

The compass

Newsletter of the Cameron Station Community Association, Inc.

Volume 12 Issue 4 • Sept/Oct 2011

Art and Wine Festival Comes to Brenman Park

By Judy Coleman

The inaugural West End Art and Wine Festival will bring culture and viticulture to Cameron Station and Ben Brenman Park on October 8 and 9.

Cameron Station residents Donna Kenley and Sonia Agosto formed West End Event Productions, LLC to organize the event, in partnership with the City of Alexandria and the West End Business Association.

The festival, sponsored by Hadeed Carpet, will feature over 100 juried artists, as well as local musicians, local restaurants and what appears to be Cameron Station's first-ever Wine Garden.

Festival organizers have projected attendance of over 10,000 visitors. The Festival also includes a "Taste of the West End," showcasing 15 local restaurants.

Alexandria Mayor William Euille will kick off the event at 10am on Saturday, October 8, at the gazebo on Cameron Station Blvd. Events will continue until 7pm and run again from 10am to 5pm on Sunday.



The City of Alexandria introduced a new resident to the pond in Brenman Park, a plastic alligator (seen here, with a real dragonfly on its snout). The gator appears to have served his purpose of driving away the large flock of Canada geese that was interfering with the pond's ecosystem. The alligator was moved periodically to prevent the geese from realizing it was a fake. Photo by Walter Barrows.

Cameron Station residents should take notice of road closures over the weekend.

Road Closures Oct. 8-9

Brenman Park Drive and Roads in Brenman Park
East Half of the Cameron Station Blvd. Circle
Comay Terrace on Both Sides of Brenman Park Drive

News Flash:

"Stop" Does Not Mean Stop to Many Cameron Station Drivers

By Eliza Dolin

"Stop." It's a common enough word, one with a meaning so simple even small children understand it. According to the dictionary, it means "to arrest the progress or motion of: cause to halt <stopped the car>."

Ah, what a great example of how to use the word "stop." Why? Because, based upon an informal audit, a startlingly large number of us here in Cameron Station – 50 percent – do not, in fact, stop at neighborhood stop signs.

(Continued on page 15)

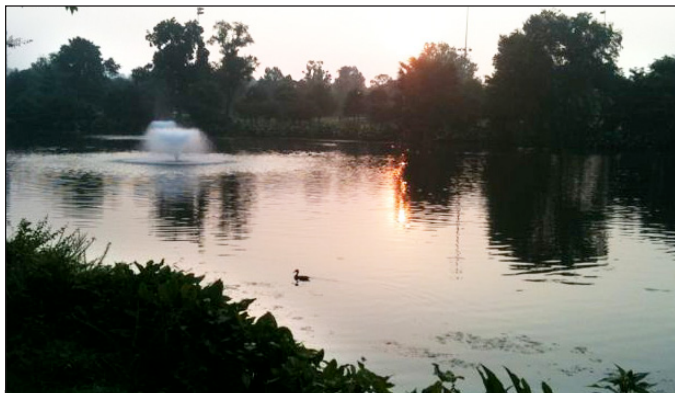
Pizza? Pizza?

The owners of Cafe Pizzaiolo in Crystal City have applied for an ABC permit for the former Food Matters space. No opening date has been announced.

Mark Your Calendar:

Meet the Candidates Night: Oct. 16

CSCA Annual Meeting and Election: Nov. 7



CAMERON STATION COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC. (CSCA)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(boardofdirectors@cameronstation.org)

Mindy Lyle (President)

Tom McClimon (Vice President)
Architectural Review Committee Liaison

Don Buch (Treasurer)
Financial Advisory Committee Liaison

Michael Kidwell (Secretary)
Common Area Committee Liaison

Alvin Boone (Director)
Cameron Club Facilities Committee Liaison

Nick Giannotti (Director)
Activities & Events Planning Comm. Liaison

Philip Ludvigson (Director)
Communications Committee Liaison

**Meetings are the fourth Tuesday of every month,
unless otherwise indicated.**

COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT

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communitymanager@cameronstation.org

Mary Meghan Flynn, Asst. Community Manager
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703-567-4881
703-567-4883 (fax)

CAMERON CLUB FITNESS CENTER

Kevin Horner, Director
fitness@cameronstation.org
703-567-8555

CSCA COMMITTEES

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS PLANNING COMMITTEE

events@cameronstation.org
Michael Johnson - Chairperson

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

arc@cameronstation.org
Cole Mowry - Chairperson

CAMERON CLUB FACILITIES COMMITTEE

facilities@cameronstation.org
Ray Celeste - Chairperson

COMMON AREA COMMITTEE

commonarea@cameronstation.org
Robert Burns - Chairperson

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

communications@cameronstation.org
Jamie Test - Chairperson

FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

fac@cameronstation.org
Andrew McDonald - Chairperson

CONDOMINIUM/MANAGEMENT COMPANIES

Carlton Place Condominium

Oakland Hall at

Cameron Station Condominium

Woodland Hall at

Cameron Station Condominium

Management Company:

Community Management Corporation
Matthew Foust, Manager on site at Cameron Club:
703-212-8020, 703-212-8021 (fax),
mfoust@cmc-management.com

Main Street Condominium

Management Company:

GHA Community Management, 703-752-8300
After-Hours Emergencies, 888-660-7132
Elevator Emergencies, 800-995-5093

Unit Owners Association of the Condominiums at Cameron Boulevard (Centex Condos)

Judy Wojciechowski, President
Management Company: Klingbeil, Powell & Alutz, Inc.
703-532-5005

The Residences at Cameron Station

Management Company: Armstrong Management
703-385-1133
Angela Luker, Community Manager:
On-site number, 703-751-4070



Congratulations to TOKA!

Toka Salon in Cameron Station has recently received glowing reviews in *Washingtonian* and *Capitol File*. Both magazines praised the salon's spa services and relaxing atmosphere.

Board of Directors Meeting, August 23

By Pat Sugrue

Crime Report

Deputy Chief Blaine Corle of the Alexandria Police Department stated that there were no major incidents as a result of the earthquake. He updated the board on the latest crime reports in the community, reporting that there have been some bicycle thefts recently.

Proposed Changes to Pickett Street/Van Dorn Street Development

Mike McGuire, property owner at South Pickett and Van Dorn streets, and Sean Caldwell of Mill Creek Residential Trust, LLC, presented an update on the status of the site. In 2009, a plan was approved for 455 units and 38,000 square feet of retail. The proposed changes are to cut the retail in half, increase the number of units to 460-490 and put parking below grade. The five-story height of the building and the footprint remain the same. The project is expected to be completed in three years.

Residents' Open Forum

Kerri Chase, owner of Bright Start Learning Center, and the board discussed the tentative agreement regarding Splash Day. Several residents voiced concerns about being able to find a new location for next year's Splash Day. Some residents voiced concern about the possible circulation of the photographs taken of their children. All board members agreed to delete their copies.

Got a Few Minutes? The Cameron Station website does. The Board of Directors and the homeowners' committees post their meeting minutes and upcoming agendas at www.cameronstation.org (click on Boards/Committees).

Financial Report

The July financial report was not available and will be presented at a later date.

Fitness Report

Fitness Director Kevin Horner reported that July was a record-breaking month at the Cameron Club with over 10,000 usages recorded. The two treadmills that have been out of order for a couple of weeks are expected to be repaired soon.

Committee Reports

Activities and Events Committee: Committee Chair Michael Johnson reported the rescheduling of the Snow Cone Social to August 28. The board praised the committee on the plans for the Halloween Party and Casino Night.

Facilities Committee: Committee Chair Ray Celeste pointed out the committee's recommendations for the location of

(Continued on page 9)

Committee Updates

The **Activities and Events Planning Committee** is looking for volunteers to assist with the annual Halloween Party, which this year will include a Casino Night for adults only.

The **Common Area Committee** is looking at the pocket parks in Cameron Station, with the idea of improving and updating the plantings to make the parks more beautiful and to ensure that they are a continuing asset to our community. The committee's goal is to enhance the landscaping through a well-designed landscaping improvement plan, soil amendment and a consistent landscape maintenance program. The focus will be upon ensuring that the maintenance, as well as any plant installation, is timely, effective and professional, and that the materials used are appropriate and safe.

The committee is also studying the possibility of further irrigation in our community.

After launching the new community website, the **Communications Committee** has now turned its focus

to a variety of other initiatives including developing a community message board for the website and a Cameron Station media kit for prospective advertisers.

The committee is also working to increase the adoption of electronic delivery of the newsletter to reduce printing and postage costs for the Association. If you are interested in receiving this newsletter electronically, please email communitymanager@cameronstation.org.

The **Financial Advisory Committee** met September 22 to review the new annual budget.

For an update on the **Cameron Club Facilities Committee**, see Fitness Center News on page 14.

The **Architectural Review Committee** voted to approve monetary fines of \$50 for parking in an unauthorized area and \$10 per day for property maintenance violations, up to 90 days. As of the end of August, there were 84 open violations, a 30% reduction from July.

Giving Thanks for Good Neighbors – The Mark Pillow Award

By Pat Sugrue

Those of us lucky enough to have known Mark Pillow, who died suddenly in December 2005, remember him as a great friend and neighbor and a generous community volunteer, someone who embodied the spirit of Cameron Station and made it a better, brighter place to live.

In 2006, in memory of Mark and in honor of those who have followed in his footsteps, the Common Area Committee established "The Mark Pillow Community Spirit Award." This year the Board of Directors is managing the award and is asking for nominations. The award will be presented at the Annual Meeting on Monday, November 7.

Please think of your good neighbors and how they add to the quality of your life. For example, there are those who help out the entire community – they volunteer on committees, lend a hand at community events, organize meetings and parties, serve on the board, work on the Civic Association or contribute in their own unique ways. Cameron Station could not function without these dedicated volunteers, many of whom toil year after year after year.

And there are those who help on a more personal level – they feed and walk your pets, water your plants, pick up your newspapers and mail, shovel your driveway, provide rides

Compass Staff Says Thanks to Pat Sugrue



Photos by Sally McConnell



The Compass staff gathered to thank outgoing editor-in-chief Pat Sugrue (seated, right) for her years of dedication to the newsletter and to the Cameron Station community.

to doctors and airports and so on. They offer the ordinary, day-to-day neighborliness that makes such a difference in our lives.

How to thank these neighbors? Nominate them for the Pillow Award. You may nominate as many neighbors as you wish, but **NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MONDAY, OCTOBER 10**. Send their names and a description of their contributions to boardofdirectors@cameronstation.org. Then please come to the Annual Meeting where the winner(s) will be announced.

The names of the winners will be added to those of previous winners engraved on the award plaque located in the Cameron Club, outside the Victoria Hebert Great Room.

Pride of Ownership Award Winners

By Susan Willis, Common Area Committee Member

Every spring, the Common Area Committee asks the community to nominate neighbors who have made a special effort to improve their personal landscaping space. The competition gets stiffer every year, and our committees spent several hours evaluating many fine nominations before selecting the four winners:

Single Family Home: Brenda Luckritz, 5156 Knapp Place

Townhouse: Karen Long, 157 Cameron Station Blvd.

End-Unit Townhouse: Javier Seminario, 5209 Brawner Place

Condominium: Robert Sucher and Caroline Shively, 523 Cameron Station Blvd.

Each award winner received a \$50 gift certificate from



157 Cameron Station Blvd.
(townhouse)



523 Cameron Station Blvd.
(condo)



5156 Knapp Place
(single family)



5209 Brawner Place
(end unit townhouse)

Photos courtesy of the Common Area Committee

Alexandria Symphony Orchestra Plays for Cameron Station

By Lenore Marema

Seldom, if ever, are Cameron Station's Martini Monday participants welcomed by a violin serenade. Jeanne and Alan Edwards recently held a Martini Monday/house-warming party featuring a chamber music performance by three members of the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra (ASO). Making up this magical trio were a violin, cello and viola.

The evening celebrated the local arts. ASO Executive Director Adrian Finaly introduced the program, and guests experienced a taste of ASO's upcoming season for an hour. Marketing Chair Margaret O'Grady has devised a special subscription package for Cameron Station residents with a half-price subscription for first-time subscribers.

Alexandrians are privileged to have such local talent at our disposal. The ASO performs at nearby Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center at NOVA Community College.

Photo courtesy of Lenore Marema



A trio from the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra played at the home of Jeanne and Alan Edwards on July 29.

The 2011-2012 concert series includes a Mozart Clarinet Concerto, the works of Rachmaninoff and Holst's *Planet Suite*, Stravinsky's *Firebird*, Berlioz's *Symphony Fantastique*, and the world premiere of David Balakrishnan's composition for cello and orchestra.

Midori, the renowned violinist, will also appear as part of the ASO's orchestra residencies program.

The ASO subscription packages are for five Sundays, two Saturdays and three Sundays or three Sunday matinees. The benefits of subscribing are savings of up to 30% over the cost of individual tickets, discounts for pre-concert dining at local restaurants, priority seating and the ability to exchange tickets from Saturday to Sunday and vice versa. Individual tickets can be purchased for any performance. Check out the current concert series at www.alexsym.org.

By Proxy or in Person... Your Vote Is Needed at the Annual Meeting

By Pat Sugrue

The most important item on the agenda of the Cameron Station Community Association Annual Meeting (scheduled for **Monday, November 7, 2011**) is always the election, or reelection, of members of the Board of Directors. These homeowners volunteer their time to conduct the business of our community – we all have a stake in choosing the best people to serve. (Homeowners can meet the candidates **Sunday, October 16** at 5pm in the Hebert Great Room.)

In order for the election to take place, there must be a quorum that night – either on site or by proxies – of 10% of the homeowners. With 1,800 residences in Cameron Station, we only need 180 homeowners represented or present. That would seem a simple task, yet in 2010, the meeting was delayed almost an hour while volunteer residents and members of the board scrambled to get residents into the school, calling their neighbors and knocking on surrounding doors, trying (successfully, thank goodness) to reach a quorum.

There will be four openings on the board this November. There are financial consequences if the election cannot be held as planned and has to be rescheduled. We homeowners bear the cost (see *The Compass*, January/February 2011, page 17, for more information). None of us wants that to happen,

so if you cannot attend the Annual Meeting, please give your proxy to a neighbor who is attending or drop it at the front desk of the Cameron Club. If you are able to attend, please consider collecting proxies from your block or building -- every proxy you bring gives you another chance at a door prize!

The 2011 Annual Meeting will be held in the cafeteria of Samuel Tucker Elementary School. Free food and beverages will be available. Registration begins at 6:45pm, and the election will be the first item on the agenda. Other items include the 2012 community budget and the presentation of the Mark Pillow Community Spirit Award (see page 4). You will also have a chance to meet with members of the various HOA committees and learn more about their vital work.

More information about the Annual Meeting, bios on the candidates running for the board and forms for voting proxies will be mailed to all homeowners over the next few weeks and will be posted on the website, www.cameronstation.org. Please contact Community Manager Airielle Hansford with any questions: communitymanager@cameronstation.org or 703-567-4881.



Cindy,

"I wanted to write you and Tom a hearty "Thank You!" message. Beth and I are absolutely thrilled about the service you gave us, and it's difficult to find the words to express the depth of our appreciation for your professionalism and superior customer service. We don't often talk about miracles, but we believe you and Tom are miracle workers! To have sold the house in one week at a new price level in the neighborhood was nothing short of miraculous, given the current real estate market. It is to your credit that we were able to so quickly

start a new chapter of our lives in Raleigh, NC, near our son's family and our grandchildren. In closing, we want to extend our sincere gratitude for your outstanding service!"

- Tom Achterberg

5067 Donovan Drive, Cameron Station



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BRAC-133 at the Mark Center: An Update

By Don Buch

The saga of the new "BRAC Building" at Mark Center continues.

Move-In: Occupancy began on August 9, with 2,300 employees expected to move in by September 15. Another 2,500 are due by year's end, with the final 1,600 arriving over the course of 2012. Efforts to impose appreciably longer delays between arrivals do not appear to be meeting with much success, nor are attempts to limit the number of parking spaces that can be used (of the 3,747 total).

Cost/Benefit Analysis: City staff presented the long-awaited "cost/benefit analysis" of BRAC at the July 20 meeting of the Mayor's BRAC-133 Advisory Group. The general public appeared less than impressed by it, feeling it was not well focused, glossed over many important issues and avoided others. The analysis implied that the key benefit of BRAC is that it will stimulate other, tax-paying development (which BRAC is not).

This attempt to justify the incentives the city offered to the U.S. Army to locate at the Mark Center appears to overlook many negative ramifications that continue to trouble the community. Staff stressed that they did not attempt to consider "quality of life" issues.

Emergency Response Planning: Concerns have also been raised about how well the city is prepared to respond to a threat or incident at BRAC and how the public would be made aware of what is expected of it. The staff's response was quite general, certainly seeming to imply people shouldn't worry. Yet, in many instances the staff acknowledged they were still working on the plans. The recent earthquake and then Hurricane Irene prompted a bit more focus.

Then came *TIME*'s September 6 article, which was extremely critical of the Department of Defense not having adequately addressed terrorist threats to the BRAC-133 building. A community update and information session has been promised for October.

Road Improvements: VDOT continues to move forward with its plans to build a new northbound off-ramp from the HOV lanes of I-395 to "T" into Seminary Road. The ramp would reverse to be a southbound on-ramp in the afternoon. VDOT made a presentation on September 7 at Landmark Mall to provide a status report.

The community has raised many questions and concerns, including the lack of public involvement, the apparent attempt to avoid an Environmental Assessment, a lack of understanding about the true impact this would or would not have on traffic mitigation, avoidance of evaluating the impact of spending a comparable amount (\$80 million) on transit and no consideration of integrating the plans for ending the new (northbound) I-395 HOT lanes just south

The Mark Center looms over the pond at the Winkler Preserve.



Photo by Judy Coleman

of the Duke Street interchange. The city collected these responses and forwarded them to VDOT.

Beauregard Small Area Plan: On a somewhat related topic, work on revising and updating the "Small Area Plan" for the Beauregard Corridor continues. To some degree this has been precipitated by BRAC, but more so by six major developers wanting to move forward with new development and redevelopment.

In broad terms, the developers currently own 6 million square feet of "buildings," have existing rights to develop another 4 million and would like to develop an additional 2.4 million beyond that. The development group is very actively engaged with a broad community group (the Beauregard Corridor Stakeholders' Group), working through numerous aspects of the proposed developments. Extensive related information can be found on the BCSG's website at <https://sites.google.com/site/bcsgalex/>.

Transportation Master Plan: There is also a "working group" tasked with deciding the most appropriate route and mode of transit for each of the three "transit corridors" in the city's Transportation Master Plan. The recommendations for Corridor C (Beauregard - Van Dorn) have been agreed upon and were to be presented to the Transportation Commission, Planning Commission and City Council over the course of September. Specific information can be found on the city's website (see "High Capacity Traffic Corridor").

More information on BRAC, including a copy of the cost/benefit analysis and other documents, can be found on the city's website at www.alexandriava.gov/BRAC.

Don Buch is a member of the Cameron Station Board of Directors and a member of the City of Alexandria's BRAC Advisory Group.

From the President of the Board of Directors

By Mindy Lyle

A community of more than 1,750 owners will inevitably have differences of opinion about what is and is not best for Cameron Station. How those differences are addressed and resolved says a lot about our community. Unfortunately, in recent months the aggressive and accusatory manner in which some concerns have been raised sets a tone that hinders productive discussion and too often pits neighbor against neighbor in what comes to feel like a "win/lose" battle.

The Board of Directors, committees and community operate under rules and regulations detailed in a set of documents (copies of which you received when you purchased your home) that cover all aspects of Cameron Station from exterior colors to common area use, signage, visitor parking, tree maintenance, landscaping and so on. Many of these regulations were established and required by the City of Alexandria when the Special Use Permit (SUP) was drafted in the mid-1990s. These rules are very difficult to change, requiring a lengthy process and, in some cases, action by the City of Alexandria Planning Commission and City Council. Some of our operating policies are easier to change, but these revisions also take time because the community needs

ample opportunity to consider ramifications - and possible alternatives and legal counsel must approve the ultimate wording.

Among the board's primary functions are ensuring the financial stability of our community and minimizing potential liability. Changing an operating policy involves some degree of risk, and working through the related issues with the interested community members can take a few months to complete. In response to community requests and concerns, we recently amended our Pet Policy and the Operating Rules for the Cameron Club. Hopefully the changes we made will make Cameron Station a better place to live.

If you have an issue or concern that you wish to bring to the attention of the board, community manager or a committee, you can easily email them through the Cameron Station website where a convenient form is provided. If you would like to address the Board or a committee in person, a Residents' Open Forum is held at the beginning of Board and committee meetings. Speakers must sign in and are limited to three minutes.

Please remember that all Board and committee members are volunteers who live in this community. Many of us spend countless hours attempting to make Cameron Station a better place for all of us to live. We are more than willing to address each and every concern in the community and thank all of you who constructively contribute to making Cameron Station an enjoyable place to live.



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Board of Directors Meeting

(Continued from page 3)

motion sensors to replace light switches in many areas of the club. He reported on the replacement of the broken basketball hoop and the purchase of new medicine balls. He stated that a resident had inquired about the possibility of Wi-Fi access in the club, and this is still under consideration. The board directed the committee to make an inspection of the facilities for any possible damage due to the earthquake.

Common Area Committee: Committee Chair Robert Burns inquired as to the status of the hiring of a drainage engineer. Management stated they are still researching this matter. The committee is working on a resident landscape and maintenance program.

Architectural Review Committee and Communications Committee: New members were approved.

Retailer Update

Board member Nick Giannotti provided an update on Café Pizzaiolo, which has applied for a license to open in the Food Matters space.

Bond Out Update

Management reported that some of the required sewer work had been completed.

2011 Annual Meeting

The meeting will be held in the cafeteria at Samuel Tucker Elementary School on Monday, November 7. The Tucker administration will not allow access to the cafeteria until 6:30pm due to the afterschool care program; therefore registration will not begin until 6:45pm. The terms of four board members are expiring this year.

Board Budget Meeting

The Board of Directors, Financial Advisory Committee, committee chairs and management were scheduled to meet on Tuesday, September 13, to review the draft FY2012 Budget.

Action Items

- ♦ Goldklang Group Engagement Letter for preparation of the Association's federal and state income tax returns and year-end audit for FY2011 at a cost of \$5,650 contingent upon Goldklang providing an updated engagement letter for two years at the same price – Approved
- ♦ Lancaster Landscapes service proposal totaling \$16,124 for mowing and mulch bed care along Linear Park for 2012. – Approved
- ♦ Cropp Metcalfe Mechanical two-year contract renewal for quarterly maintenance and inspection of the HVAC equipment in the Cameron Club totaling \$2,256 per year – Approved
- ♦ Amendment to Policy Resolution No. 2010-01, Cameron Club Operating Rules and Procedures. Although many of the changes are minor, there have been some significant modifications and additions to the policy. The most significant changes involve: eligibility for use (guests must be accompanied by a holder of a facilities pass, subject to age requirements, for the fitness center, pool and gymnasium); rules governing personal trainers; and a requirement to restack weights after use. – Approved

Waterfront Plan Work Group Appointed

By Mindy Lyle

The Waterfront Plan Work Group, created by the City of Alexandria to evaluate the options for developing certain parcels of land abutting the Potomac River in Old Town, will hold a meeting in the Henderson Room at the Cameron Club on Wednesday, October 19.

Since 1982, planning for the waterfront has undergone several iterations without resolution. The work group hopes to accomplish several objectives, including (a) identifying Plan consensus areas and (b) identifying, categorizing and narrowing differences on the concerns that residents have raised.

The seven members of the Waterfront Plan Work Group were appointed by Mayor William Euille, based upon

recommendations submitted by City Council members. They are: Christopher Ballard, Bert Ely, Mindy Lyle, Elliot Rhodeside, Nate Macek, David Olinger, Bob Wood and Paul Smedberg. An outside facilitator leads the group through its discussions.

The Work Group's meetings are open to the public. All meeting videos, meeting notes and meeting dates are posted on the City of Alexandria website at www.alexandriava.gov/WaterfrontWorkGroup. Residents can also share ideas and thoughts on an online comment board.

Mindy Lyle is the president of the CSCA Board of Directors and a member of the Waterfront Plan Work Group.

Hours

Saturday-Sunday
7am-8pm

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents' Day,
Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Columbus
Day, Veterans' Day, Day after Thanksgiving

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Civic Association Hears From Alexandria Representatives

By Maya M. Noronha

The Cameron Station Civic Association welcomed public servants to its meeting on June 2 in the Cameron Club.

Delegate Charniele Herring (D-46th House District), and **State Senator George Barker** (D-39th Senate District) spoke about legislation passed by the Virginia General Assembly. They noted that it was a unique occasion when all members of the General Assembly unanimously voted for the budget bill. After two consecutive years of decreasing revenue – a first in Virginia – both sides of the aisle came together to make targeted cuts of \$11 million.

Herring noted that in 45 days there were 3,000 bills on topics such as the budget, transportation and redistricting. Six of the bills she proposed passed, including a bill that allows police to serve emergency protective orders while on duty. Another bill includes a social host law, which prohibits serving of alcohol to minors only when there is reason for the hosts to know that they are minors.

The Assembly also voted to regulate the bail bond industry. Herring said she was opposed to proposals to combine the Alexandria and Arlington courts.

Senator Barker declared that he was one of two legislators to have 20 bills passed this session, including bills authorizing protective orders for those in dating relationships and allowing foster children to remain in the same school when they switch to new foster parents. Barker said that transportation projects were expedited from an anticipated completion of four to six years to a couple years.

With regard to redistricting, the Senate drew new lines creating five districts with a majority African American

population. The Department of Justice interviewed Barker as part of its inquiry into compliance with the Voting Rights Act.

City Councilman Frank Fannon (R-At Large) reported that the City of Alexandria passed a budget of \$66 million. He also relayed that the City Council has authorized a rule requiring city employers to contribute to their pensions and pay 20% of their health care premiums.

Fannon then discussed the development of Potomac Yards over the next 20 years. The City Council will eventually vote on whether to build a Metro Station in the area. Fannon also emphasized the importance of the work he does for schools, such as Patrick Henry and Jefferson Houston, considering that the largest population growth in Alexandria over the past 10 years has been in ages 0-5 years old.

Loralei Coyle, coordinator of Alexandria Mentoring Partnership, encouraged residents of Cameron Station to participate in the city's mentoring program. There are 10 professional programs for at-risk children from first grade to high school. She noted that children who are mentored are 60% more likely to graduate. She said, "Mentor a child. Change two lives."

The Civic Association meeting concluded with a number of updates on current issues affecting the community. An investigation of the vehicles that park on Pickett Street discovered that 50% of the trucks do not belong to Alexandria owners. The Civic Association and the Cameron Station Homeowners Association are seeking to have signage changed so that there will be no overnight truck parking from 11pm to 7am daily.



Sponsored by Eden Good: an organization dedicated to healthy nutrition.

West End Farmers Market

Every Sunday: 9AM – 1PM; thru
November
Ben Brenman Park

SUNDAY FUN!

Freshly picked local veggies and fruits!
Free-Range meats and Eggs!
Artisanal Cheeses and Dairy!
Flowers and potted plants
Baked goods!

AND

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Come by and see us on Sunday mornings!

Visit us at www.westendfarmersmarket.org
for information on a map and directions as well as
info on upcoming events.



Fresh, Local Fruits and Veggies

Summer in the Park

Birds of a Feather

By Paul Kane

Like their great blue cousins, green herons typically live near freshwater lakes, ponds, marshes, swamps and stream-sides. During the summer, you can see them waiting patiently on a lily pad or branch hoping to catch an unsuspecting frog or hear them screech before they fly by and disappear into the bushes. Through green herons are often solitary and even secretive, throughout the spring and summer they can be seen engaging in a variety of breeding behaviors.

Here in Virginia's coastal plain, green herons are mostly transient summer residents. They arrive in early April to breed and migrate in early October to spend winter months in faraway destinations such as Panama and northern South America.



Photos by Paul Kane



For three or more years, a small colony of green herons has been breeding in the locust trees along the edges of Ben Brenman Park's small impoundment (by the bridge). Some years, these locust trees have been known to host as many as seven breeding pairs.

Those Darn Geese!



A flock of Canada geese took up residence in Brenman Park this summer. The geese aggressively protected their chicks (seen here hissing at Snickers Coleman) and often blocked the roads in the park.



Photos by Judy Coleman

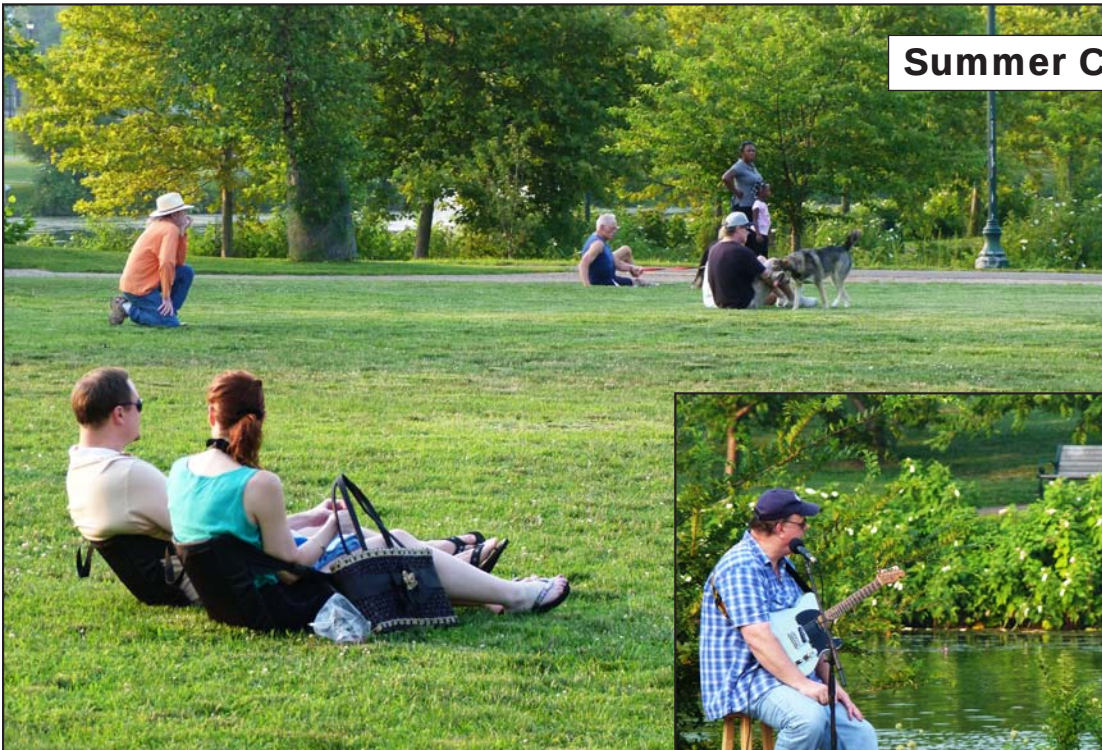
A young boy chases a flock of geese across the road.

Cambodian Festival



Photo by Sally McConnell

Children participate in a mock wedding procession at the Cambodian Festival in Ben Brenman Park on August 21.



Summer Concert Series

Local residents brave the summer heat to see the Dave Chappell Duo play in the Ben Brenman Park concert series on July 20, 2011.



Photos by Sally McConnell

In Memoriam, Arborium



Residents think lightning struck this tree (at left) on Somerville Street. The tree later died (below) and was removed at the end of September.



The willow tree next to the pond in Brenman Park has seen its last summer. Part of the tree died, and ivy was quickly taking over the rest. The city removed the tree in September.



Photos by Judy Coleman

West End Farmers Market



Photos by Sally McConnell

www.cameronstation.org

Fitness Center News

By Kevin Horner

Group Exercise Classes

It is hard to believe that our final group exercise session of 2011 began the week of September 19. Residents can always drop in on a class for a \$10 drop-in fee. These classes are a great way to get in shape and are a great way to meet your neighbors! See the fall activities schedule for classes and times. If you do not receive emails from the fitness center and would like to, please email Kevin at fitness@cameronstation.org to get put on the list.

Health Fair

We will be having a health fair at the Cameron Club on Saturday, October 22, from 9am to 11am. Come by for a body fat and fitness analysis, blood pressure check and more! Flu shots will be offered for \$27, and cholesterol screenings will be done for \$19. Advance registration and payment is needed for the flu shots and the cholesterol screenings. Contact the fitness center for more information.

Personal Training Is Available at the Cameron Club

The mission of the Exceed Personal Training Program is to educate and motivate individuals to achieve their fitness goals through personalized instruction and guidance

designed to enhance results and provide improved quality of life.

Since everyone has unique goals, we offer a variety of program formats to meet your needs. The following formats are available:

- Private One-on-One Training
- Express One-on-One ½ Hour Training

We are offering a fall special: 12 thirty-minute sessions for the price of 10! Contact Kevin at the fitness center for more information.

All of us at the Cameron Club appreciate everyone's commitment to fitness, and we value your support throughout the year. Thanks for making the fitness program here at Cameron Station a huge success!

For information on any of the programs, please contact the Fitness Center: 703-567-8555 or fitness@cameronstation.org.



FALL ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8:30AM		8:30-10:00AM Workout Parents		8:30-10:00AM Workout Parents		8:30-10:00AM Workout Parents	
9:00AM			9:00-10:00AM Yoga/Sculpt (Denise)		9:00-10:00AM Yoga (Denise)		9:00-10:00AM Fitness Fusion (Denise)
10:00AM							10:00AM-12NOON Pick-up Basketball
3:30PM		3:30-5:00PM Workout Parents		3:30-5:00PM Workout Parents		3:30-5:00PM Workout Parents	
6:45/7:00PM		6:45-7:45PM Cardio Box (Sarah)		7:00-8:00PM Muscle Sculpt (Christine)			
7:30PM			7:30-8:30PM Pilates (Denise)				
8:00PM			8:00-10:00PM Pick-up Basketball				

Drop-ins are welcome on a space-available basis for \$10.

This schedule can change at any time due to low class participation, so please call the fitness center or check the website for an updated schedule.

RARE After-School Program Off to a Fine Start

By Gwen Lewis

"Reach and Rise for Excellence" (RARE) is a new after-school program created by the Concerned Citizens Network of Alexandria (CCNA). It targets students at risk of dropping out of school, with the goal of improving academic performance and social skills while exposing them to lifelong learning experiences in a structured environment.

Academic achievement is the cornerstone of RARE. The program also includes components on Leadership Development, Cultural Education and Parent Involvement. Students also participate in the ePals Global Community, an online forum where students can engage with their peers all over the world in several languages.

A pilot program was held at Francis C. Hammond Middle School from March through June, and the results have been excellent. Not only did 51% of the students (8 out of 15) pass the SOL (Standards of Learning) tests, but one was even referred to the Talented and Gifted (TAG) math class.

Next year our goal is to have 30 more children for a total of 45 students and for all of them to pass the SOLs. Registration is open, and we are also in need of donations: \$100 will pay for on-line access for one student for the year; \$500 will support one student for one semester, including meals.



Photo courtesy of Gwen Lewis

Pictured with 11 of the 15 RARE students holding up their certificates are (counterclockwise from the front row): Mr. Ferdinand Day; Facilitator Gail Cato-Pratt; Dr. Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr, Director of Middle Schools, Keynote Speaker; Ms. Rosina Simmons, Lead Facilitator; Ms. Lillian Tadessa-Curry, Facilitator; Ms. Gwen Day Fuller, Co-Chair, CCNA Board of Directors; Mr. Lucas Cioffi, Civics Instructor; and Gwen Lewis, CCNA Co-Chair/Executive Director.

If you would like more information on the RARE program, please contact Gwendolyn Hubbard Lewis, at ccnalewis@gmail.com or call 571-527-0399.

Gwen Lewis is a resident of Cameron Station and Co-Chair/Executive Director of CCNA.

Stop Means Stop (Continued from page 1)

Appalled after witnessing several recent near-misses, the outcomes of which could have been tragic, a Cameron Station resident was galvanized into conducting an informal survey of stopping patterns.

The dates and times of the survey were Saturday and Sunday, August 27 and 28, from 8:30 to 9:30am. Males and females are equal opportunity offenders. Notably, volume was higher on Sunday (197 vehicles), when the Cambodian Festival was held in the park, than on Saturday (135).

The method was to count the numbers of vehicles that either came to a complete stop at or rolled through the four stop signs in question; the amateur auditor (a retired federal law enforcement officer) also noted whether the driver in each case was a male or a female.

The location was the busy intersection of Brenman Park Drive and Somerville Street – in other words, the area in front of our retail establishments.

The data is available for review on request, but the bottom line is straightforward: almost 50% of your neighbors on any given day roll through that intersection. Some come close to

"arresting the progress or motion of" their vehicles, while others basically just blow through it.

The number of violators is not only startlingly high but also particularly dangerous. The intersection in question is regularly traversed by some of our most vulnerable residents:

Children attending Bright Start Learning Center.

Walkers, dog walkers, bikers and joggers visiting Brenman Park.

Toka Salon & Spa clients in a state of bliss.

Cameron Café and Main Street Market customers making a beeline for the nearest cup of coffee.

And soon, hopefully, diners rushing to visit the new restaurant.

Think about it.



Photo by Judy Coleman

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The office of Gibberman Dental is excited to announce the addition of Dr. Jack Tsai to its staff. Dr. Tsai attended the University Of Pennsylvania School Of Dental Medicine. Dr Tsai is a certified Invisalign provider and his expertise encompasses all aspects of dentistry ranging from root canal treatments and oral surgery to cosmetic and implant restorations including implant supported denture fabrication. He brings a high level of expertise in the newest techniques of dentistry. Dr. Tsai will be a strong compliment to our office furthering our practice philosophy of giving your family the highest quality dental care for a reasonable cost. We treat each patient as a unique individual and we treat every case, from periodic check-ups to implants to cosmetic crowns and veneers, with a focus towards your needs. Call our office today to schedule your appointment. We look forward to hearing from our neighbors.

Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday 7 am to 7 pm
Friday 7am to 4 pm

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www.gibbermandental.com

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Neighbors in the News: Karen Reedy

By Carla Besosa

They say to dance like nobody's watching.

But the world is watching as a four-year-old tiny dancer with a dream evolves into an adult who not only teaches dance but has her own dance company. Cameron Station neighbor Karen Reedy knew by age 12 that dance was her calling.

Karen received her degree in dance from George Mason University in 1997, while concurrently dancing and choreographing locally. She relocated to New York to teach at the Julliard School while hitting the audition circuit, working on smaller dance projects and perfecting her own choreography. Karen has danced with the Brooklyn-based Mark Morris Dance Group and has performed internationally. She performed the lead role in *The Nut, Morris's* version of *The Nutcracker*.

While in New York, Karen formed her own dance company, Karen Reedy Dance. She returned to the Old Dominion with a mission of determination, direction and focus: Further develop Karen Reedy Dance, teach dance at GMU (where she is currently on faculty), choreograph for the Alexandria Singers and reconnect with the local dance scene.

Locally, Karen Reedy Dance has performed at the Torpedo Factory, Dance Place, Blackrock, Atlas and the Kennedy

Center Millennium Stage.

Karen's focus is contemporary dance, but her sights are set on the bigger picture as she creatively collaborates with visual artists and other choreographers. As a devout artist, she is committed to exposing the public to high-quality modern dance.

Karen Reedy Dance recently hosted a social gathering at the Cameron Club so that neighbors could view a sample of their work. The Company showcased works they were preparing for its Dance Place performance, and Cameronians were afforded the opportunity to experience up-close-and-personal interaction between art form and audience.

It is exciting to have an artist of this caliber among us! We wish Karen the best. More information on Karen Reedy Dance and video clips of the dancers in action can be found at www.reedydance.com.



Photo courtesy of GMU



Photo by Lois Greenfield

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www.paulajarvispersonaltrainer.com



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Restaurant Review

IndAroma

By Carla Besosa

Never underestimate the promotional power of the mighty coupon! My neighbor found an online coupon for IndAroma Bakery & Café and brought it to my attention. Neither of us had previously been aware of its existence and it's right up the street, so we decided to give it a try.

IndAroma opened approximately two years ago and is inconspicuously tucked into a strip shopping center. There is nothing pretentious about this café, with counter service and wine selection that simply includes "red" or "white" (there are a couple beers also available). The staff was very amiable and graciously answered our questions and provided descriptions of the various creations.

This is not a fancy venue, but very pleasant with clean accommodations and enjoyable background music, cross-continental in nature. With prices more than affordable, the restaurant offers selections from the northern region of India.

We started with a Frankie, an Indian wrap filled with potato, lettuce and onion. I followed with the Paneer Makhni, Indian cheese in a butter-based tomato cream sauce with mild spices. My dining companion opted for the Chicken Biryani, boneless chicken prepared with rice and spices.

Our food was delivered hot, and all spices used are fresh. We both thoroughly enjoyed our dishes, which together netted out to less than \$17 – before the coupon, at that.

Peruse the menu for a variety of additional offerings, which include kati rolls, curries, kabobs, wraps, sandwiches, paninis and chaats. Personally, I am anxious to sample their Naan Pizza with Grilled Chicken and Paneer Tikka.

It's impossible to overlook the bakery side of the business at IndAroma, which also sells wedding cakes and offers catering services. Upon entering the cafe, one is immediately impressed by the display of artistic baked goods. Sample from the selection of French-style pastries prepared with Indian-style filling – a harmonious mesh of two worlds. They offer a variety of cakes by the slice (German Chocolate & Butterscotch, Pistachio, Mango, etc.) and also prepare custom cakes to order. IndAroma can provide you with platters to assist you in your entertaining exploits, plus they can cater events of any size.

The folks at IndAroma are practically neighbors, so go pay them a visit. They will accommodate your taste for mild, medium or spicy food while providing delicious, fresh creations at a very reasonable price...with or without the almighty coupon!



Photo by Sally McConnell

IndAroma

6548-C Little River Turnpike
(Little River Turnpike and Braddock Road)
Alexandria, VA 22312

703-354-1812

www.indaroma.com

Hours of Operation

Monday-Saturday, 9am-10pm
Sunday, 9am-9pm

Price Range

Breakfast: \$1.49-\$3.99
Sandwiches and Wraps: \$5.95-\$7.50
Entrees: \$7.99-12.99
Naan Pizza: \$3.50-\$5.50

Smoking - No

Bar - Beer/Wine

Handicapped Accessible - Yes

Parking - Lot

Reservations - No

ALIVE!

(ALexandrians InVolved Ecumenically)

Food Distribution

8:30am-11:30am

Saturday, October 29

Church of the Resurrection
2280 N. Beauregard Street, Alexandria

(Take 395 north to Seminary Road west,
right on Beauregard, right into parking lot.)

Volunteers Needed! Thank You!

Carla's Picks

By Carla Besosa



The Barns at Wolf Trap

Nov. 12 **The Bobs:** - Fun a cappella group with a broad repertoire!

Birchmere

Oct. 8 **Herman's Hermits:** Peter Noone entertains baby boomer audiences expertly!

Nov. 10 **Michael Franks:** Smooth jazz vocals.

Nov. 14 **Acoustic Alchemy:** Jazz; all talented musicians.

Nov. 17 **Rippingtons:** Russ Freeman and the gang continue to astonish jazz fans.

Del Ray Artisans Gallery - Art Exhibit Opening Receptions

Oct. 7 **Get Sparked**

Nov. 4 **Del Ray Dozens**

Dulles Expo Center

Oct. 21-23 **Craftsmen's Classic**

Nov. 5-6 **DC Big Flea Market**

Nov. 11-13 **Northern Virginia Christmas Market**

Indigo Landing

Sundays, 11am-2pm
Angie Miller: Guitar and vocals; originals and covers

Kennedy Center

Oct. 29 **Django Reinhardt Festival All-Stars** (Terrace Theater)

Nov. 9 **Dave Brubeck Quartet** (Concert Hall)

Nov. 20 **Manhattan Transfer** (Concert Hall)

Nov. 25-26 **An "Unforgettable" Tribute to Nat King Cole** with George Benson (Concert Hall)

McLoone's Pier House-National Harbor

Live Music Nightly, 7pm

National Harbor

Oct. 7-9 **Gem & Jewelry Show** (Gaylord Resort & Convention Center)

Saturdays (through October)
American Market (10am-2pm)

Port City Playhouse

Nov. 4-20 **Angel: A Nightmare in Two Acts** - Based on the trial and execution of a Nazi war criminal; a lesson in dignity and survival.

St. Elmo's Coffee Pub

Oct. 12 & Nov. 11 **Janna Audey:** guitar and vocals; originals and covers.

Verizon Center

Nov. 16-20 **Cirque du Soleil, QUIDAM**

Warner Theater

Oct. 16 **Esperanza Spaulding:** "Best New Artist," 2011 Grammy Awards; jazz bassist who has taken the music world by storm!



And Another Thing...

Check out the following new discoveries of mine:

Wine: WAHOO White by Lovington Winery - A refreshing blend of chardonnay and sauvignon blanc with a splash of petit manseng

Music: Blame Sally: Latest album, "Speeding Ticket and a Valentine"

Refreshment!: Mojito Iced Tea at Cameron Café!



Food Matters Closes

After four years at Cameron Station, Food Matters closed its doors June 26. Friends and neighbors joined Tom and Christy Przystawik and Gerry and Victoria Hebert in saying goodbye to a Cameron Station fixture.



Photos courtesy of Carla Besosa



Library Update

By Mark Schwartz

The Alexandria Library has a Friends of the Library group for each of the four branch libraries. There are also a Friends Groups at Special Collections/Local History and Talking Books Service. Your membership contribution to the Friends will enhance library services for children and adults and provide funds to supplement library resources.

For more information about the Friends groups and Friends book sales, call your favorite branch or visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us. For the Beatley Central Branch (5005 Duke Street), call Branch Manager Renee DiPilato at 703-746-1702.

Mark Schwartz is a resident of Cameron Station and the Alexandria Library Public Information Officer.

Classified Ads

Interested in Edgar Cayce? Edgar Cayce is known as North America's most well-documented psychic. Topics in the Cayce Readings include reincarnation, ancient mysteries including Atlantis, and holistic health. Email Audrey at LookingOutForOthers@gmail.com.



Cameron Station Book Clubs

For those of you reading with the book clubs, here are the current selections:

Monday Night Bookball

October: *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card

November: *The Postmistress: A Novel* by Sarah Blake

Reading Between the Wines

October: *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett

November: *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot

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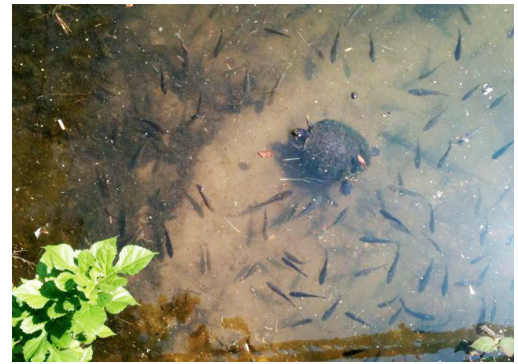
Advertising & Submissions Policies & Procedures

Advertising:

The Compass newsletter is published bimonthly. Advertising space is filled on a first-come, first-served basis, and the ads published in each issue are solely at the discretion of the newsletter staff or Communications Committee. **Only one ad per advertiser per issue is permitted. Ads must be submitted NO EARLIER than the 15th of the month preceding issue date and no later than the 30th** (October 15-30 for November/December; December 15-30 for January/February). Payment must accompany all ads. Artwork must be camera-ready: 65 line screen or 300 dpi. **ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS ARE PREFERRED.** Advertisers will receive a copy of the printed newsletter in which their ad appears. Estimated (*not guaranteed*) time of delivery to residents is last week of first month of issue or first week of second (last week of September/first week of October for September/October; last week of November/first week of December for November/December).

Article Submissions:

Any submissions for publication must include writer's name, address and phone number and must be received **by the 30th of the month preceding issue date** (October 30 for November/December; December 30 for January/February). The newsletter staff, Communications Committee or Board of Directors reserves the right to edit submissions for typos, length, tone and content. They will also determine the newsletter to be "full" at their discretion. Articles are to be factual and of public interest. Editorial content may be deemed inappropriate at the discretion of the newsletter staff, Communications Committee or Board of Directors. Photographs submitted will be returned to sender if accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.



Advertising Rates:

Display Ads (*Camera-ready*)

1/2 page.	\$220
(horizontal: 7" x 4 1/2"; vertical: 3 1/2" x 9 1/4")	
1/4 page (3 1/2" x 4 1/2").	\$135
1/8 page (3 1/2" x 2").	\$110

Classified Ads (*Limit 35 words*)

Resident.	\$5
Non-resident.	\$25
Lost & Found, Carpool, etc.	Free

Checks should be addressed to Cameron Station Community Association and sent with camera-ready artwork to Community Manager, 200 Cameron Station Boulevard, Alexandria, Virginia 22304. Artwork may be emailed to assistantmanager@cameronstation.org.

Note: The included advertisements, articles or references to websites of third parties do not indicate an endorsement by Cameron Station Community Association, Inc. and are not verified for accuracy. *The Compass* will not be responsible for poor ad reproduction due to the quality of the material provided by advertisers.

The Compass Staff

Carla Besosa, Judy Coleman,
Eliza Dolin, Lily Engle, Skooter Franklin,
Catherine Huddleston,
Barbara Martinez, Maya Noronha,
Patricia Sugrue

Photographer:
Sally McConnell

Contributing Photographers:
Sonia Agosto, Cynthia Longo

Cameron Station Community Website Accepting Ads

The Cameron Station website, www.cameronstation.org, is accepting advertising.

Advertising space is limited and is filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Ads will be scheduled to start on Mondays and will run for 28 days.

Ads are published on the site solely at the discretion of the Cameron Station Community Association Communications Committee.

For complete information, including closing dates, rates, material specifications and payment, visit www.cameronstation.org.

Hadeed Carpet

Alexandria West End Art and Wine Festival 2011



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- Alley Cat Restaurant 2 South Whiting Street
- Dunya Banquet Restaurant 5951 Stevenson Ave.
- Van Dorn Metro



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