in search of help.

In addition to the gifts, the tens of thousands of dollars in contributions to campaign funds were not part of the corruption trial, but they were certainly part of seeking influence.

Virginia needs real change, but there is silence from members of the General Assembly on any real change.

It turns out that unlimited contributions and gifts is not good for government, not good for elected officials as the recent news demonstrates. It would be better for most businesses to have limits as well so as not to be subject to the expectation of making huge donations.

The National Conference of State Legislatures www.ncsl.org summarizes how the 50 states regulate contributions: “States commonly place limits on contributions to candidates from various sources, and also on contributions to political action committees (PACs) and political parties. Just four states — Missouri, Oregon, Utah and Virginia — place no limits on contributions at all. Another seven states — Alabama, Indiana, Iowa, Mississippi, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, and Texas — have minimal contribution limits. These states limit or prohibit contributions by corporations and unions to candidates, but leave contributions from all other sources unlimited. In the remaining 39 states, contributions to candidates from individuals, political parties, PACs, corporations and unions are typically limited or, in the case of corporations and unions, prohibited outright.”

In Maryland, individuals can give $4,000 to any one candidate and $10,000 total, cumulatively to all candidates in a four-year election cycle. (These limits increase to $6,000 and $24,000 in 2015.) In Maryland, corporations and CEOS are not giving $100,000 and more in an election cycle.

Do we really want to be a state where the rules are so lax, that what barely raises an eyebrow here can send a former governor and his wife to prison for a long time?

The silence is bipartisan. The silence unites NoVa (Northern Virginia) and RoVa (the rest of Virginia). Every incumbent in Virginia thinks they are benefiting from the ability to collect so much cash.

They all know that they would not engage in the kind unseemly behavior that was recently on display in the McDonnell trial. They seem to think that the McDonnells were just an aberration.

Having our legislative process, locally and at the state level, awash in cash and gifts from people with business before the legislative bodies is not good for any of us.

It’s time for some real limits and some disclosure requirements with teeth.

— MARY KIMM mkkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Investigative Brilliance

To the Editor:

Congratulations to the Alexandria Police Department, Commonwealth’s Attorney, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Virginia State Police, and all of the region’s law enforcement partners for their diligence, tenacity, hard work, and investigative brilliance that culminated in the indictment of Charles Severance for the murders of Nancy Dunning, Ron Kirby and Ruthanne Lodato. My thoughts and prayers are with the families and friends of these three incredibly distinguished Alexandrians who had waited patiently and courageously for this to happen.

David B Baker
Alexandria

Astonishingly Well-Done

To the Editor: Huzzah!

The grand celebration in Waterfront Park and in the Potomac River brought together an incredible group of historians, artists, archeologists, sailors, bankers, water servers, musicians, athletes, the Old Guard, and many more. It was astonishingly well-done. Huzzah!

Despite the heat of the day they enthusiastically educated the large and diverse group of historians, artists, archeologists, sailors, bankers, water servers, musicians, athletes, the Old Guard, and many more. It was astonishingly well-done. Huzzah!

And many thanks to the sponsors and all the behind the scenes volunteers who made this a grand experience of “The World (and 5,000 glasses of water!) Turned Upside Down.” A high standard has been set by our historians, artists, sailors, and friends. The city’s assessment of the resources and best outcomes for this event are eagerly awaited.

Huzzah!

Kathryn Papp
Alexandria

Reexamine State’s Energy Policies

To the Editor: See Letters, Page 12

Editorial

Laws region’s law enforcement partners Virginia State Police, and all of the Alexandria Police Department, Virginia — place no limits on contributions at all. Another seven states — Alabama, Indiana, Iowa, Mississippi, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, and Texas — have minimal contribution limits. These states limit or prohibit contributions by corporations and unions to candidates, but leave contributions from all other sources unlimited. In the remaining 39 states, contributions to candidates from individuals, political parties, PACs, corporations and unions are typically limited or, in the case of corporations and unions, prohibited outright.”

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To the Editor: Huzzah!

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Despite the heat of the day they enthusiastically educated the large and diverse group of historians, artists, archeologists, sailors, bankers, water servers, musicians, athletes, the Old Guard, and many more. It was astonishingly well-done. Huzzah!

And many thanks to the sponsors and all the behind the scenes volunteers who made this a grand experience of “The World (and 5,000 glasses of water!) Turned Upside Down.” A high standard has been set by our historians, artists, sailors, and friends. The city’s assessment of the resources and best outcomes for this event are eagerly awaited.

Huzzah!

Kathryn Papp
Alexandria

Reexamine State’s Energy Policies

To the Editor: See Letters, Page 12
OPINION

Bunny Love Blossoms at AWLA

By Barbara S. Moffet
Animal Welfare League of Alexandria

She was a large, mostly white, Himalayan rabbit who’d been at the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria for a few months since traveling there from a puppy mill in Arkansas. He was a smaller bunny with a brown coat who had arrived with a few other rabbits from the Prince William County shelter.

They had never met — until the staff decided to move both of them to pens on the floor of the shelter’s cat room, where they would live surrounded by cats in cages. The message: Rabbits and cats can coexist.

It wasn’t long before the two rabbits — known by the staff as Alice and Boppity — noticed each other. “I was walking past the cat room one day and saw Boppity in Alice’s pen,” recalled Chelsea Lindsey of the League’s adoption staff. “Alice was grooming Boppity. I ran in and put him back in his pen, and 20 minutes later he had managed to get back over to her pen. By observing them, I learned that he was jumping up on a box in his pen and onto the partition and then down to a box on Alice’s side.”

Lindsey and the staff realized that whether it was bunny love or something else, the rabbits had made their preference about their living arrangement clear. Down came the partition, and the two rabbits, who have been spayed and neutered, began cohabitation.

Now, they rarely leave each other’s side. They do seem happier now, Lindsey says. Alice, who hadn’t been the most cuddly bunny at first, has warmed up and will now get on people’s laps. Patches on Boppity’s speckled-brown coat have filled in, leaving him with a lush appearance. Along with rabbit pellets, Alice loves to eat fruit and vegetables, sometimes stealing food from Boppity. Much larger than he, Alice has no trouble throwing her weight around. “She definitely wears the pants in the relationship,” Lindsey says. Boppity and Alice are available for adoption, preferably as a pair.

Alice (left) and Boppity bunny kiss at the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter.

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Alexandria Gazette Packet • September 11-17, 2014 • 11
I am a 5th generation native Alexandrian. My family and I own property in Orange, Va. This past spring we, along with other regional land owners, received Spectra Energy survey requests. Spectra Energy and Dominion Virginia Power’s Southeast Reliability Project had competing natural gas pipeline proposals along parallel routes through Central Virginia. Dominion and affiliates won out and Governor McAuliffe recently announced his support. Proponents tout natural gas as “clean” and the descriptor “natural” conveys a subliminal message of being better for you.

Like oil and coal, natural gas contributes to carbon pollution. According to a June, 2014 peer-reviewed article, natural gas has a larger greenhouse gas footprint (GHG) compared to coal and oil. Ranking data indicate Dominion is one of the worst electric utility companies in the country with respect to renewable energy and energy efficiency performance. In addition to carbon pollution, natural gas pipeline risks include leaks, ground and water contamination, radioactivity, and increased seismic activity due to fracking.

These potential hazards relate to nuclear energy as well. The North Anna Nuclear Power plant in Mineral, Va. was constructed in 1978 and is maintained by Dominion Power. Dominion in collusion with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission withheld the preliminary engineering report indicating geologic faulting at the planned site. Several disturbing questions remain unanswered about the potential vulnerability of North Anna.

❖ Were the North Anna reactors built to necessary specifications in the first place given the undisclosed seismic vulnerability?
❖ Are North Anna operating conditions safe given the shifting that occurred as a result of the 2011 earthquake and aftershocks nearby?
❖ Should the Nuclear Regulatory Commission’s 20-year extension on the operating license for North Anna be reevaluated?

From all indications, including from a recent public hearing I attended in Alexandria, there is a groundswell of mounting support for aggressive Virginia legislation in support of clean/safe energy planning — more aggressive planning and implementation than contained in the flexible state guidelines of the federal Climate Action Plan. According to various reports, Virginia is at the bottom of the list of states ranked for pollution control.

With regard to jobs and economic recovery, investing in renewable sources such as solar, wind, and geothermal energy is paying off and will continue to do so if we make sound choices.

Governor McAuliffe’s decision in support of the Dominion group’s gas pipeline plan translates to legitimate environmental impact and job-potential evidence falling on deaf ears. Dominion is an energy conglomerate with significant political and government influence. Dominion should divest from not only coal and oil, but also natural gas and nuclear power in its energy mix. If we position ourselves for come-from-behind differences, Virginia may be poised to be a best-practice example among states. We should push for aggressive, renewable clean energy legislation in the interest of humankind. The choices we make can be to our clear and present
Obituary

Frances Perry Jernigan

Frances Perry Jernigan, longtime resident of Alexandria, died at age 90 on Aug. 5, 2014. Her final months were peaceful, spent in the home built by her husband and son in 1977. From her kitchen window, she had a ringside seat for viewing the bird feeders and wildlife in her beloved patch of suburban woodland.

Frances was born in 1923 and spent her childhood in Washington, D.C. As an only child, she enjoyed many family excursions to visit relatives and famous watering holes in the Virginia countryside. But a new world opened for her when her parents sent her off to summer camp for a month in the mountains. Most of all, she loved swimming in the lakes, hiking and camp lore, horseback riding and campfire songs.

Fran first attended college at Ole Miss, and then graduated from UNC with a degree in business and finances. She completed her degree just as World War II was ending, and jumped at the chance to board a ship for Tokyo, where she did financial work for the U.S. Government. Every free moment was spent traveling through the countryside, meeting as many Japanese people as she could despite the strict government taboo on interactions. She made friends with farmers after her horse, scared by a snake, went off the path and trampled some of their rice. Appalled, Fran found her way to the family’s home and offered to bring them virtually unattainable American commodities. In gratitude, the family gave her an heirloom doll, a Samurai warrior.

After returning Stateside, Fran married William Jernigan, a fellow Labor Department employee, in 1951. They settled in Alexandria to raise their three children. Both parents were involved in Alexandria civic issues: Bill had a series of law offices in Old Town, and Fran worked for many years as his legal secretary. Bill was on the Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals, and Fran was active with the Al-
Jernigan

OBITUARY

exandria Lawyers’ Wives. They both had a great interest in how the city evolved through the ’60s, with the development of the Potomac waterfront, and the creation of a downtown cultural core around Market Square. During this time, Fran volunteered as a driver for Meals on Wheels and FISH. Bill became involved in renovating historic Old Town properties. Fran continually put her skills with finances to use, serving as treasurer for Trinity Methodist Church, as well as doing freelance bookkeeping for many local Alexandria businesses.

After the children grew up, Fran and Bill began camping in New England. This gave Fran a chance to revel in the autumn woods and mountaintops, her lifelong pleasure. In 1979 they purchased an old farmhouse and some acreage bordering Acadia National Park in Maine. Bill died in 1981, and after-wards Fran worked hard to continue their mutual rewards Fran worked hard to continue their mutual lifelong pleasure. In 1979 they purchased an old farmhouse and some acreage bordering Acadia National Park in Maine. Bill died in 1981, and afterwards Fran worked hard to continue their mutual projects. She managed the rental units he had re-built in Old Town, and maintained the farmhouse in Maine as a summer vacation rental. For the last three decades of her life, many of Fran’s happiest days were spent at the Maine homestead, Renwick House. Each spring and fall, she would round up a posse of relatives and friends to share the drive, the chores, and the sheer wonder of life in the pine forests and granite-studded mountains of coastal Maine. She made friends with neighbors along the rural road, sharing freshly picked apples and berries for pies, tales of wildlife, and a sincere love for every overgrown path and seaside pebble of her adopted second home.

During her retirement years, Fran also took time to revisit her wanderlust. She discovered alternative travel escapades: tenting in Tanzania; visiting Machu Picchu and the canopied rain forests of Peru; traveling solo in Nepal with a Sherpa guide; and, at age 80, exploring penguin colonies in Antarctica.

Fran’s memory will be treasured by her children Kathy of Sebastopol, California, David (Debby Goldberg) of Silver Spring and Rob (Laura Jernigan) of Alexandria, and her grandchildren: Will, Elliott, Sierra, Ruthy and Annie. She took great joy in seeing them grow.

Family friends are invited to an informal sharing of memories at the Jernigan home on Saturday, Sept. 13 at 2 pm. For directions, email: david.jernigan@gmail.com. Donations may be made to the World Wildlife Fund.

9/11 Observance

The City of Alexandria will remember those lives lost along the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and Flight 93. The moments of silence will correspond with the time of impact of the four planes:
❖ 8:46 a.m., in observance of American Airline’s Flight 11 strike of the North Tower,
❖ 9:03 a.m., in observance of United Airline’s Flight 175 strike of the South Tower,
❖ 9:37 a.m., in observance of American Airline’s Flight 77 strike of the Pentagonal; and
❖ 10:03 a.m., in observance of United Airline’s Flight 93 crash in Shanksville, Pa.

Potomac Riverboat Company and Hooray for Books present Talk Like a Pirate Cruise September 13th, 2014, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. aboard The Cherry Blossom Riverboat • Adult & Child Costume Contest • Story Presentation of “Pirate vs. Pirates” by Mary Quattlebaum • Photo with the Pirate • Games & Activities for all Ages!

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On Aug. 31, 1814, atop Shuter's Hill, the site today of the Masonic Memorial, Acting Secretary of War James Monroe, Navy Captain David Porter, the hero of the American war in the Pacific Ocean, and others met at the camp of General John Hungerford, a congressman from the Northern Neck who commanded 2,000 militiamen from various Virginia counties. The meeting's purpose was to put into effect a plan to attack the British Navy as it sailed back down the Potomac River from Alexandria.

General Hungerford and his militiamen had been shadowing the British ships as they sailed up the Potomac. The British, however, had gotten ahead and arrived at Alexandria before the Americans. Then, as Hungerford and his men approached Alexandria, Alexandrians requested that they not enter the town and disrupt the peace. After the battle, the Alexandria leaders had already started across Alexandria before the Americans. Then, as it sailed back down the Potomac River. Captain Porter was named overall commander.

At Belvoir Neck, the channel the British ships would use passed close to the Virginia side of the river where it would be easier targets for American cannons. Those cannons would be positioned on top of a 40-foot-high bluff so that the ships would have difficulty elevating their own cannons enough to hit them. On a beach by the river's edge stood the white-painted building that gave the bluffs the name “the White House” or “White House Landing.”

On Sept. 1, after Porter had ridden into Alexandria as described last week, the militiamen and seamen on Shuter’s Hill began marching toward White House Landing.

With farther to go, General Young’s Alexandria brigade had already started across the Potomoc and toward Belvoir Neck. The Alexandrians did not fight at Bladensburg, although they were not far away and could have. The American leadership in that battle was so inept that not inserting them into it was one of its many mistakes. After the battle, the Alexandrians marched through Northern Virginia seeking a phantom slave revolt. Then after the British captured Alexandria, they were ordered to Washington to defend it in the case the British returned. Now they hoped to see some action. General Young recorded, his brigade consisted of “persons from all situations in life.” It included Private William Herbert, Jr., grandson of the president of the Bank of Alexandria; Private Samuel Baggett, a 25-year-old laborer; and 52-year-old drummer Domini Barcroft, a free black man who owned a popular tavern on Fairfax Street.

It also included 27-year-old Captain Greenberry Griffith, an Alexandria silversmith who commanded the Alexandria Artillery. The Artillery had with it all of Alexandria’s cannons, including the 12-pounders. Young retrieved the night of the 24th as the brigade marched through Alexandria on its way west. At Belvoir Neck, Griffith’s artillery would play a leading role in the fight against the British ships. While marching toward White House Landing, Porter received word from militiamen sent ahead that a British ship was approaching the bluffs. Followed by two 4-pound cannons and their gunners, Porter rode quickly on ahead. When they arrived at the edge of the bluffs where militia men were felling trees to clear a place for the cannons, they saw about half a mile away downriver a British brig floating toward them with the tide. “The few sails she had set were flapping as she rolled with the sullen swell, her rigging and yards were hung with shirts and trousers, it being washing day,” a militiaman wrote later. “Her deck was covered with men .... She stood close in to the shore, not seeming to regard the few men she saw on the bank.” As the ship approached, the militiamen who had been felling trees lay down flat on the ground to hide, and Porter fired a shot from each of his two cannons. One cannonball skipped across the water in front of the ship’s bow, and the other cut down a signal flag, dropping it into the water. The men on deck, however, paid no attention, apparently thinking it was only a small party of neighborhood militia.

As the ship arrived opposite the Americans, however, a third cannon shot struck her hull, and simultaneously the militiamen rose and fired their muskets into the men clearly in view on deck. Immediately, the British sailors vanished behind the ship’s sides or below deck. The ship then fired a broadside, but the cannon balls struck the bank below the Americans. The militiamen continued to fire their muskets “until the shirts and trousers were cut to bits.” As the ship moved away, Porter fired a last shot that shattered the glass window at her stern.

The British ship’s captain earlier had sent a boat to Captain Gordon in Alexandria with orders that he rejoin the fleet. Now Gordon would learn that his descent of the Potomac would be contested. That night, the remainder of Hungerford and Porter’s men arrived at White House Landing. The next day, Sept. 2, the men of Alexandria’s brigade arrived also. They had yet to fire a shot at the British or receive a shot from them. That was about to change.
Witness to Change
Before and after segregation.

By Mary Anne Weber

When President Lyndon Johnson was pushing the Civil Rights Act through an often recalcitrant Congress in 1964, Living Legend Lynnwood Campbell was a high school student. He wasn’t one of the adults who led the battle for civil rights in Alexandria but he was a witness to life before and after segregation.

“The colored schools were not up to par, not funded,” he said describing conditions in Alexandria when he was ready to enter elementary school. At first that didn’t matter because his parents sent him to St. Joseph Catholic School, part of a parish run by the Josephite fathers. However the year he was in seventh grade, St Joseph’s, an all black Catholic school, discontinued the eighth grade.

His parents applied to St. Mary’s and met with the priest. At the time there were no black students in St. Mary’s but he was offered an application. He took it and was accepted, the only black student accepted that year and the first to attend the school. “The next year two black girls were accepted,” he chuckled.

That momentous first week his father drove him to school. “There was a patrol car parked in front of the school the first week and they were outside after school for the first week,” he said. When he arrived “(the late) Ken Barnett came up and asked if I’d like to be friends. He was a really popular student and once we were friends, things settled down.”

Despite the fact that the Brown vs Board of Education decision was in 1954, Virginia was still in the midst of massive resistance to integration but paid half the tuition for black students to go to schools outside the state. For Campbell that meant Gordon Junior High in Georgetown for a year, followed by Western High School which was to become Duke Ellington School of The Arts.

“It was a magnet school although I didn’t know it then,” he said. “Most of the children from the embassies went to Western, very diverse, like T.C. Williams is now.”

He noted that in Alexandria, schools remained pretty segregated, and the city got into trouble with the justice department. There was also pressure coming from leaders like Ferdinand Day, Shirley Tyler, Mel Bergheim and Connie Ring. So he could have applied for permission to go to either Hammond or George Washington, rather than Parker Gray. But he didn’t want to.

While local government and public schools may have fought integration, Campbell said there was no trouble in his neighborhood on North Alfred Street. “We played basketball and football together but we went to different schools.”

Campbell graduated from Western High School in 1965 and went to Howard University where he graduated with a degree in accounting and business. He was working at Price Waterhouse when he went on active duty with the Army. They sent him to the U.S. Army Finance School and he became the deputy finance and accounting officer for the Military District of Washington. President Truman may have integrated the Army in 1948 but when Campbell was stationed at Fort Myer, he learned there were almost no black finance officers. When he was in Indiana there were two at the same time.

Though he was now in the Army, Alexandria’s troubles became his. “There was trouble in Alexandria, a riot and troops were ready to go in,” he said. “This was the ‘70s.” His brother Bernard was caught up in the trouble and had been arrested. “I went to the city manager and demanded that they let my brother out of jail.” He helped calmed things down, the incidents subsided and the Army did not come to Alexandria.

After leaving the Army with the rank of captain, he went back to Price Waterhouse where he also discovered there were very few blacks. “I was the first black CPA supervisor,” he said. He had been urged to get involved in civic affairs in Alexandria but felt he had too much work to do. But

See Witness. Page 30
### Top Sales in July, 2014

In July 2014, 233 Alexandria homes sold between $2,575,000-$85,000.

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Address .................................. BR FB HB ... Postal City ... Sold Price .... Type .... Lot AC . Postal Code .... Subdivision .... Date Sold

‘Recession Ripple Persists’

Private sector job growth key to strengthening regional economy, housing demand.

BY TIM PETERSON
Gazette Packet

“T

here’s no question the primary economic driver of this region has always been Uncle Sam,” said David Versal, senior research associate at the George Mason University Center for Regional Analysis. “That said, we’re not Detroit.”

That was a year ago, when Versal addressed members of the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors at their economic summit held in George Mason University’s Mason Inn.

At this year’s summit, his past remarks came back to haunt him, if not the whole room. “In 2013, job growth ground to a halt,” he said at the event last Thursday. “July [2013] to July [2014], net was about 20,000 jobs in our region. Who do we come closest to?”

The stunned conference hall full of Realtors, seeing his slide, answered in unison: “Detroit.”

Members of the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors met at the Fairview Park Marriott Hotel in Falls Church for their 2014 Economic Summit.

SEE ‘MILLENIALS’, PAGE 22

‘Recession Ripple Persists’

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SEE ‘MILLENIALS’, PAGE 22
‘Millennials’ Seen as Key Group

VERSAL was back again for 2014, along with discussion moderator Kenneth Harney, author of the syndicated column “The Nation’s Housing.”

New panelists included: James Dinegar, president and CEO for the Greater Washington Board of Trade; Dr. Michael Pranoti, chief economist and senior vice president of research and industry technology for the Mortgage Bankers Association, and Mitchel Kider, chairman and managing partner for Weiner Brodsky Kider PC.

THE THEME of this year’s summit was “Housing Hangover: Recession Ripple Persists in 2014: Jobs, Confidence, Mortgages (+ Aspirin) Fuel Recovery.”

Each panelist brought a different perspective to the central concept that no, the recession is not over, growth is slow and home sales are flat; but yes, the recovery is on and as long as home buyers, sellers and Realtors alike keep in front of the economic and regulatory changes taking place, things are looking up. We’re all still here.

Versal echoed his callout from last year, that since 2010 government spending cuts have decimated the Washington D.C. metro area. “We lost over $11 billion in federal procurement,” he said, referencing the massive contracting industry, “just in 3 years; $11 billion that was in our economy in 2010 that is no longer. This is on top of the 20,000 jobs we’ve removed.”

One true gainer in jobs over the same period, he said, has been hospitality — specifically restaurant jobs. However even though those jobs help pad the not-Detroit figure, they don’t exactly help a housing market that’s light on top-end inventory and lacking any semblance of a middle.

“Ask yourselves as Realtors: Are people buying $6-7-800,000 houses in this region people who work in restaurants? Unless they own the restaurant probably not,” said Versal.

According to Versal, Northern Virginia isn’t creating enough jobs paying in the $40- to $70,000 range to stimulate growth in the market’s midsection.

But that’s not all: Another factor — and a continuation from 2013’s remarks — keeping the market from balancing out is the lack of adequate housing construction.

Or rather, construction of homes for purchase. Versal said half of what’s being built is rental property, which doesn’t produce sales and doesn’t help the sagging middle.

But the regional analyst did point out a few bright spots, looking forward. In the next three to four years, Versal predicts, the D.C. metro region will be creating 50-60,000 jobs again, like it was 10 years ago — which should drive demand for housing. However this growth, he stressed, will be borne by the private sector, not the federal government.

James Dinegar of the Greater Washington Board
Migration brings “a river of raptors.”

By Donald Sweig

Every autumn, in addition to literally billions of songbirds, a million or more avian raptors (hawks, eagles and falcons) migrate from their nesting and breeding areas all over North America to their winter homes, mostly in Central and South America. Raptor enthusiasts and hawk counters often head for mountain ridges and other concentration points in hopes of seeing some of the birds fly by.

But, one doesn’t necessarily have to do this to see migrating hawks.

Broad-winged hawks often migrate in large groups and very large numbers. At the right time, with the right weather, it is possible to see lots of them almost anywhere. Peak migration for Broad-winged hawks in the mid-Atlantic states is usually between Sept. 12 and 22.

Sept. 18-19 are often the big days in the Washington area.

It is helpful to understand a little about how Broad-winged hawks migrate.

“Broadwings,” like some other raptors, don’t fly well over long distances.

So they utilize “thermals,” rising columns of hot air off the land, to help them gain altitude for migration.

When a migrating Broadwing, for example, starts out in the morning from a place like the wooded hills along the Potomac River near Great Falls, it will flap a few times to get out of the trees and then it begins to look for a thermal. When it finds one, it sort of sits in the column of rising air and often makes little circles to stay in the thermal as it rises with the air, something like an elevator. If a second Broadwing sees the first one, it may well take off, flap a bit, and join the same thermal as the first bird; and so forth. Soon there may be five or 10, or more (often many more) birds in the same thermal.

Eventually, the hawks will reach the top of the thermal and just mill around in it before gliding off to look for another thermal. When one sees a number of Broadwings together in a thermal, it is called a “kettle.”

LOOK AT THE SKY, especially the clouds, and preferably with binoculars anytime you can in mid-September. If you see a bunch of birds swirling around together in a cloud, or in the clear sky, you probably have a “kettle” of Broadwings. And, one really can see them almost anywhere. It’s a serendipitous happening.

There are also avian pathways that the birds often use, like perhaps a highway, as they migrate south.

There is nothing definite or conclusive about such pathways. It’s just matter of where one has in the past most often seen the migrating Broad-winged hawks. There seems to be such a migration pathway crossing the Potomac River from somewhere between the American Legion Bridge and Chain Bridge, upriver to at least Violette’s Lock on the C&O Canal.

In past years, I have seen very large concentrations of Broad-winged hawks even over congested Northern Virginia: over the Tysons Mall, over the Fairfax County Government center, over the Town of Vienna. Three years ago, several birding friends and I were just finishing some early morning birding in the meadow at Riverbend Park in Great Falls, when someone looked up and said, “Look!”

We all did and saw a big kettle of Broad-winged hawks. As they started to “stream out,” we saw another kettle coming in. We stood there for perhaps 20 to 30 minutes and watched at least 2,000 Broad-winged hawks migrate by.

It was a veritable “river of raptors.” It was the most I had ever seen. The next morning, at the same place, I saw none at all. It was pure serendipity.

THE BEST TIMES to look for migrating Broad-winged hawks is between Sept. 12-22 in the morning from between about 9 and 10, when they get up to start flying, and in the late afternoon, after 5, when they often come down for the night.

I often have good luck at places like the Great Falls National Park, especially on the Maryland side. The many trees there are attractive to Broadwings for overnight roosting.

But one can see them almost anywhere, even in your own neighborhood, as I have in mine in Northern Virginia.

One doesn’t always see them when you look. But, if you do, it is a memorable experience.

Broad-winged hawk and other raptor migration is an integral part of the annual flow of natural happenings.

Keep your eyes on the sky. You may be well rewarded.
Entertainment

Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Include date, time, location, description and contact for event; phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

ongoing

Doggly Happy Hours. 5-8 p.m. at Jackson 20 and Hotel Monaco Alexandria, 480 King St. Thursdays during the summer. Free, drinks sold separately. Treats and water for dogs, with pet boutique and service People. Animals. Love. Visit www.MonacoAlexandria.com/alexandria-hotel/doggy-happy-hour.html.

Port City Playhouse’s 37th Season. Port City Playhouse, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. Port City Playhouse will begin its 2014-15 season of outstanding plays with the premiere of Black Hole by Jean Koppen. Performances are Friday-Saturday, Sept. 12-13, 19-20 and 26-27, and Tuesday, Sept. 23, with matinees on Saturday, Sept. 20 and 27. Ticket prices, including a $2 service charge, available on line. General admission tickets are $18 for adults, $16 for senior, military and students, and $14 for groups of ten or more. Visit portcityplayhouse.org.

Through My Eyes. Saturdays and Sundays through Oct. 26. 1-4 p.m. at George Washington’s Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Visit the rarely seen basement and wander the historic area to learn the heroics of the estate caretakers. $5 in addition to estate admission. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

Saving Mount Vernon. Saturdays and Sundays through Oct. 26. 1-4 p.m. at George Washington’s Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Join people from Washington’s world as they go about their daily work. The tour includes several stops along the way. $5 in addition to estate admission. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

National Treasure Tour. Through Oct. 31. 1-3 p.m. at George Washington’s Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Join people from Washington’s world as they go about their daily work. The tour includes several stops along the way. $5 in addition to estate admission. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.


Camps, Classes & Workshops

Creating and Portraying a Living History Character: “Streetcar Named Desire.” This four-part workshop taught by an experienced first-person interpreter will demonstrate how to research and develop a character, select appropriate period clothes, offer practice sessions in character, and develop a presence and confidence (and goal) to step out onto the “stage” during Gadsby’s Tavern Museum’s 2014 Candlelight Tour Program. Meet for beginners, participation in all four classes is recommended. Classes are held at Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal Street 2-4 p.m. on Sundays, Oct. 5, Nov. 2, and Dec. 7. Cost is $40 for the series, $12 per class as space allows; tickets must be purchased in advance either through the online shop at http://shop.adamssquare.gov or by calling 703-746-4242. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

Photography Workshop. 10-30 a.m. at Multiple Exposure Gallery on 105 S. Union St. Photographers and enthusiasts of all skill levels are invited to share work, ideas, and questions at this free workshop held on the last Sunday of each month, except December. No reservations. Call 703-683-2205.

Life Drawing. Del Ray Artists offers a range of open life drawing sessions for anyone to develop life drawing skills further. Just drop-in for the session and bring your supplies to draw or paint our live models. Fee ranges from $8-$12. All skill levels welcome. Del Ray Artists is located at 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.DelRayArtists.org.

Tennessee Williams’ masterpiece runs for a limited engagement, Sept. 13-28.

By Steve Hibbard

Catherine Irwin plays Blanche DuBois, with Camden Gonzalez as Stanley and Anna Fagan as Stella in the Little Theatre of Alexandria’s staging of Tennessee Williams’ “A Streetcar Named Desire.”


The original play set in the hot, steamy New Orleans was directed by Elia Kazan and ran for two years on Broadway. It won the 1948 Pulitzer Prize for drama, and launched the career of Marlon Brando in the role as Stanley. It also starred Jessica Tandy, Kim Hunter, and Karl Malden and was made into the 1951 film, starring Vivien Leigh as Blanche, that won four Academy Awards.

LTA Director Kristina Friedgen said it is now a part of the American Zeitgeist. “Its indelible mark has been left on our culture — from Marlon Brando’s unforgettable cry for ‘Stella!’ to Blanche’s famous line, ‘I have always depended on the kindness of strangers,’” she said. “Something about it makes us talk to our core.”

She calls “Streetcar” her “lifelong love” and a favorite show. “I’ve done it so many times and live it every time,” she said. “You have to. It’s so much to work with and definitely some room to play in order to find the right tone of the play.”

She said what she was trying to accomplish was “to form a cast that really embraced these characters — their flaws, their joys, their fears — and who could understand and portray the tension of this piece, so that we could really do justice to William’s script.”

Producer Elissa Hudson said she could not ask for a more perfect setting for Williams’ classic than at the LTA. “When presented with the opportunity to try and capture all the nuances of a play of this stature, I knew it would prove to be an overwhelming yet extremely satisfying achievement and every day proved I was correct,” she said.

“Our extremely talented director, amazing cast and crew and all associated with this production have worked so hard and will keep the audiences spellbound as they delve into the intricacies that each character brings to the stage,” she said.

Assistant Director Deanna Close said the production is a challenge for the whole cast “because we are all interpreting a very large part of the play.” She said it was both a challenge and a privilege to work with such a talented cast and crew. She said she would encourage anyone who has not seen the play to come see it.

She said the cast is focusing on the physicality of the play and is using the whole stage. She said the cast is working hard to capture the essence of the play.

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Photo contributed by Matthew Randall
ON THE COVER

Jennifer Berry plays Blanche and Anna Fagan plays Stella in “A Streetcar Named Desire.”

“Streetcar” Takes the Stage at Little Theatre

From Page 24

Actor Camden Gonzales, who plays the brutish and sensual role of Stanley Kowalski, said it’s not easy to play a brute, “I consider myself to be a considerate and caring guy … and for this role, I’ve really had to tap into the deepest and darkest parts of my soul to find that primal personality,” he said. “While on the surface Stanley appears like an ape, deep down he truly is just as fragile as any of us.”

Author Marshall Shirley, who plays the role of the friend Mitch, said, “He is the polar opposite of Stanley — where Stanley shows his manliness to the world, Mitch keeps everything close to the chest,” he said. “Stanley is loud, commanding and needs to be worshipped. Mitch is quiet, submissive and craves adoration.”

He said that liking Stanley was the biggest challenge for him. “I see him as such a weak man with no real redeeming qualities. I had to find reasons to be his friend,” he said. “I would have ended the relationship with Stanley the first time I saw him go after Stella.”

“A Streetcar Named Desire” is playing from Sept. 13-28 at the Little Theater of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. Showtimes for this limited engagement are Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. with Sunday matinees at 3 p.m. $19-$22. Call 703-683-0496 or visit www.thelittletheatre.com.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEP. 20-21

Mount Vernon Marketplace. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Visit a recreation of an early American marketplace with crafts, entertainment and more. Try your hand at 18th century cricket and enjoy events such as Children’s and adults $18. Call 703-780-2000; 703-799-9860 or visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

SUNDAY/SEP. 21

Jazz Concert. 4 p.m. at Meade Memorial Episcopal Church, 322 N. Alfred St. Yvonne Johnson will perform for the Jazz at Meade Concert Series. Johnson, local artist, pianist, songwirter, was composing music for local theaters by the age of fifteen. Johnson will soon be releasing her new project, “Malcolm’s Son.” $15. Call 703-549-3234, email dance@meadechurch.org or visit www.meadechurch.org.

Bellydance Evolution. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mt Vernon Ave. Step into the world of Alice in Wonderland as Bellydance Evolution performs this classic tale to life through world fusion and Middle Eastern dance. Tickets are $29.50 or $20 and $5 for nonmembers. Reservations required, call Sherry Brown at 703-780-2000; 703-780-3081. Email janefranklindance@gmail.com or visit www.towerofpower.com or 800-745-3000. Visit www.Bellydance Evolution.com or call 818-754-1760.

MONDAY/SUNDAY 22

Agenda/Alexandria at the Hermitage. 6:30 p.m. at the Hermitage, 5000 Fairbanks Ave. “Arts in Alexandria: The Torpedo Factory and beyond” with Randy Cohen, Vice President, Americans for the Arts; Martine Chiquet, President of the Alexandria Commission for the Arts; and Eric Wallner, Chief Executive Officer, The Torpedo Factory Art Center. Reception, 6:30; dinner, 6:45 p.m. Members $37, nonmembers $42. Program only 7:15, free to members; $5 for nonmembers. Reservations required, call Sherry Brown at 703-548-7098 or email agenda@alexandriaaz.com.

WEDNESDAY/SEP. 24

Stop, Drop & Roll. 7 p.m. at Charles Beardsley Elementary, 5005 Duke St. A performance project for two groups in an opposing structure of athletic-inspired movement. Free. Email jane@jankinddance@gmail.com.
Pat the Barber was an institution in Alexandria, where he cut hair for generations of boys and men.

The Barber of Bradlee
Pat the Barber remembered as a hair-cutting institution.

P at Monahan, the barber with the dry sense of humor known to generations of Alexandrians, died in Kentucky last week.

“Our family shares our grief with many of you, who have been touched by my dad’s sense of humor, his wacky story telling, his incredible tall-tale spins and incredible knowledge of variety of information,” wrote daughter Shannon Monahan-Horton in a message to friends and family. “His last week was spent, motorcycle riding, touring, visiting new places, eating at incredibly great restaurants and being with dearest friends.”

Monahan’s specialty was children, and he gave many first haircuts over the years. He used two special barber chairs to help ease the stress for kids. One was an automobile and the other was a horse. For many of Monahan’s customers, that first haircut was the beginning of a relationship that lasted years.

“He had a gift,” said Councilman Justin Wilson, whose son received his first haircut from Pat the Barber. “He had a great banter, and he was very quick and very skilled.”

Colleagues recall a consummate professional who was fun to be around.

“He had a very dry sense of humor,” said Don Eden, who works at the Bradlee Barber Shop. “We’re going to miss him.”

— Michael Lee Pope

BLOOD DONATION OPPORTUNITIES
The American Red Cross encourages eligible donors to help ensure a stable and diverse blood supply by giving blood in honor of National Sickle Cell Awareness Month this September. Call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit redcrossblood.org to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver’s license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

❖ Thursday/Sept. 11, 2:30-8 p.m. at Alexandria Chapter House, 123 North Alfred St.

AFTER SCHOOL FUN
The Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities is currently accepting registrations for the 2014-2015 School Year Power-On and Power-Up after school recreation programs. Organized by age groups, youth will maintain a full schedule of age-appropriate activities incorporating play, learning, cultural enrichment and positive social interaction. Activities include creative and performing arts, homework time, sports, fitness, holiday and family events and much more. Call 703-746-5414 for more information or visit our website at alexandriava.gov/Recreation.

❖ Power-On for grades K-6 is offered weekdays from 2:30-6 p.m. at John

See Bulletin, Page 29
Local leaders held a back-to-school cook-out at the Community Center at 3801 Mt. Vernon Ave. on Aug. 28. Back packs and school supplies were distributed by Alexandria Vice-Mayor Allison Silberberg, Del. Alphonso Lopez, state Sen. Adam Ebbin, Arlington County Public Schools Board Vice-Chair Dr. Emma Vieland-Sánchez, and several city councilmembers as well as Arlington County Board Member Walter Tejada.

Music was provided by volunteers Salvador Moran and Silvio Solis while families enjoyed barbeque food and socialized.

Of the 30,000 children who have fled Central America because of life-threatening conditions, nearly 500 of those minors are held in detention centers and released to family members and sponsors living in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, including Alexandria and Arlington while they await hearings on their immigration status.

“There is a way to address this issue and it begins with compassion and the desire to deal humanely with unaccompanied children,” said Mayor Bill Euille of Alexandria in a prepared statement. “All children should have access to safety and opportunity and the opportunity to improve their lives,” he added.

— Veronica Bruno

News

Back-to-School Event Held at Community Center

Free book bags and school supplies distributed.

Local leaders held a back-to-school cook-out at the Community Center at 3801 Mt. Vernon Ave. on Aug. 28. Back packs and school supplies were distributed by Alexandria Vice-Mayor Allison Silberberg, Del. Alphonso Lopez, state Sen. Adam Ebbin, Arlington County Public Schools Board Vice-Chair Dr. Emma Vieland-Sánchez, and several city councilmembers as well as Arlington County Board Member Walter Tejada.

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**Correction**

LaVerne Spencer was playing with her cousin outside her family’s home in the 300 block of S. Alfred Street when the five African American men were arrested at the Alexandria Library on Aug. 21, 1939. She was not on N. Columbus Street as published in “Library Sit-In: 75 Years Later” in the Aug. 28, Gazette Packet.

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**High Holy Days Services**

with Rabbi Leila Gal Berner

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**Good Shepherd Catholic Church**

Mass Schedule

**Saturday Evening**

5:00 pm Vigi Mass
6:00 pm Vigi Mass (en Español)

**Sunday**

7:30 am; 8:00 am (with Sign Language Interpreter & Children’s Liturgy of the Word; 10:30 am; 12:00 Noon; 5:00 pm (en Español); 8:30 pm

To Advertise Your Faith Community, call Karen at 703-917-6468

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**Bulletin Board**

From Page 27

Adams Elementary School, Douglas MacArthur Elementary School, Charles Barrett Recreation Center, Charles Houston Recreation Center, Cora Kelly Recreation Center, Mount Vernon Recreation Center, Patrick Henry Recreation Center and William Ramsay Recreation Center.

Power-Up for grades 6-8 is offered at Francis C. Hummond Middle School, weekdays from 3:15-6 p.m. A transportation option is available for students attending George Washington Middle School.

THURSDAY/SEP. 11

Prevention of Blindness Society Meeting. 1:30-3 p.m. at Charles E. Beadley Jr., Library, 5005 Duke St. Learn how houses and apartments can be designed with greater safety, comfort and convenience. Call 703-746-1762.

Working Group Inaugural Meeting. 7:30-9 p.m. in City Hall, Sister Cities Conference Room 1101, 301 King St. Dominion Virginia Power has a proposal to construct a new 230-kilovolt underground transmission line between Alexandria and Arlington in the vicinity of Jefferson Davis Highway and Potomac Yard. This meeting will review the mission for the working group and receive a presentation from Dominion Virginia Power on the need for the project. Open to the public. Visit alexandraviaw.gov/ DVP230KV or contact Maurice Daly at Maurice.Daly@alexandraviaw.gov or 703-746-4048.

Resource Allocation and Cost Recovery Policy Sorting Workshop. 7-9:30 p.m. at Patrick Henry Recreation Center, 4634 Toney Ave. Policy will be explained and categories of service will be sorted according to the amount of community benefit they provide. Space limited. RSVP to Bryan Williams at bryan.williams@ alexandraviaw.gov or 703-746-5557.

FRIDAY/SEP. 12

Regional Economy Discussion. Noon-2 p.m. at National PTA, 1250 East Pitt Street, #1. This session, sponsored by the Nonprofit Roundtable, will feature the report’s co-authors from The Commonwealth Institute for Fiscal Analysis and the DC Fiscal Policy Institute, discussing issues faced by low and moderate income households in Northern Virginia and offering recommendations for how to address them. This is a free event, but registration is requested. Visit http:// nonprofitroundtable.org/news-a-events/events/event/603 to register.

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**News**

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**Photo by Louise Krafft/Gazette Packet**
Witness to Change: Before and After Segregation

Volunteer Opportunities

From Page 17

In the late 1970s, he began to get involved by joining the NAACP where he served on the legal redress committee, and the Urban League Board, where he served on the education committee.

“That Jim Moran asked me to serve on the school board,” he said.

In those days school board members were appointed by the city council and he was sure he would not be approved. At Vola Lawson’s urging, he went to the hearing but came away convinced he would not be chosen only to learn the next day he was.

Campbell talked about Carlton Funn and the role he played in preserving and teaching the history in Alexandria when he became appalled over the distortions in Virginia history books that were used in school. Campbell noted the city’s role as a portal heavily involved in the slave trade. He pointed out the Urban League has a museum at 1315 Duke St. where slaves were sold and were held in the basement after they had arrived. “My great grandmother was a freed slave,” he said. She lived in Gainesville, Va.

But he also talked about his father who taught him to stand up for himself while sitting down.

His father was a King Street deliveryman who then went to work at Virginia Electric Supply where he was the first black salesman.

“In those days G C Murphy’s (a five and ten) had a white lunch counter in the back and a stand-up counter where blacks could eat.

One day I went into the store and my father was sitting there at the counter.” Campbell was surprised and his father’s response was “I fought for this country. I will not go to jail for eating a sandwich.” He didn’t and no one ever bothered him.

Celebrating Civil Rights Act

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act, Living Legends will honor those legends both black and white who fought for civil rights in Alexandria during the 60s. They include Ferdinand Day, Nelson Greene Sr., Melvin Miller, Connie Ring, Patsy Ticer, Gwen Menefee Smith and Dorothy Turner. Tribute will also be paid to the memories of civil rights activists Mel Berghem and Vola Lawson.

They will be recognized at Living Legends of Alexandria Theatre Night at MetroStage, Saturday, Sept. 20. The play will be “Three Sistahs” a musical which exposes the souls of three strong women as they reflect the promise of the future while revealing the pain of the present and their regrets of the past.

The reception is at 7 p.m. and the play begins at 8. Tickets are $75 and will be held at the door. Register online at llatheatrenight.eventbrite.com or send a ticket order and payment to Living Legends, 400 Washington Street, #300, Alexandria, VA, 22314.

Metro Stage is located in North Old Town at 1201 N. Royal St.

Letters to the Editor

From Page 12

environmental peril.

The following sources contain related information:

• https://www.governor.virginia.gov/news/newsarticle?articleId=5892
• www.ceh.cornell.edu/howarth/publications/lkw9th_2014_IFR.pdf

Volunteer Opportunities


Visit petsbringjoy.org. Interested in becoming a foster. Email info@petsbringjoy.org if interested in becoming a foster. Visit petsbringjoy.org.
Senior kicker Smith becomes first female to score for Titans.

By Jon Roetman
Gazette Packet

T.C. Williams trailed by a touch down in the second quarter of its season opener against Dunbar on Sept. 6 when Titans quarterback Darius Holland launched a laser beam of a pass toward intended receiver Jaelin Brown.

The ball ricocheted off Brown and landed right in the hands of Titan teammate Colson Jenkins, who made his way into the end zone for a 43-yard touchdown.

“I waited for four years for this,” Smith said. “I'm very happy for that. I'm always looking for a way to get in there and kick a little bit.”

Senior kicker Brianna Smith booted the ensuing extra point through the uprights, giving the Titans a 14-13 lead they would not relinquish.

“I think it boosted the morale,” Booth said of his second-quarter touchdown. “It most definitely gave us some forward momentum going into the second half.”

Booth, a junior, also rushed 17 times for 98 yards and a touchdown, but said he needs to step up his game.

“I've just got to make sure I work hard and do a lot better job than I've been doing, because I've been slacking on some of my responsibilities,” he said. “Knowing that I am the starting running back, I have to pick it up because I should be a leader of this team.”

Booth's rushing touchdown was an 18-yard run with 55 seconds remaining in the fourth quarter.

“They're very athletic,” T.C. Williams head coach Dennis Randolph said of Holland and Booth. “That's why we run the offense that we do and we have those people in those positions. We have to take what the defense gives us. We don't have the kind of people who are going to overpower people.”

Similar to when the ball bounced off a teammate to Jenkins for a touchdown in the first half, the Titans had another miscue in the second half that turned to gold.

Leading 14-13 early in the fourth quarter, T.C. Williams lined up to attempt a 33-yard field goal, when holder Chris Gannon bobbled the snap. However, Gannon alertly picked up the ball and ran down to the 1-yard line for a first down. On the next play, Holland ran around right end for a touchdown.

Senior kicker Brianna Smith booted the ensuing extra point through the uprights, making her the first female T.C. Williams football player to score a point.

“I waited for four years for this,” Smith said, “so it's just awesome to finally have that happen.”

Smith said she knew that no other female player had scored for the Titans. When her opportunity came, she converted.

“When [Coach Jones] just said, 'Brianna, go,' I went numb,” she said. “I was like, you know what, we do this in practice every single day. It's just like practice. I went out and scored.”

— T.C. Williams kicker Brianna Smith

T.C. Williams junior Colson Jenkins runs with the ball during Saturday's contest against Dunbar.

T.C. Williams running back had a rushing touchdown and a receiving score during the Titans' 28-19 win over Dunbar on Sept. 6.

T.C. Williams quarterback Darius Holland threw two touchdown passes and ran for a score against Dunbar on Sept. 6.

TC’s Athleticism Leads to Victory over Dunbar
Hard Times’s Jim Parker Dies at 69

FROM PAGE 1

“My grandfather learned how to make chili from a chuck wagon cook along the Chisholm Trail at the turn of the 20th century,” Fred Parker said. “He taught my grandmother the recipe, who taught my aunt Irma, who opened the roadhouse in Oklahoma. It was her recipe that sparked Jim’s love for chili.”

Despite the detours of college and an early career in music, Jim Parker took his chili very seriously, winning competitions across the country for his various chili, salsa and chili verde recipes.

Along with his wife Monica, they would win more than 100 national awards, including first place in the New York City Chili Cookoff earlier this year.

“He keeps track of the beans and I'm just the pretty face,” Fred Parker would often say wryly, noting that Jim was also the financial officer for the Hard Times restaurants.

Known as “Doctor Chili” for constantly checking the temperature of his recipes, Jim Parker never lost his passion for chili, counting beans both literally and figuratively even as he faced a year-long battle with pancreatic cancer. He died Sept. 6 at the age of 69.

Born July 24, 1945 in West Palm Beach, Fla., James Robert Parker was the second son of Frederic Thompson Parker and Lois Goodfellow Parker, born four years after his older brother Fred.

“Our Dad was in the service so we lived in Nassau and Hawaii before settling in Northern Virginia,” Fred Parker said.

Jim Parker attended Wakefield High School, graduating in 1963 before heading off to Transylvania College in Lexington, Ky., where he earned a degree in music. It was also where his passion for chili grew with his discovery of Cincinnati chili.

A gifted musician specializing on keyboards and bass, Jim Parker spent time in New York City following his graduation and for a summer was the music director for the Yarmouth Playhouse on Cape Cod.

After returning to Alexandria, he gained national acclaim as the bass player for Bill and Taffy Danoff’s D.C.-based band Fat City.

In 1980, Jim Parker was working as a financial officer at a consulting firm in Adams Morgan when his big brother “talked him into the chili business.”

“At the beginning, I was working with an accounting firm when Fred said he wanted to start this restaurant,” Jim Parker said when interviewed during Hard Times Café’s 30th anniversary celebrations in 2010. “I figured it would be a great accounting laboratory. But I also did a lot of dishwashing when people didn’t show up for work.”

Over the years, Jim Parker gave back to the community that allowed him to pursue his passion, donating his time and chili to numerous charities and fundraisers. For many years, he held a chili cookoff at Oronoco Bay Park to benefit the National Kidney Foundation.

“He took the cancer diagnosis well,” Fred Parker said. “And with some humor, he would answer my phone calls with ‘I’m not dead yet.’ He kept working and doing what he loved right to the very end.”

Jim Parker is survived by his wife Monica, brother Fred, sister-in-law Carol, nephews Ned and Jonathan Parker, and five kittens brought back from a trip to Mexico 10 years ago. “Those are our children,” Monica Parker said.

In accordance with his wishes, no memorial service is planned.

“I feel extremely fortunate that the Cafe has done so well,” Jim Parker said during the 30th anniversary celebration.

“Because of the support of this community, we have been able to provide employment for so many excellent employees over the years. I will always be very grateful for that.”
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**Notice of Public Hearing**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING is hereby given that Alexandria Renew Enterprises (AlexRenew) will hold a PUBLIC HEARING on its PRELIMINARY BUDGET for the FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2015 on Tuesday, September 16, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at Alexandria Renew Enterprises (AlexRenew) Administrative Office Building located at 1500 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA. The preliminary budget is available for examination by the public online at www.alexnewva.com and during regular business hours at the above address. Copies may be made available upon request - phone (703) 545-9381 ext. 2260. July 31st and September 4th.

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of Trade took that optimism and ran with it, giving a speech that hyped the many “cool factors” of the D.C. metro region. He cited Forbes magazine recently vot-
ing that area “America’s Coolest City.”
He cited things like Bao Bao the infant panda at the National Zoo, Robert Grif-
fin III, Maryland joining the Big Ten major college football conference (and more importantly the Big Ten Network) and capital bike-sharing program that leads the nation in users per capita.
He cited things like numerous top tier universities, the juggernaut of cyber-
job-creating — NSA at Fort Meade — and being the hospitality capital of the world. Things that, presumably, should be drawing young, family-oriented and fi-
ancially stable professionals to the area, or keeping them here.
“You have to get your head around the Big Ten,” Dinesgar gave an example. “The BTN reaches 52 million households. We’re not exposed to the Midwest the way we have been in the ACC. We’re on radar screens now we haven’t even been on.”
According to Dr. Michael Frantoni of the Mortgage Bankers Association, hav-

ing a greater overall pull would be help-
ful to attract fresh capital to the nation’s capital. The national trend, he said, is decreased mobility: Recent census data shows that aside from family-related moves, people are staying put more than they used to.
“Moving to a better neighborhood? If anything, people are moving to save money. But they’re not aspirational mov-\ners,” he said. “Or maybe they are aspirational mov-
ers, but are saving money by living with their parents. That group would be the mercurial, hard to put a finger on, mid-
20s to mid-30s bracket referred to as “millennials.” And they’re a key group, being well situated with academic and professional experience to fill the $40-$70,000 a year private sector jobs, but said should be driving the regional economy going forward.
However, said Frantoni, “They’re dif-
erent in all kinds of ways. They get mar-
rried later, have children later, come home later. Everything is later. We don’t know why.”
A MILLENNIAL’S HESITANCY to buy property probably doesn’t have much to do with the projected rise in interest rates from 4.3 percent for a 30-year fixed mortgage rate in 2013 up to 5 percent in 2015. But it may have something to do with the fact that student loan debt has ballooned in the last decade from $200 billion to over $1 trillion, according to Frantoni.
None of the panelists expects dramatic changes in the next several years. We’re off the roller coaster, they all concurred. We’re still here.
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