

# Alexandria Gazette Packet

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AUGUST 27, 2015

25 CENTS



## Redeveloping and Reshaping Old Town

Some residents continue to harbor resentment.

BY VERNON MILES  
GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria's Old Town, with the shops along King Street and the historic Waterfront, is the most iconic neighborhood in the city. However, as the city moves forward with development plans that will reshape the waterfront, the last year in Old Town has been defined largely by a deep conflict between many residents of the historic district and local government.

### NEIGHBORHOOD OUTLOOK

According to Stephanie Landrum, president and CEO of the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership, Old Town's primary industry is in its tourism.

"King Street and the Waterfront are our established downtown," said Landrum. "The interesting dynamic here is that it's where most of the tourists visit. Three million people walk up and down these streets. That is certainly a differentiating factor for this market. We tend to see a lot more independent stores and restaurants than we find in the West End."

Over the past three years, the city has been taking steps to transform and capital-



PHOTO BY LAURA MAE SLUDER

**According to Stephanie Landrum, president and CEO of the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership, Old Town's primary industry is in its tourism.**

ize on the appeal of its waterfront neighborhood.

Townsend "Van" Van Fleet moved to Alexandria 30 years ago, and since has become the leading spokesperson for residents of Old Town. Van Fleet is president of the Old Town Civic Association and is a regular at the City Council public hearings. This fall, he plans to take that activism one step fur-

ther by running for City Council. "Van Fleet for Council" signs are already visible at a few spots around town and, even when it's not mentioned, it's apparent in the way Van Fleet talks.

"The Waterfront is changing immeasurably in ways that don't fit in with the historic district," said Van Fleet. "This council, the Planning Commission, the Board of Ar-

chitectural Review, they have failed to see what's going on. People don't come here for breakfast at the Charthouse, they come here for the history, and it's not just Old Town that's under fire. People from all across the city are taking the council on in this."

Over those 30 years in Old Town, Van Fleet says the biggest change he's seen is the new developments that have become commonplace in the neighborhood. Van Fleet notes that he's not opposed to development, just development that doesn't fit in with the historic character of the neighborhoods. His own home in Harborside, a community on the waterfront, is not historic, but Van Fleet says that the buildings in the community are designed to look consistent with the historic presence around them.

This issue has been the core of Van Fleet and other Old Town residents' fight against EYA's Robinson Terminal South Development and other new additions to the area. The fight even led to a battle at Virginia's Supreme Court over Carr Hospitality's planned hotel at 220 South Union St. But so far, it's a fight Van Fleet is losing. The Supreme Court sided with city, which approved the development, and the first stages of construction are currently underway. This year saw a series of battles at the Board of Architectural Review, the Planning Commission, and City Council over various aspects of the Robinson Terminal South Development, mostly fought between city government and local citizens.

SEE VARYING REACTIONS. PAGE 3

## Alexandria Seeks Cycling Spokespersons



PHOTO BY VERNON MILES / ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE

**Steve Sindiong, principal planner with the City of Alexandria.**

Transportation Master Plan could shift gears for cycling community.

BY VERNON MILES  
GAZETTE PACKET

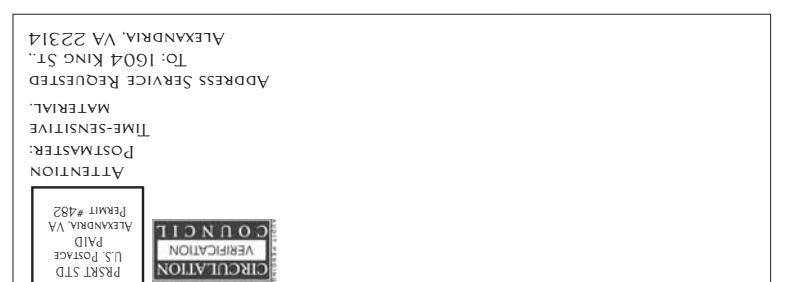
Do cyclists in Alexandria ride in the road or on the sidewalk? How do cyclists riding the Mount Vernon trail pass through Alexandria? With an update to Alexandria's Transportation Master Plan, city officials

hope to fix these and other local problems surrounding the transportation middle child: bicycles. A call has been put out requesting public input in an update to the Pedestrian and Bicycle elements of the City's Transportation Master Plan. The local cycling community has already begun expressing strong, and sometimes

conflicting, views on the future of bicycles in Alexandria.

"Our goal is a recommendation of proposed bicycle network priorities," said Steve Sindiong, principal planner with the City of Alexandria. "We're identifying 10 pedestrian projects and strategies. We're looking at how we can do

SEE ALEXANDRIA. PAGE 3







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# Varying Reactions to Changes in Neighborhoods

FROM PAGE 1

"Economics overcame rationale," said Van Fleet, and then repeats a phrase he and others have repeated at City Council: "They're killing the goose that laid the golden egg."

## NORTH OLD TOWN

The conflict between new development and old residences isn't isolated to the King Street area of Old Town. Tom Soapes, president of the North Old Town Independent Citizens' Association, said that redevelopment is the biggest issue facing his neighborhood as well. Soapes isn't opposed to new retail and new housing, not to the degree that southern Old Town is often characterized as, but says the local residents still have concerns about how the Old Town North area will be developed. Many of these issues will be decided in the Old Town North Small Area Plan, which will be drafted over the next year and a half, but Soapes said residents are also looking at what is developed in the recently closed Giant, the now-empty GenOn Plant, and the city's reactions to the Best Western Old Colony Inn as signs of North Old Town's future. The expansion plans for the Old Colony Inn faced outcry from local citizens and were rejected at the June 17 Board of Architectural Review (BAR) meeting, but will return to the BAR, the Planning Commission, and the City Council in the fall.

So far, Soapes said local residents are satisfied with the current residential/commercial mix.

"We took a survey last year of North Old Town residents and a strong majority

wanted to see continued mixed use development," said Soapes. "They want to see more residential, but also want to open some parts of the area being used as small local businesses. Nobody wants any big box stores with huge amounts of traffic, but business and residential developments that blend in with the community are desirable."

In fact, Soapes said that the mix of retail and residential has been one of the best aspects of the neighborhood for newcomers.

"There's a lot here for meeting your daily needs, like groceries or pharmacies," said Soapes.

"The neighborhood residents use these quite a lot."

Van Fleet's favorite thing about Old Town is its walkability, which Van Fleet insists is an Old Town experience that can't be replaced by driving or even bicycling around the neighborhood. The walkability is actually one of the pieces of the Waterfront Development Plan that Van Fleet likes. The new plan will include an uninterrupted walking path along the entirety of the Waterfront. Van Fleet's advice for new residents to Old Town is to get out of their homes and take long walks around the neighborhood to get to know the local history.

## DEL RAY: The Town inside the City

Wedge between the concrete canyons of Arlington and the tourist-heavy Old Town Alexandria, Del Ray may come as the biggest surprise in Alexandria to those unfamiliar with the city. Nearly every store along Mount Vernon Avenue in Del Ray, be it a

cafe or an exotic plant and comic book store, is a local "mom and pop" store. And yet, Del Ray doesn't receive nearly the tourist density of Old Town. In many ways, the residents of Del Ray believe the area is Alexandria's best kept secret.

"This is the stuff you just can't find at big box shopping centers," said Jay Nestlerode, president of the Del Ray Citizens Association. "And we don't have a lot of high buildings, so it still gives you that low storefront appeal."

Landrum noted that Del Ray has a small town, family-friendly atmosphere considered very desirable for Alexandrians hoping to stay in the city but escape the higher density of other neighborhoods. Its main street, Landrum noted, is characterized by its walkability and its complete lack of national chains.

"There are no chain stores, everything here is one of a kind," said Rod Kuckro, a past president of the Del Ray Citizen's Association. "In our zoning, we didn't allow enough size for national chains to come in. It's not just a residential community, it's also a destination for people outside of Del Ray to enjoy the ambiance. Two years ago, people didn't come to Del Ray. Now people can't find parking."

When Kuckro first moved to Del Ray 30 years ago, he said the neighborhood used to be notorious for its crime issues. However, over time the criminal elements of Del Ray seem to have faded away. Kuckro credits the heightened presence and sophistication of Parent Teacher Associations in the local schools for helping to keep local youths



PHOTO BY LAURA MAE SUDDER

## Changes along the waterfront worry some residential neighbors.

away from criminal activity.

Life in Del Ray isn't cheap though. Kuckro said that the price of having a small town lifestyle unlike anything else in Arlington or Alexandria is a more expensive real estate market.

"It's a great area if you can get in here, but it's like anywhere else, the extra goods and services come at a premium," acknowledged Nestlerode. "Being closer to the metro or restaurants is more expensive, but it pays off in the long term. It's tough, though, if you're just coming here short

SEE WITH PROGRESS, PAGE 5

# Alexandria Seeks Cycling Spokespersons

FROM PAGE 1

better for education and outreach ... particularly to elderly and non-English speaking residents. [We're emphasizing] more education on rules of the road."

Christian Meyers, founder of Velocity bicycles in Del Ray, said education would be a good first step for creating a more bicycle-friendly culture in Alexandria.

"There needs to be more education for cyclists and drivers on sharing the road," said Meyers, noting that many drivers are unaware of the state law requiring a three-foot distance between them and a cyclist.

"Alexandria is pretty good about sharrows," said Meyers. Sharrows are shared-lane roads marked by a symbol of a bicycle and arrow points. "But there's still a lot of people in Alexandria who don't ride bikes and don't understand bike culture or needs." But others say the current sharrows are insufficient.

"The [shared] bike lanes aren't respected by cars and there's not enough space for [dedicated] bike lanes," said Bennett Moore, founder of Big Wheel Cycles in Old Town. "[The city needs] designated bicycle trails ... and there's no designated bike trail on the Waterfront."

But Moore noted that adding in bicycle trails through Old Town will only get more

difficult as the area gets denser and fills with drivers. Moore said a north-south bicycle connection through Old Town would be ideal. At the farmer's market in front of City Hall on Aug. 22, Sindiong and other members of city staff set up a booth with a map of the city and stickers available where citizens could mark preferred bike trails or express concern over others. Most of the green stickers were north-south trails running through Old Town. Sindiong said city staff will be recommending Royal Street as a key route through Old Town, rather than some of the citizens' recommendation of Union Street. Sindiong said the objective of the new route is to connect the Mount Vernon trail through Alexandria. However, Sindiong said the staff wasn't looking at taking away from on-



Derick Lawton from Velocity Bikes fixes a bike at the Alexandria farmers market.

street parking. Sindiong said the city could implement a "road diet" plan, which would reduce the number of lanes to leave on-street parking intact and include an independent bike lane. Sindiong said they were also looking at adding "traffic-calming" measures along South Royal, like speed humps and more traffic signs. At the end of the route, the path could connect with the Mount Vernon Trail through the current GenOn site in the north and Jones Point Park in

the south.

In the West End, Sindiong said the updates to the Pedestrian and Bicycle section focus around improvements to Van Dorn street, including a potential bike path along the main road. Moore noted that there are some great paths in the West End, like the

Holmes Run trail that runs from Eisenhower Avenue to Lake Barcroft.

Both Meyers and Moore spoke fondly of the capital bike share program in Alexandria. Though both expressed initial reservations concerning the program, they said that the overall impact had been an increased number of local residents interested in biking, which in turn led to a surprising uptick in business. Meyers said additional bicycle-themed events through the city could help encourage understanding between cyclists and non-cyclists. Alexandria does host events where free bells and lights are distributed, but Moore says often these events target the wrong ridership.

"The city gives bicycle equipment like lights out on trails to visitors," said Moore, "but the people who really need it are the people working in restaurants during the day or the local homeless people, many of whom don't have bells or lights."

Sindiong said the current plan is to have a draft plan put through Alexandria Engage in early January, 2016, for City Council endorsement in April of 2016. The city is hosting a Community Meeting concerning the update on September 24, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Durant Center on 1605 Cameron Street. Sindiong said this meeting will be a key opportunity for public input on the plan.



# From Foster Care to Founding Nonprofit 'Acts of Random Kindness'

## Fundraiser to benefit iCan program.

BY JOAN BRADY

It's unusual to day for a 22-year-old to have a Master's degree and to have founded a non-profit. It's downright amazing if that young person spent much of her childhood homeless and hungry before spending her high school years in foster care in the city of Alexandria.



**Cordelia Cranshaw**

But, then again, Cordelia Cranshaw is no ordinary young woman. Petite with a tentative smile, her inner strength is palpable as she tells her story.

She speaks with the confidence of someone who fully understands that the things she has survived don't define her, rather they have helped her to become who she is today. To talk to her, you would never know that she ever has doubts about herself, her accomplishments or her future.

Cranshaw's years prior to entering the foster care system were chaotic, colored by the drug and alcohol use of the adults around her who were in and out of jail and punctuated by periods of homelessness and hunger.

And then, when she was 13, her mother was sentenced to 10 years in prison. For the next several years, Cranshaw moved among family members until there were none left to take her in.

Entering foster care at 15, there was no happy ending with foster parents who believed in her and were committed to help her to achieve success. Cranshaw was not thriving, she was surviving. And some days she was barely doing that. Alternating between sadness and frustration at her circumstances, she was not functioning well at school — acting out and often missing class.

The turning point for Cranshaw came when, at 15, she realized that if she didn't stop letting her sadness, frustration and

anger dictate her choices, her path would be no different from the paths of her parents. She decided that education was her ticket to gaining control over her life and to ensuring the future she was starting to visualize for herself.

That determination meant going to each of her teachers to apologize for being disrespectful and for often not showing up for class. It meant not just promising to change her behavior, but actually changing. It meant committing herself to the goals. And, it meant finding positive people to surround herself with to support her where her parents could not.

But turning around things at school, didn't mean that her challenges were over. Placement with her boyfriend's mother, created additional pressures and when that disrupted, she was placed in a group home and finally in an independent living apartment in her senior year of high school. But she kept her eyes on her goals and graduated knowing that she would attend George Mason University in the fall.

College brought new stresses. Not only did Cranshaw have to worry about keeping her head above water financially and passing her classes, but she also had to worry about things others might take for granted, like where would she spend college breaks.

Freshman year, without options, she stayed with her biological father. Living with him proved to be no less difficult than when she had been a child. As a foster care alumni, she was able to get independent living housing to cover summer breaks. And, fortunately, starting her sophomore year, her college allowed her to stay in the dorms during school year breaks. Without that, she would not have had a safe place to live when school was not in session.

Watching "Bruce Almighty," Cranshaw was inspired when God asks, "How do we change the world?" and Bruce responds, "One act of random kindness at a time." In 2014, she founded a nonprofit, Acts of Random Kindness (ARK-DC.org). Her goal, to pay it forward for the people who have been kind and supportive of her by providing programs, services and resources to at-risk children with an eye toward building stronger communities.



**Cordelia Cranshaw leads a discussion on goal-setting.**

project the confidence that the world sees. This is why Cranshaw believes so firmly that young girls need to be supported and encouraged, they need to see successful young women, they need to know they are not alone. They need to know that someone who believes in them. It was clear that the seminar had hit its mark. One of the young girls jumped in to handle the closing remarks, "[When I grow up], I want to be tall and smart with self esteem [just like you]."

This fall, ARK's new program, iCan, will launch for 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys who are reading at or below a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade level at Kelly Miller Middle School in D.C.'s Ward 7. Cranshaw will meet with the boys twice a week, with goals of expanding their world view by introducing them to new experiences ranging from nature walks to meeting adults with interesting jobs and even getting a tour of the Pentagon.

The curriculum will include manners, team building and anger/frustration management. In addition, each will be matched with a mentor who has had to overcome similar challenges of neighborhood and poverty.

Aug. 27 is ARK-DC's first major fundraiser, co-hosted by Sunni and the City/WPGC 95.5. There will be music, small plates, giveaways and the ability to learn more about iCan in the park at 920 14<sup>th</sup> St. NW in D.C. Cranshaw hopes to raise \$20,000 to fully fund iCan for the next year.

Cranshaw's commitment to helping youths who are at risk go beyond her nonprofit. Last spring she graduated from the University of Maryland, Baltimore with a Master's in social work and she will start a new job as a social worker for D.C.'s Child and Family Services in the next few weeks.

Cranshaw says that being put in foster care was the best thing that could have happened to her because those years in care helped her to find her purpose. Her biggest accomplishment thus far, she says, has been to take positive out of the negative. She hopes that in her new job as a social worker, she can encourage youths to do the same.

"I knew that I wanted a different path than my parents had chosen. I didn't want to always be searching for something to eat at night," she said.

Several weeks ago, ARK hosted a self-esteem-building seminar for 12-13-year-old girls in Northeast D.C. Cranshaw brought three of her 20-something girlfriends to show the younger girls that they have are options outside of what they see in their neighborhood.

The program included a discussion of media's influence on self-esteem and how the girls handle bullies. One of the girls told the circle of girls and young women that her classmates tell her she is "ugly," throwing wood chips at her as a way of making fun of her teeth. "I'm sensitive," She told the group. "So I cry when they do it."

She wanted to fight the bullies and told a friend. "Don't you fight those bullies," the friend advised. "Go home. Lock yourself in the bathroom and look in the mirror. Remind yourself that you are a good person. You care about other people. And you are smart. Don't let those people decide who you are."

Later, Cranshaw said that the friend's advice really resonated with her. She says she has to pump herself up 150 percent to

## CRIME REPORTS

The following incidents were reported by the Alexandria Police Department.

### Police Investigate Shooting

The Alexandria Police Department is investigating a shooting that occurred in the 4200 block of Duke Street on Tuesday, Aug. 18. At approximately 8:26 p.m., officers responded to a report of shots heard in the 4200 block of Duke Street. As officers investigated the ini-

tial report, they were notified that a 53-year-old man arrived at a local hospital with a gunshot wound to his hand. The victim had driven himself to the hospital. The investigation is ongoing.

Anyone with information about this investigation is asked to contact Det. Bikeramjit Gill at 703-746-6751.

In other incidents:

❖ The Alexandria Police Department is investigating a robbery on Aug. 22 in the 4600 block of Duke Street.

The victim was hit with beer bottle and

money was stolen.

❖ The police is investigating an attempted robbery on Aug. 20 in the 4600 block of Raleigh Avenue. A gun was implied but not seen. There was no injury and no theft.

### Police Arrest Suspect for Burglary

Around 8:49 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 20, police responded to a residence in the 1100

block of Colonial Avenue for the report of a breaking and entering. Police found several other area residences had also been entered. Patrol Officers arrested a 29-year-old man from Washington D.C. at the scene.

He was charged with burglary and possession of burglarious tools. More charges may be pending as the investigation continues.

Anyone with information about this burglary is asked to call Det. Michael Rodriguez of the Criminal Investigations Section at 703-746-6165.



# With Progress, Some Wariness

FROM PAGE 3  
term.”

But the secret is out on Del Ray. Kuckro and Nestlerode expressed concerns that Del Ray’s days as a small town within the big city may be numbered. “The biggest challenge is not becoming another Clarendon and Ballston,” said Nestlerode. “With the closeness to D.C., the developers are chopping at the bits to bring in the most dense products they can and that’s not always what’s best for the neighborhood.”

“Today, we’re face pressure from developers who would like to see more infill development and larger structures on Mount Vernon avenue, particularly in the historic district,” said Kuckro. “Del Ray is in its golden age, but we have to have a constant vigilance about that.”

## NEW LIFE IN THE WEST END

While Old Town and Del Ray struggle against new development, the West End desperately craves it. According to Landrum, retailers and personal services industries are beginning to flock towards the West End because of the residential density that isn’t permitted in Old Town or Del Ray. With plans to redevelop Landmark Mall and the recent announcement that the Transportation Security Agency will be moving into the area, many are hopeful that the West End could see a revival.

“The West End has highest population and the most disposable income,” said Landrum. “There are opportunities like Landmark Mall where business can capture residents not only from the West End, but

Fairfax and Arlington.”

Lynn Bostain, president of the Seminary West Civic Association and the West End Business Association, said the impending arrival of the TSA headquarters is going to be a boon for the West End but isn’t a reflection of the future of the area.

“The TSA headquarters is going to be great, we’re delighted it’s going in because that building has been empty for 10 years,” said Bostain, “but I think the strength in the West End is in small businesses rather than large. There’s not a lot of land left over here to build on.”

Bostain has lived in the neighborhood since 1976, and says the single largest change in that time has been the increase in traffic. The Van Dorn Street metro station straddles the Alexandria and Fairfax border, but Bostain said that she was always hopeful for another metro station located somewhere in the West End. Bostain believes a station near where the TSA headquarters is moving into would have been very beneficial to the area.

“There is a lack of transportation options in the West End,” said Bostain. “There’s no quick way for people to move around, and that’s a big problem.”

On Sept. 17, from 7 to 9 p.m., candidates for City Council will face off at the William Ramsay Elementary School. Alongside questions regarding the schools and the Beauregard Small Area Plan, Bostain said she believes transportation will be the biggest issue discussed. With City Council and most other government functions taking place in the City Hall in Old Town, Bostain said many residents of the West

SEE WITH PROGRESS, PAGE 18

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## PEOPLE

# It's All About the Milk

BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**I**t was dark on the farm as Kinsley Coulter got up at 2 a.m. to load his truck and drive the 150 miles from Juniata County, Pa. to the Alexandria Farmer's market on Saturday. "We've been doing this every week for six years," he said, and they also come on Tuesday and Thursday to the Crystal City and Ballston Farmer's Markets.

Bicycles ride up to the corner of the market, mothers push baby carriages, customers squeeze past each other, and a couple of friends whoop and hug at the surprise of seeing each other at the market. A crowd gathers around Coulter's containers lined side by side with small cheese cubes with toothpicks handy for sampling.

"We make 16 kinds of cheese, all from our organic milk," Coulter said. Squares of plastic-wrapped emmenthal sit next to small curls of curd cheese, two of the favorites. On down the line are Gouda, pepper jack, muffaletta and homemade butter. "Which one did you like?" he asks a frequent customer. "It's easy to make good cheese if you start with good milk." Coulter has 35 dairy cows that are milked by his sons. Today two of his four daughters, Eunice and Shawna, dressed in white caps and long bright dresses, are waiting on customers and keeping the table full of cheeses and milk. "We also make our own yogurt. Dairy is the centerpiece of our business," he said.

Coulter walks over to a white freezer and opens the lid. "We have vanilla, chocolate and coffee ice cream in here made with just cream, eggs and organic sugar — the old-fashioned way." But he points out that people don't come to a farmer's market looking for ice cream. Still sales have doubled since last year but it isn't an explosive growth item. He runs the business with his family including his wife and seven children and four hired girls from church. "We enjoy our work."

A blackboard advertises beef 100% grass-fed as



**Chris Upton and Chrissie Felkins choose a two-pound grass-fed London broil at the Alexandria Farmer's market to take to friends for a Saturday night barbecue. Kinsley Coulter of Coulter Farms sells beef and pork as well as cheeses and eggs.**

well as pork. His farm has 20 pigs and also 150 lambs. Coulter has removed a two-pound piece of London broil from an ice chest which Chris Upton and Chrissy Felkins contemplate for a barbecue with friends tonight. Upton volunteers in less than a year that Chrissy's last name will be Upton, too. "I can't wait," he said. They pick up a bottle of chocolate milk to complete their purchase. Another customer selects a package of beef sizzlers plus a carton of brown eggs.

At the end of the table, festively decorated jars full of honey are lined up in neat rows. Cartons of brown eggs sit on wooden crates nearby. Coulter says they started last year with 53 bee hives but lost some over the winter.

The honey is raw and unfiltered and contains "whatever is bloomin' on the farm." He explains that half of the people buy it because it is raw so heating doesn't destroy the enzymes and it is also unfiltered so it contains pollen from all different plants. Coulter disappears behind the stand and hauls out bags of ice to shake around the milk.

When the market closes, he will drive the 150 miles back to Coulter Farms, arriving about 4:30 p.m. and unload the truck. Then he'll think about going to bed to get ready for church at Shade Mountain Christian Fellowship on Sunday: "It's a big day for us."



**Kinsley Coulter makes chocolate, vanilla and coffee ice cream the old fashioned way with just cream, eggs and organic sugar. He says most people don't come to the market to buy ice cream but his sales have doubled since last year.**



**Two of Chris Upton's four daughters, Eunice and Shawna, are serving customers and keeping the table stocked with the homemade yogurt, milk and cheeses. "Dairy is our centerpiece," said Kinsley Coulter.**

PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/GAZETTE PACKET



PHOTO BY LAURA MAE SUDDER

## Back-to-School Supply Drive

**The local chapter of the National Forum of Black Public Administrators (NFBPA) participates yearly with Alexandria City Public Schools in collecting items for an annual back-to-school supply drive. James Hunt is the president of the Alexandria Metro Chapter of NFBPA.**



**Francis C. Hammond Middle School sixth-grade teacher Linsey Taylor helps a student practice her locker combination.**



**James K. Polk Elementary School kindergarten teacher Heidi Vargo and School Nutrition team member Olga Barker help kindergarteners pick up their lunches.**

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

## Early Start

**A**lexandria City Public Schools kicked off its week-long Kindergarten Prep (K-Prep) program and two-day Middle School Prep programs last week with the aim of having every child acclimated to their new environment and routines and ready for learning on the first day

of school. The program introduces new students to their prospective teachers and allows them to find their way around the school. In many cases, new kindergarten students get to meet and work with their new teachers and this can give teachers a jump-start on assessing a child's learning style.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



## PEOPLE



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Members of Alexandria Aerie 871 of the Fraternal Order of the Eagles participate in a recent Bubba Merker Heart Walk. More than \$34,000 was raised by the organization for local charities in the last year.**

## 'The Eagles' Local F.O.E. 871 continues to soar.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**T**he sign outside simply reads "F.O.E." It is easy to miss when traveling along Cameron Street in the middle of Old Town. But for 110 years, members of Aerie 871 of the Fraternal Order of the Eagles have gathered here in friendship, fellowship and to reach out to those in need in the community.

"We have everyone from all walks of life here," said Dave McDermott, F.O.E. chaplain and former president of the local Aerie. "Policeman, lawyers, mechanics — it's what makes us unique."

Founded in 1898, the national organization has more than 1,600 locations throughout the U.S. and Canada and raises \$10 million annually for various charities. In 2014, a \$25 million pledge to the University of Iowa to fund the Fraternal Order of Eagles Diabetes Research Center was completed.

In Alexandria, Aerie 871 raises tens of thousands of dollars each year for local charities through special events and its legendary bi-monthly steak nights.

"I'm really proud of what we've done here," McDermott said. "We gave more than \$34,000 to local charities just last year."

Since its inception, the F.O.E. has played a key role in the creation of Mother's Day, Social Security and Medicare with a membership that has included seven former U.S. presidents.

Locally, Aerie 871 boasts more than 800 members and raises funds for organizations like Wounded Warriors, Fisher House and Special Olympics. The Auxiliary just completed its yearly school supplies drive for local children in need.

"We're able to raise a lot of money for charity and have a wonderful time doing it," said McDermott, who has been a member for more than 24 years. "It's a great way to meet so many new people and do some good for the community at the same time."

While membership has expanded in the last 5-6 years, McDermott said it can still be a challenge to get people to appreciate the value of volunteering.

"It's harder in the D.C. area since everyone is so busy," McDermott said. "I wish someone could tell the young people especially how important it is to give back. That's what makes this town so special — the bonds and feeling of responsibility for one another."

Potential new members must be sponsored by two existing members of the Aerie. McDermott said

an Open House for those interested in membership is planned for early next year.

"We offer a lot of opportunities for anyone looking to meet new people and do some good at the same time," McDermott said. "We really are a family here and if a member or someone in the community needs help, we step forward."

For more information, visit [www.FOE871.com](http://www.FOE871.com).

**"I'm really proud of what we've done here. We gave more than \$34,000 to local charities just last year."**

**— Dave McDermott, chaplain and former president of FOE Aerie 871**

### BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto: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.

#### MONDAY/AUG. 31

**'For Love of Country' Essay and**

[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

**Poetry Contest Deadline.** 5 p.m. Students who will be in grades 7-9 in fall 2015 are eligible to submit entries to any Alexandria library or online. The theme is "Surviving (Safety, Privacy, and Security) and Thriving in Today's World." For questions, email [dprice@alexandria.lib.va.us](mailto:dprice@alexandria.lib.va.us), call 703-746-1753 or visit [www.alexandria.lib.va.us](http://www.alexandria.lib.va.us).

#### WEDNESDAYS/SEPT. 4-30

**Senior Academy.** 10 a.m.-noon at various locations in Alexandria. Classes inform seniors about government functions, organizations, programs and the happenings of the city. For ages 60 and older. Free. Visit [www.seniorservicesalex.org](http://www.seniorservicesalex.org) or

SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 9



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# MEGA ADOPTORAMA

## 2015

### LABOR DAY WEEKEND



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# OPINION

## Volunteer Literacy Tutors Still Needed

**For 89 Alexandria kindergarteners and first graders.**

BY SAMI SMYTH  
VOLUNTEER ALEXANDRIA

**T**hink about your favorite book as a child. Go ahead, close your eyes, and remember all of the feelings and memories that it evokes. Do you feel proud because it was the first book you read on your own? Was it the first time that you felt connected to someone? Did it make you laugh or giggle? My favorite book as a child was "Stellaluna" by Janell Cannon.

It was the first time I felt transported to another world, and ever since then, I've been hooked.

Sadly, many Alexandria children have not had that defining moment with a book. Research has shown that if a child does not learn to read by third grade, he or she will have a hard time reading to learn in fourth grade and beyond and will be on the drop-out track, according to the Casey Foundation's 2010 Kid's Count Report. Reading and books are an important part of a child's development. There are a number of literacy focused nonprofits in

Alexandria that recruit volunteer tutors for the school year to work closely with students who need more one-on-one attention.

One Alexandria nonprofit that places volunteer tutors in the city's elementary schools is the Alexandria Tutoring Consortium (ATC). ATC's mission is to provide the foundation for future learning success by helping to ensure children in the Alexandria City Public Schools can read at or above grade level by the end of third grade.

ATC and Volunteer Alexandria are working together to recruit enough volunteers to spend one hour a week tutoring in-need Alexandria kindergarteners and first graders. ATC volunteers choose the ACPS school at which they would like to tutor and are paired with a kindergarten or first-grade student who does not have the literacy skills needed to learn to read at grade level. Through individualized lesson plans, materials, and guidance, volunteers work with their student during the school day, from October through May.



**Steve Rideout, retired chief judge of the Alexandria Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court and one of the founders of the Alexandria Tutoring Consortium.**

Steve Rideout, retired chief judge of the Alexandria Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court, one of the founders of the Alexandria Tutoring Consortium in 1997 and a former ATC tutor, noted that "More often than not, tutors benefit as much from this work as do the students." He advocates for Alexandrians to "Change two lives! Be a tutor!"

Anyone can volunteer. Volunteer tutors are vital for those students that need extra help learning to read.

For ATC's program, it takes one hour a week (two 30-minute sessions) to make a difference for a child in need. Choose an elementary school that is convenient to your work and use your lunch break to volunteer. If you are at home during the day, use it as your reason to get out of the house.

To sign up to volunteer, please visit [www.VolunteerAlexandria.org](http://www.VolunteerAlexandria.org) and enter "Tutor" in the search engine.

If you have any questions about volunteering, please contact Volunteer Alexandria at 703-836-2176.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Appreciates Progress

To the Editor:  
I've lived in Alexandria for 20 years, and there has been wonderful progress during this time. Now with the Waterfront Plan starting

to be implemented, removing the eye sores of empty warehouses and run down buildings, the various positive ratings the city has gotten lately as a safe city, top for women's entrepreneurs, rising SOL scores for our schools, and with the TSA moving to Liberty Center, National Science Founda-

tion moving in soon, why would anyone want to change the direction of our city? And all of this on top of Carlisle, PTO, and what appears to be finally a breakthrough on Landmark Mall. Our city leaders have guided us through choices and we have benefitted with the best of all de-

velopment. On top of this, our city leaders have invested in needed infrastructure, led us through the recession and sequester while not only keeping our bond rating but seeing it raised.

In my opinion the vice mayor and the Republican candidates with their message of change must mean the city should go backwards. I certainly hope that Mayor Euille chooses to run a write-in: we need his continued leadership. I will certainly proudly vote for the incumbent candidates running for council, and for Mayor Euille if he chooses to run.

**Regina Chapman**  
Alexandria

#### Prudent Investments

To the Editor:

I would like to add some thoughts to the ongoing discussions about the city's debt.

First, the City of Alexandria did much less borrowing in the '70s, '80s and '90s and, as a result, they barely built anything. As of the year 2000, Alexandria hadn't built a new school in 30 years and hadn't built a new fire station in over 40 years. Alexandria didn't

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 10



STEVE ARTLEY/GAZETTE PACKET

### Alexandria Gazette Packet

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An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

**Published by**  
Local Media Connection LLC

**1606 King Street**  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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A Connection Newspaper

The Alexandria Gazette Packet is distributed weekly to selected homes in the City of Alexandria.

Any owners or occupants of premises that do not wish to receive the paper can notify the publisher by telephone at 703-778-9426 or by email to [circulation@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:circulation@connectionnewspapers.com), and the distributor will be notified to discontinue service.





## PEOPLE

# Celebrating Their Golden Anniversary

Deborah Dodge, then 17, wedded James W. Blackburn, Jr., then 18, on Aug. 27, 50 years ago at Christ Church in Rockville, Md., officiated by the Rev. Raymond P. Black.

They went to Ocean City, Md. for a brief honeymoon before they relocated for James to attend the University of Richmond.

They are longtime natives of Alexandria, currently residing in Old Town as well as King George, Va., south on the Potomac River. They have two children: Emily Margaret, 37, Denver, Colo., and James William III, 41, Bozeman, Mont.



Deborah and James W. Blackburn, Jr.

All dressed up for 50th.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

## BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 7  
call 703-836-4414.

### THROUGH MONDAY/SEPT. 7

**Splash with DASH.** Weekdays 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., weekends 11 a.m.-7 p.m. The AT10 route will provide transport to the Old Town Pool between Potomac Yard and the King Street Metro, serving the Arlandria, Warwick Village, Del Ray and Rosemont neighborhoods. Free. Visit [www.dashbus.org](http://www.dashbus.org) for details.

### TUESDAY/SEPT. 8

#### Marketing Grant Application

**Deadline.** Apply to receive funding for creative marketing programs from the Alexandria Marketing Fund. For details, contact Andrea Blackford at 703-746-3959 or [andrea.blackford@alexandria.gov](mailto:andrea.blackford@alexandria.gov) or visit [alexandriava.gov/MarketingFund](http://alexandriava.gov/MarketingFund).

### THURSDAY/SEPT. 10

**Free Dental Services for Military.** 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at Kathleen Mullaney

DDS, 700 N Fairfax St., #230.

Veterans and current military members that make an appointment will receive free dental care as a part of Freedom Day USA. Call 703-548-8584 or visit [www.kathleenmullaneydds.com](http://www.kathleenmullaneydds.com).

**Business Breakfast.** 8-9:30 a.m. at Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road. The Mount Vernon Lee Chamber of Commerce September Business Breakfast will discuss upcoming economic development in Alexandria City. Tickets are \$25 per person. Visit [www.MtVernon-LeeChamber.org](http://www.MtVernon-LeeChamber.org).

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!Dase un Chapuzón con DASH en la piscina de Old Town!

The AT10 picks up and drops off in front of the Old Town Pool on Cameron Street! Ask your driver for details.

Enjoy FREE Admission to the pool: Sat., Aug. 29<sup>th</sup>!

Thank You Business Sponsors!



## PEOPLE

## Volunteering All Summer Long

### LETTERS

FROM PAGE 8

invest much in libraries, recreational centers, transportation improvements or sewers.

Alexandria faced a huge infrastructure deficit that the city has been working to overcome ever since. That has required increased borrowing but, as Councilman Wilson's recent letter pointed out,

Alexandria's debt is still less than that of our neighbors and within our conservative borrowing guidelines.

Just like at the federal and state levels, local government investment in needed infrastructure is one of the wisest investments those governments can make, and borrowing is a necessary and appropriate way to help pay for that investment. As the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities stated earlier this year: "There are sound reasons that states and localities borrow to pay for infrastructure, rather than use annual tax collections and other revenues. Public buildings, roads and bridges are used for decades but entail large upfront costs; borrowing enables them to spread out those costs. As a result, taxpayers who will use the infrastructure in the future help pay for it, which promotes intergenerational equity."

It is totally reasonable to ask future residents of Alexandria to help pay for these investments. There are many examples of governments taking borrowing too far and burdening future generations too much. But we are far from that point in Alexandria. Instead, we are embarked on a prudent capital investment program that is reducing our infrastructure deficit and improving the quality of life for both current and future residents of Alexandria.

**Timothy Lovain**

Member of the Alexandria City Council



SSA volunteers deliver on the Fourth of July.



Erika Danty (left) and Sandra Greenberg with Spike.



Dreamdog Foundation and Senior Services volunteers deliver Meals on Wheels.



St. Coletta of Greater Washington volunteers with Meals on Wheels.



Members of the Alexandria Rotary Club and families.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

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www.cfnc-online.org  
703.836.0214

Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 am–3:00 pm  
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**Sharon Edwards 703.408.8144**  
**ALEXANDRIA \$ 265,000**

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**Mary Lou Sage 703.851.5441**  
**ALEXANDRIA / Elmwood \$ 599,000 OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4**

**3830 ELMWOOD TOWNE WAY** Enjoy the privacy and security of this townhome community located minutes to Huntington Metro, Old Town and beltway. Features include high ceilings, hardwood, 2-car garage, 2 fireplaces / 3 finished levels. Enjoy private deck, fenced rear yard and open floorplan. 3BR / 3.5BA



**Annelise Smith 703.505.2533**  
**ALEXANDRIA / Old Town \$ 725,000**

Spacious all brick 3 level townhouse in the heart of Old Town. This home has 3 BR / 2 FULL BA and 2 off-street parking spaces in addition to a fully-fenced large patio garden. Call Annelise for more information!



**Susan Haughton & Mindy Brubaker 571.242.9913**  
**ALEXANDRIA / Mt Vernon \$ 595,000 OPEN SUN 2 - 4**

**8405 ASHWOOD DR** 4 level split / 4BR / 3.5BA, 2 rec rooms and a spacious back yard, freshly painted and waiting for your personal touch. Basement water-proofed plus replacement windows. Convenient location of GW Parkway, near the Potomac, south of Old Town, in Collingwood on the Potomac community.



**McCormick Lusk Group 202.412.8885**  
**FT. WASHINGTON / Brooke Manor \$ 225,000**

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**Wendy Shelley 703.919.6045**  
**ALEXANDRIA / Alexandria Knolls \$ 212,000**

Spacious, light-filled, modern, low-maintenance and luxurious open concept, with gourmet kitchen and stunningly updated. Bosch W7D in unit. Large balcony with tree-top views. Garage parking. Fabulous location in West End on 3 bus lines, close to Van Dorn Metro, beltway, 395, Pentagon/DC. Utilities in condo fee.



**Mary Taylor 703.785.5619**  
**FALLS CHURCH / Hillwood \$ 885,000 OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4**

**6415 SHADY LN** Much larger than it appears! Stunning 5BR / 3.5BA home with approximately 3,300 sf. Chef's kitchen, huge family room with gas fireplace, Master BR and 2 other BR on main level. Opens to in-ground pool, patio and side yard perfect for gardening. Finished LL with rec room and 2 more BR.



**Laura Biederman 202.309.1350**  
**ALEXANDRIA / Old Town Greens \$ 859,000**

Terrific 4-level, 4BR/3.5+BA brick townhouse with charming interior, newly refinished hardwoods, gourmet kitchen with granite, 3 fireplaces, semi-private deck, and lovely brick patio off the LL family room. Ample storage, 2-car garage, close to shops and dining of Old Town. 5 minutes to airport, 2 lights to DC and more.



**Mary Taylor 703.785.5619 & Pat Tierney 703.850.5630**  
**ALEXANDRIA / Porto Vecchio \$ 660,000**

Lives like a home. Unique double exposure to easterly morning sunrises over the river and formal gardens, and the western sunset views. 2BR, an octagonal dining room, formal living room and separate library. Plus 2 contiguous garage parking spaces near elevator and storage. Freshly painted. Move-in ready!



**Janet Mwobobia 773.844.5034**  
**ALEXANDRIA \$ XXX,XXX**

Bright, airy 2BR condo on quiet cul-de-sac. One block to Braddock Metro. Within walking distance to Old Town. Open floor plan, wall of windows thru-out. BBQ on large balcony. Gym and outdoor pool. 2 deeded garage parking spaces. Hardwoods, remodeled MasterBA, plenty of storage. Perfect for commuting.



**Gary Ansley 202.288.7946**  
**ALEXANDRIA / Chapel Hill \$ 560,000 OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4**

**2726 FRANKLIN CT** Lovely 3BR / 3.5BA, 3 level all brick townhouse, hardwoods first level, new paint, new carpet, new high-end SS appliances, 2 assigned parking spaces in front, cedar shake roof, gas fireplace in rec room and so convenient. Low condo fee!



**Sean Satkus 703.887.2116**  
**ALEXANDRIA / Canal Place \$ 365,000**

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# ENTERTAINMENT

## Jones Makes Biscuits With Own Personalities

Eatery mixes tradition with “Not So Classic.”

BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
GAZETTE PACKET

Two women stood with noses pressed to the window at Stomping Ground on Mt. Vernon Avenue in Del Ray. “Oh, no,” one of them said. “I didn’t know it was closed on Monday. I’ve eaten here three times since they opened in May. I love their salads; they are so fresh.” Disappointed, they head down the street looking for a second choice.

Nicole Jones, chef at Stomping Ground, said, “the Farmer’s salad is different every day made with what’s fresh at the market.”

**IN THE KITCHEN** The front window advertises a crab cake sammie (their nickname for sandwich) on a house potato roll with homemade tater chips and pickles. But the mainstay of the menu is biscuits — with homemade peach jelly or plum jam, with sorghum butter, pimento cheese or nutella, all made by the house—or “The Favorite” made with organic eggs, Benton bacon from Tennessee and Hooks cheese from Wisconsin. She said by using the best ingredients they can focus on the basics and don’t need a lot of special sauces. On the other hand, her own favorite is the “Not So Classic” which has fried chicken with za’Atar spices, honey, hot sauce, red onion and benne seed tahini.

Jones measures flour into a large aluminum bowl. “I use white Lily cake flour. Southern grandmothers won’t use anything else.” She says she spent her formative years in Georgia. She uses equal parts butter and Crisco. The secret is to have it really cold. “The colder it is, the higher they rise.” Jones uses both baking powder and baking soda. “One mistake people make is to put in too much baking powder to help it rise. But then it has a weird metallic aftertaste.”

One fat goes in first and her hands squeeze it between her fingers until it



**Nicole Jones brushes buttermilk on top of the biscuits and will cook them for 12 minutes at 400 degrees, then 5-8 minutes at 350 degrees to brown them on top.**

breaks down it into pea size pieces. Jones said, “I like to feel it. With a pastry blender you can’t. The only way to describe it is to smudge it — I guess I just invented a new cooking term.” Next Jones makes a well in the flour mixture and mixes in the buttermilk with a wooden spoon. “The wooden spoon is important. I don’t know why. This is a critical juncture where the liquid hits the gluten; the clock starts ticking.” Then she turns the dough twice and forms it into a rectangle about 1-1/2” thick. Carefully pushing down an aluminum form, she cuts out the biscuits side by side. “This is another place people screw up; they turn the cutter. You have these nice flaky layers,



**Nicole Jones has cut out the biscuits with an aluminum form, placing them side by side on the baking sheet, careful not to turn the form and ruin the flaky layers she has created by laminating the dough.**

called laminating the dough, and the last thing you want to do is pinch the dough by turning the cutter. “We’re always fighting the tough.”

Jones said making biscuits can be different every day. If it feels on the tacky side you add more flour; if it’s humid outside, you add less buttermilk. It can depend on the thick-

ness of the buttermilk, the weather, the amount of patting you do. She said this can be difficult for restaurants that are in the consistency business. In the beginning the menu was more extensive, but then Jones realized she was just coming up with novel ideas for the sake of making dishes. Now she is focusing on her original goal: good food and good service. She says she encourages the wait staff to sample everything so they can translate it to the customers. She said, “Good food can’t save bad service.” The menu has now expanded to dinner and includes one-dish community dinners on Thursdays and Fridays, fun things like a low-country boil.

Jones spends a lot of time educating. “I take that really seriously.” But she said, “I walk a line between the excited, living and breathing food to something that doesn’t land well with the public.” For instance, she tried sorghum butter with the biscuits. Sorghum is a Southern substitute for molasses and goes back to the slave trade, as do many Southern foods. Cassie Meddis, the manager, said, “They freaked out (in a good way) about the sorghum butter honestly. I love the South. I miss it.” But they have tried to transplant Southern hospitality to Del Ray.

Peach jam cooks all day on a burner next to the biscuit counter. “It’s been all about peach this year because the peaches have been so good.” On an average day the cook makes 400-600 biscuits in small batches so they can be served fresh and warm. Jones says everyone’s biscuits look different but “we’re very comfortable with them if they look unique.” Her grandmother in Lithuania, who made Jones fall in love with food used to say, “You can learn a lot about a person from their biscuits.”

### CALENDAR

Email announcements to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto: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

##### Paintings by Stanley Agbontaen.

Through Aug. 28 at The Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center, 4915 E. Campus Drive. The Maryland-based international artist’s depictions of scenes are painted on oil canvas. Free. Visit [www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter](http://www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter).

“Au Naturel” Exhibit. Through Aug. 30, first Thursdays, 12-9 p.m., Thursdays, 12-6 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays, 12-9 p.m., Sundays, 12-6 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans Gallery,

2704 Mt. Vernon Ave. View artwork made in the “Au Naturel” or minimalist style. Admission is free. Visit [www.TheDelrayArtisans.org](http://www.TheDelrayArtisans.org).

##### Leigh Merrill: “Cloud Seeding.”

Through Sept. 7, during gallery hours at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Texas-based artist Leigh Merrill shows photography and video in her solo exhibition Cloud Seeding. Merrill’s work examines the construction of desire, fiction and beauty in urban landscapes by digitally compositing thousands of images and videos into imaginary spaces. Admission is free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org).

##### Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery Juried Show.

Through Aug. 30, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 10 a.m.-9 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month. Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Studio 18. View parade-themed artwork. Admission is free. Visit

[www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com](http://www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com) or call 717-359-7724.

##### Cool Yoga. Wednesdays through Sept. 2, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at 1900 Mt.

Vernon Ave. Participate in group yoga sessions taught by Prasada Yoga’s Maureen Clyne and enjoy refreshments provided by St. Elmo’s Coffee Pub and other local eateries. Suitable for all levels. Bring mat, towel and water. Free. Call 703-671-2000.

“Fields.” Through Sept. 6, during gallery hours at The Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St. Abstract Artists David Carlson and Pat Goslee make art based on their interests in spiritual exploration and energy fields. Free. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org) for more.

##### Special Family Museum Tours.

Saturdays through Sept. 7, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Flexible tours and

hands-on activities provide a deeper experience into the social and political life of Alexandria in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Tickets are \$5 for adults (\$4 with AAA card), \$3 children ages 5-12, and children ages 4 and under as well as Alexandria Public School and Blue Star families receive free admission. Coupons accepted. Call 703-746-4242 or visit [www.gadsbystavern.org](http://www.gadsbystavern.org).

**Art Exhibit: Sultry Colors.** Through Sept. 7, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Arts Center, 105 N. Union St. The Enamelists at The Torpedo Factory collaborate for an exhibit filled with sultry colors and patterns. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org/event/sultry-colors/](http://www.torpedofactory.org/event/sultry-colors/) or call 703-838-4565.

**Exhibit: “Scapes.”** Through Sept. 7, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at The Art League Gallery, 105 N. Union St. View the annual August landscape exhibit juried by Elizabeth Peak. Free. Visit

[www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org).

**Exhibit: “Taking Shape.”** Through Sept. 7, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at The Art League Gallery, 105 N. Union St. This exhibit features three-dimensional works by Art League member artists. Free. Visit [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org).

##### Water Taxi to the National Mall.

Through Nov. 1, at various times at Alexandria Marina, 1 Cameron St. Cruise from Old Town to D.C. on the *Miss Sophie*, while stopping view some of the area’s most popular attractions. Tickets are \$28 roundtrip and \$14 one-way for adults. For children under 12, tickets are \$16 roundtrip and \$8 one-way. Visit [www.potomacriverboatco.com/](http://www.potomacriverboatco.com/).

**Mount Vernon in 3-D: Then & Now.** Through Nov. 20 during regular operating hours at George Washington’s Mount Vernon, 3200

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 14



# 5 Top Spots to Watch College, NFL Football

A prime viewing location isn't hard to find in this city.

BY HOPE NELSON  
GAZETTE PACKET

The days are getting slightly shorter, the air has a familiar crispness to it, and the dog days of summer have a little less bite. All of this can mean only one thing: The college and NFL football seasons are on the way. From beers to burgers, from wings to Greek delicacies, here are some great places to watch the game all over town.

## Ramparts Tavern and Grill, 1700 Fern St.

The atmosphere you'll find in Ramparts all depends on the door you choose. If you come in via the entrance on the corner, where Kenwood Avenue meets Fern Street, you'll find a quiet, relaxed dining room where you can feast with your

friends and family to your heart's content. If you enter the second door, however — the one labeled "Ramparts Tavern" — you'll find yourself amid a sports fan's paradise. Televisions dot the walls — behind the bar, on the sides of the pub, and behind you — and they're tuned at any given time to half a dozen games. Pull up a chair, ask for a local brew (Port City's always on tap), and when you get hungry, order some chili nachos, wings, or their trademark "hot peas" — flash-fried black-eyed peas that are a finger-food staple.

## Bugsy's Pizza, 111 King St.

To be perfectly honest, no self-respecting list of college-football viewing spots can leave out Bugsy's, a pizza mainstay on lower King Street in Old Town. While the downstairs dining room offers great service and great pizza, the upstairs is where you'll want to go to catch the big (or little) game. The sports bar is cozy but welcoming; you needn't feel like you have to be a regular to sit back and watch your favorite team play. Order one of the restaurant's specialty pizzas — you can't go wrong with the Farmer's Market or Taco pies — and a pitcher of beer with some friends and you'll be in excellent shape. The restaurant's pasta and calzone options are great choices, too.

## Reynolds Street Bar and Grill, 34 Reynolds St.

Situated just off of Duke Street in the West End of Alexandria, Reynolds Street Bar and Grill has plenty of character — and, during games, plenty of characters, too. This eatery is far and away one of Alexandria's quintessential sports bars, sporting



## The Mediterranean on Pita is a hidden gem at the Reynolds Street Bar and Grill.

plenty of TVs, friendly waitstaff and bartenders, congenial diners, and good food. The menu has plenty of the game-watching foods you'd expect — wings, pizza, burgers, and the like — but be sure to give the Greek items a try,

too: The spanakopita and pita wraps are hearty hallmarks of Greek cuisine.

## Southside 815, 815 S. Washington St.

Let's get one thing straight: You'll always find a crowd awaiting you at Southside. But in general, it's a friendly crowd, and there's always one bar stool available just for you. From the time the restaurant opens at 11:30 a.m. on Saturdays until closing time, the sports bar draws a crowd, and the multiple televisions are turned to all the major games. If you're looking for an appetizer to share, you can't go wrong with the Boardinghouse Breadbasket — an array of cornbreads, biscuits, and more — or the Southside nachos, which will surely feed a crowd. If you're looking for hearty meal for one, the sausage biscuits and gravy are offered during brunch on the weekends (perfect for the noon game), and the jambalaya pasta will carry you through in the evening.

## Theismann's Restaurant and Bar, 1800 Diagonal Road

Of course, no football-viewing list is complete without Theismann's, founded nearly four decades ago by Washington football team quarterback Joe Theismann. The bar is a great place to watch the game with no interruptions; the dining room offers a more relaxed viewing experience. (And on nice days, if the game is going poorly you can abandon it entirely and sit outside.) The restaurant offers brunch, lunch, and dinner on the weekends; you'd do well to order the CAB salad if you're feeling virtuous, and the crab cakes if you're not.

Hope Nelson owns and operates the Kitchen Recessionista blog, [www.kitchenrecessionista.com](http://www.kitchenrecessionista.com).

**LAUGHING STOCK**

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<b>Monday</b> 6:30 pm Mass (Español) <b>Saturday Evening</b> 5:00 pm Vigil Mass 6:30 pm Vigil Mass (en Español) <b>Sunday</b> 7:30 am; 9:00 am (with Sign Language Interpreter & Children's Liturgy of the Word); 10:30 am; 12:00 Noon; 2:00 pm	(en Español); 6:30 pm <b>Weekday &amp; Saturday Mornings:</b> 9:00 am Mass, preceded by Rosary (on First Friday, Mass followed by Eucharistic Adoration) <b>Thursday &amp; First Friday of the Month:</b> 7:30 pm Mass (Español) preceded by 7:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration
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# ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 12

## THROUGH SEPT. 18

**International Guild of Realism 10th Annual International Juried Exhibition.** During gallery hours at Principle Gallery, 208 King St. The International Guild of Realism is dedicated to the advancement of realism in fine art. Admission to the gallery is free. Visit [www.principlegallery.com](http://www.principlegallery.com).

## FRIDAY-SUNDAY/AUG. 21-30

**Alexandria Summer Restaurant Week.** Neighborhood restaurants offer specials and deals for customers. Prices and times vary. Visit [www.AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com](http://www.AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com).

## AUG. 26-NOV. 20

**Young at Art Juried Art Show.** Monday-Friday, 5-10 p.m. at Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. Artists 55 and older can contribute their artwork for the exhibition. On Thursday, Aug. 20, artists can bring their work to the Durant Center from 10 a.m.-noon to be registered and displayed. Artists must fill out a Entry and Artist/Lender Agreement and pay an entry fee of \$20 for up to three works of art, \$5 for any additional pieces. Entry forms can be found at [www.seniorservicesalex.org](http://www.seniorservicesalex.org).

## THURSDAY/AUG. 27

**FACE It You Can Paint: Paint Your Own Flower Garden.** 10-11:30 a.m. at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Learn simple brush techniques to create garden paintings. \$45 for 1 adult/1 child and \$15 for additional

children. Visit [www.metamorphosisaec.com](http://www.metamorphosisaec.com) to register.

**Tim Cretella Performance.** 5 p.m. at Blackwall Hitch-Alexandria, 5 Cameron St. Singer-songwriter, Tim Cretella, will be performing. Free. Visit [www.theblackwallhitch.com](http://www.theblackwallhitch.com).

**Movie Screening.** 6 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Watch "Selma" and engage in a discussion about women's roles in the Civil Rights Movement. Free. Visit [www.nwhm.ticketleap.com/movie-night-selma/](http://www.nwhm.ticketleap.com/movie-night-selma/).

## FRIDAY/AUG. 28

**FACE It You Can Paint: Paint Your Own Flower Garden.** 3:30-5 p.m. at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Learn simple brush techniques to create garden paintings. \$45 for 1 adult/1 child and \$15 for additional children. Visit [www.metamorphosisaec.com](http://www.metamorphosisaec.com) to register.

**Red Wine Diaries Performance.** 7 p.m. at Blackwall Hitch-Alexandria, 5 Cameron St. Acoustic band, Red Wine Diaries, will be performing. Free. Visit [theblackwallhitch.com](http://theblackwallhitch.com).

## SATURDAY/AUG. 29

**The Washington School of Ballet Open Auditions.** 9:30 a.m. registration and 10-11 a.m. auditions for 4-5 year olds; 10:30 a.m. registration and 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. auditions for 6-7-year olds; 12 p.m. registration and 12:30-2 p.m. auditions for 8-10 years at The Washington School of Ballet, 3515 Wisconsin Ave. NW, Washington D.C. This fall, the Washington School of Ballet will be offering Pre-ballet



**Dave Mason's Traffic Jam Tour will make a stop at the Birchmere Music Hall on Thursday, Sept. 17 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$55. Visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com) for more.**

Mount Vernon Highway. Visitors will have the chance to travel back in time, and in 3-D, to see how the estate appeared more than 100 years ago through a special photography exhibition. The exhibition is included in the regular admission fee of \$17 for adults, \$16 for seniors, \$9 for youth and free for children younger than 5. To view the historic stereoview images as well as the modern 3-D anaglyphs, visit [www.mountvernon.org/3D](http://www.mountvernon.org/3D).

**"Not-So-Modern" Jazz Quartet**

**Performance.** Thursdays through Dec. 31, 7:30-10 p.m. at St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, 2300 Mount Vernon Ave. Not So Modern Jazz Music plays music from the glory days of traditional jazz, including tunes from traditional Dixieland and the Swing era. Free. Visit [www.stelmoscoffeepub.co](http://www.stelmoscoffeepub.co).

**Flamenco Show.** Wednesdays and Thursdays, 7:30-8:30 p.m. at La Tasca, 607 King St. Watch dancers and guitarists perform traditional flamenco. Free to attend. Call 703-

299-9810 or visit [www.latascausa.com](http://www.latascausa.com).

**French Movie Night.** Every Thursday, 7 p.m. in the back room of Fontaine Caffé & Creperie, 119 S. Royal St. View a French film in the company of friends or a date. Free to attend. No RSVP necessary. Call 703-535-8151 or visit [www.fontainecaffe.com/reviews.html](http://www.fontainecaffe.com/reviews.html).

**Journey to Be Free: Alexandria Freedmen's Cemetery.** Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. A new exhibit tracing the 150-year history of the long-forgotten Freedmen's Cemetery, its rediscovery and how the new Contrabands and Freedmen's Cemetery Memorial was created at the site. Call 703-746-4356.

**Their Fates Intertwined: The Lees of Alexandria in the War of 1812.** Wednesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, 1-4 p.m. Lee-Fendall House and Gardens, 614 Oronoco St. A new exhibit on the experiences of the Lee family in Alexandria during the War of 1812 examines the contributions of Alexandria's citizens during the conflict that led to the writing of our national anthem through the lives of this iconic Virginia family. Visit [www.leefendallhouse.org](http://www.leefendallhouse.org) or call 703-548-1789.

**Dinner for the Washingtons.** 12 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. A walking tour that goes behind the scenes to find out how food was prepared and served before the era of microwaves and TV dinners. \$5 in addition to estate admission. Visit [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org) for more.

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# ENTERTAINMENT

through Level 1A classes at the Athenaeum. There is no audition fee. Visit [www.washingtonballet.org](http://www.washingtonballet.org).

**The General's Tour.** 1 p.m. at the Lee-Fendall House, 614 Oronoco St. Take a guided walking tour of Lee family homes in Alexandria's Historic Old Town. Locations and stories associated with the Confederate general's life in Alexandria, his hometown from the age of 5 and residence of his "earliest and oldest friends" will be highlighted on the tour. Admission is free for museum members, \$10 in advance, and \$15 at the door. Visit [www.leefendallhouse.org](http://www.leefendallhouse.org) for more.

## AUG. 31-OCT. 18

**Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery Juried Show: "What I Did On My Summer Vacation."** 10-5 p.m., 10-9 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month. Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Studio 18. View summer vacation-themed artwork. Admission is free. Visit [www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com](http://www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com).

## TUESDAY/SEPT. 1

**Tuesday Morning Stroll.** 11 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Simpson Park Gardens, 420 E. Monroe St. Residents are invited to visit the garden, receive free seed packets and have their gardening questions answered by experts. Free. Contact [carol\\_kilroy@comcast.net](mailto:carol_kilroy@comcast.net) for more.

## FRIDAY/SEPT. 4

**Big Chalk Draw 2015.** 8-10 a.m. at St Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. School supply donations are welcome at this chalk art community event. Free. Call 703-360-4220 or visit [www.staidansepiscopal.com](http://www.staidansepiscopal.com).

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 5

**Jonathan Edwards.** 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Folk artist who has collaborated with Emmylou Harris and Darrell Scott will make a stop on a tour celebrating the release of this new album, "Tomorrow's Child." Tickets are \$39.95. Visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com) for more.

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 5-6

**Labor at Lee-Fendall Tours.** 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday at the Lee-Fendall House, 614 Oronoco St. Learn more about the life and times of the number free and enslaved laborers who inhabited the grounds. Admission is free for museum members and \$7 in advance for others. Visit [www.leefendallhouse.org](http://www.leefendallhouse.org) for more.

## TUESDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 8-OCT. 18

**Photography Exhibit.** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. daily, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. on Thursdays at The Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. View the work of photographer Karen Keating, who combines both words and images in her photos to project her voice. Free. Visit [www.multipleexposuresgallery.com](http://www.multipleexposuresgallery.com).

## THURSDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 10-OCT. 18

**"Angel Soldier Dance Sublime."** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Target Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. View work exploring femininity and masculinity by female artists from Maine's Blue Hill Peninsula. Free. Visit [torpedofactory.org](http://torpedofactory.org).

## THURSDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 10-OCT. 25

**Athenaeum Invitational**

**Exhibition.** During gallery hours at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Works inspired by the song "Don't Fence Me In," by Cole Porter, will be on display. Free. Visit [nvfaa.org](http://nvfaa.org).

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 10

**Second Thursday Live: Rhythm and Roots Experience.** 7 p.m. at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. This performance will feature West African music. Admission is \$15. Visit [nvfaa.org](http://nvfaa.org).

## FRIDAY/SEPT. 11

### SPARK Health and Fitness

**Festival.** 4-8 p.m. at John Carlyle Park, 300 John Carlyle St. Hosted by SPARK Physiotherapy, LLC., fun and safe games, competitions, entertainment, raffles and giveaways. Free. Visit [www.sparkphysio.com/home/make-your-health-happen-health-and-fitness-festival/](http://www.sparkphysio.com/home/make-your-health-happen-health-and-fitness-festival/) or email [njbabka@sparkphysio.com](mailto:njbabka@sparkphysio.com).

### Four Mile Summer Movie Festival.

Movies start at dusk and are shown at the Four Mile Conservatory Building, 4109 Mt. Vernon Ave. National Community Church's Inaugural summer movie festival is co-sponsored by the City of Alexandria. Film is "Cool Runnings." Bring a blanket or chair. Free. Visit [www.theaterchurch.com](http://www.theaterchurch.com) for more.

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 12

**Civil War Walking Tour.** 10 a.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Discover locations and stories associated with soldiers, citizens, and the enslaved, including Robert E. Lee's departure from his hometown, the occupation of Alexandria, and emancipation. Admission is free for museum members, \$12 in advance, and \$15 on the day of the event. Visit [www.leefendallhouse.org](http://www.leefendallhouse.org) for more.

**Canine Cruise.** 11 a.m. at Alexandria City Marina, 1 Cameron St. The family dog is welcome to join in on an hour-long cruise through the Alexandria Seaport. Tickets are \$16 for adults and \$10 for children. Dogs ride free. Visit [www.potomacriverboatco.com](http://www.potomacriverboatco.com).

**Music Festival.** 12-4 p.m. Four Mile Run Park Community Building, 4109 Mt. Vernon Ave. There will be live entertainment, local performers, children's interactive games and crafts, food, face painting and various vendors. Free. Call 703-746-5465.

**Book Signing & Reception.** 2-5 p.m. at the Fort Ward Museum, 4301 W. Braddock Road. Joseph and Sharon Scopin will be on hand to discuss their book "As I Remember." The book is about local Civil War veteran Lewis Cass White, whose story and memorabilia was discovered in the authors' basement. Free to attend. The book will be available to purchase for \$35. Only cash or check will be accepted. Visit [www.fortward.org](http://www.fortward.org) for more.

**Collective Delusion.** 9:30 p.m. at John Strongbow's Tavern, 710 King St. Local band will perform rock songs from the 1970s to the present. Free. Visit [www.collectivedelusion.net](http://www.collectivedelusion.net).

## SUNDAY/SEPT. 13

**Grandparents Day Celebration.** 12-2 p.m. at Paul Spring Retirement Community, 7115 Fort Hunt Road. Celebrate Grandparents Day with family and friends with family-oriented activities including pony rides, a moon bounce and a magician accompanied by a traditional picnic lunch and live music from the Mt. Vernon Community Band. A raffle will be held by the resident council. Free. Visit [www.rui.net/paul-spring/events-activities](http://www.rui.net/paul-spring/events-activities)

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Rising junior Sarah Leckman is the T.C. Williams goalkeeper.



PHOTOS BY JON ROETMAN/GAZETTE PACKET

T.C. Williams rising senior Alex Milliken prepares to insert a penalty corner during the Under the Lights tournament on Aug. 25 at Lee High School.

## TC Field Hockey Dominates at Under the Lights Tournament

### Titans motivated by 2014 season-ending loss to Woodson.

BY JON ROETMAN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**T**he T.C. Williams field hockey team once again dominated the competition at the Under the Lights tournament Monday and Tuesday at Lee High School, but it's a loss that ended last season that might be a more valuable teaching point for head coach William Heresniak.

The Titans went 3-0-1 during last year's tournament, outscoring opponents 10-0, and ended up holding the opposition scoreless for the first nine games of the season. T.C. Williams finished the 2014 regular season with a 12-3-1 record, including a 4-2 mark against Conference 7 opponents, and earned a home game against Woodson in the opening round of the conference tournament. TC played well in some aspects of the game, but at the end of the night it was Woodson that found the back of the cage and won 1-0.

And with that, the Titans' promising season was over.

"Regardless of how you perform on the field," Heresniak said Tuesday, "if there's ever a breakdown, where a team gets a shot or a corner, a zip-zip game can flip directly to a 1-0 game and that's it, and it changes the whole momentum no matter how great you were playing beforehand."

The loss has served as motivation for those Titans who were varsity players last season.

"It definitely kind of put us down because we had a really, really good team last year and we thought we were going to get pretty far," rising senior captain Philomena Fitzgerald said Tuesday. "I think it's pushing us to work harder this year."

T.C. Williams opened the 2015 season with an undefeated showing at the Under the Lights tournament Aug. 24-25, winning all four of its games by a combined score of 16-0.

On the first day, the Titans opened with a 2-0 win over North Stafford, followed by a 6-0 victory against Hayfield. On day two, the Titans beat Hylton 6-0 and Osbourn Park 2-0.

Ten different Titans scored at least one goal during the event. Rising senior forward



Rising senior captain Philomena Fitzgerald and the T.C. Williams field hockey team went 4-0 during the Under the Lights tournament at Lee High School.

Claire Bilodeau, rising sophomore midfielder Sophie Johnson and rising sophomore forward Neha Dewakar each scored three goals. Fitzgerald, rising senior forward Tatiana Gold, rising senior defender Caroline Carver, rising senior forward Josie Brocato, rising senior forward Allie Church, rising senior forward Celia Holubar and rising senior midfielder Alex Milliken each scored one.

Fitzgerald had four assists, and Bilodeau and Gold each had one.

"Early-season success without having our full squad and having other players fill in in different spots and play different posi-

tions, it was impressive," Heresniak said. "... [I'm] very proud of the outcome."

Rising junior goalkeeper Sarah Leckman was rarely tested, saying she touched the ball in only one game.

"I'm bored," she said of her teammates' performance during the tournament, "but they're good." Fitzgerald, Carver and Brocato are team captains.

Leckman and Fitzgerald said two of the Titans' goals are to win the conference and advance past the first round of the 6A North region tournament.

T.C. Williams (4-0) will travel to face Herndon at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 27.

### SCHOOL NOTES

Email announcements to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos are welcome.

**Ryan Land** was named to the chancellor's list at Troy University (Troy, Ala.) for the spring semester.

**Christopher Hull** was named to the provost's list at Troy University (Troy, Ala.) for the spring semester.

**Avery Gray** has graduated from St. Anselm's Abbey School. Gray will attend The College of William & Mary (Williamsburg, Va.).

**Joseph St. Pierre** has graduated from St. Anselm's Abbey School. St. Pierre will attend Worcester Polytechnic

Institute (Worcester, Mass.).

**Andrea Macato and Dixy Ortiz Osorio** of T.C. Williams High School have been named incoming Honors Program Scholars for the start of Northern Virginia Community College's 2015-2016 academic year.

**Ali L. Globus** received a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology from Virginia Military Institute (Lexington, Va.). Globus' parents are Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Robert Globus.

**Alexandra L. Hastings** received a Bachelor of Arts degree in modern languages and cultures from Virginia Military Institute (Lexington, Va.) with Army Commission honors. Hastings' parents are Mr. and Mrs. Robert C.

Hastings Jr.

**Thomas E. O'Connell** received a Bachelor of Arts degree in modern languages and cultures from Virginia Military Institute (Lexington, Va.). His honors include Army Commission and "With Distinction." O'Connell's parents are Dr. and Mrs. Patrick M. O'Connell.

**Elizabeth Freeman** has received dean's list recognition at Southwestern College (Winfield, Kan.).

**George Alberts** has graduated from St. Lawrence University (Canton, N.Y.). Alberts is a member of the Class of 2015 and majored in psychology and religious studies. He is a graduate of T.C. Williams High School.

The following students have graduated from Clemson University (Clemson, S.C.):

**Melissa Christine Beaty** graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts in political science. **John Alfred Butchko** graduated with a Bachelor of Science in computer science. **Shannon Kay Frydenlund** graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts in elementary education. **Franklin Floyd Hyre** graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in political science. **Nathan Edward Parker** graduated with a Master of Architecture in architecture. **Elizabeth Anne Patalita** graduated with a Bachelor of Science in marketing.

**Yohana Asfaha, Alexandria Ballard, Carla Benitez and Damba Koroma** graduated from Mary Baldwin

College (Staunton, Va.).

**Emilia Winston**, received a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from Lincoln Memorial University-DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine (Harrogate, Tenn.).

**Brian Gerard Robbett** was named to the dean's list at Greensboro College (Greensboro, N.C.) for the spring semester.

Alexandria City Public Schools professional learning developer **Ashley Dann** was chosen to be a member of the ASCD 2015 Emerging Leader Class.

**Rasheika Gregory** was named to the honors list for the spring semester at Louisburg College (Louisburg, N.C.).



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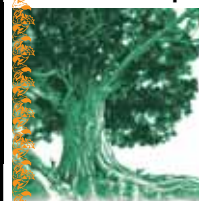
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# EMPLOYMENT

## With Progress

FROM PAGE 5

End feel underrepresented in city decisions. Bostain acknowledges that the West End is a very different type of neighborhood than Old Town or Del Ray and faces very different issues.

“There’s a lot of nature over on this end of town, and you don’t really have that in a lot of other areas of the city,” said Bostain, noting Holmes Run park as particularly popular. “We also have a really diverse population in the West End, but it puts a huge burden on the schools, which are overcrowded already.”

But Bostain also says the diversity of the West End is one of the area’s greatest strengths.

“There’s a rapidly increasing number of ethnic restaurants, and people here want to see more,” said Bostain. “There’s a huge potential for ethnic populations here. Most are Ethiopians or Hispanics from Central America.”

To new residents of the West End, Bostain advised them to meet their neighbors and get involved in the local political scene.

“Learn how the city’s politics work,” said Bostain. “Involve yourself as much as you can. City politics can be very daunting because people don’t know how it works. That’s one aspect of Alexandria that could really be improved, especially when there’s a language barrier, as there is for many West End residents.”

## NEIGHBORHOODS

## Taylor Run

The Washington Balalaika Society presented Peter Omelchenko in an interesting concert at the Lyceum. He plays the domra, an instrument that sounds rather like the ukulele. A member of the Moscow Osipov Balalaika Orchestra, he began the program with classical works by Bach and Kruglov, playing clear through to modern American Jazz, which he obviously loves.

As a matter of fact, his presentation of “Tiger Rag” was so exciting I had a terrible time not joining in. His accompanist, Jonathan Laird, got so interested in “Tiger Rag” that I distinctly heard him saying “Hold that tiger!” in the background. The artist also played one number, the “Bulgarian Fantasy,” of which he was the composer. The audience was particularly struck with the “Legend of Misirlou” as arranged by Omelchenko. “Carnival of Venice” by Paganini was an exciting number, as was “Flight of the Bumblebee” by Rimsky-Korsakov, during which the artist pretended to catch the bee in his fingers. At another point, Omelchenko joked to the audience, asking, “Who do you think is the best known Russian composer?” When the audience said “Tchaikovsky,” he answered, “Darn it, he always wins!”

The last number, “Opus 1” by Sy Oliver and Tommy Dorsey, seemed to take us to New York’s numerous night clubs on 42nd St. in the 1940s.

Omelchenko taught at the National Association of the Balalaika and Domra Society of America, and has been the guest conductor of the Washington Balalaika Society. Laird is the director of music at St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, and is accompanist for the Manassas Chorale.

The event was well attended by members of the Washington Balalaika Society.

— LOIS KELSO HUNT

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21 Announcements

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Thursday, September 3, between 9:30p.m. and 9:55 p.m. (5 minutes)

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### OBITUARY



### GEOFF BALD

Passed away July 22, 2015 He was 44. Geoff was a graduate of WSH, VA Tech and UVA Law School. A memorial service will be held Aug. 15 in NJ. He is survived by his parents, Jim and Nancy, his brothers, Michael and Kevin, and daughters Madeline, Caroline and Jackie. Donations in his memory can be made to the Wounded Warriors Project.

21 Announcements

21 Announcements



### Florence E. Sacra

Florence E. Sacra, 92, of Fredericksburg passed away Thursday, August 20, 2015 at Carriage Hill Health & Rehab Center.

Mrs. Sacra was a member of Franconia Baptist Church. She was the widow of Robert E. L. Sacra.

Survivors include her son, Richard Lee Sacra of Fredericksburg; daughter Arlene Sacra George (Dale) of Woodbridge; six grandchildren Eddie Sacra, Holly Martinski (Doug), Tony Sacra (Jennifer), Dana Verburg (Steve), Gloria “Susie” Sacra (Saul) and Marsha Jackson (Frank); 12 great grandchildren; and 16 great-great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by son, Robert Earl Sacra and her mother, Lula Grimsley.

The family will receive friends from 4 to 6 p.m. Sunday, August 23 at Covenant Funeral Service, Fredericksburg.

A service will be held at 10 a.m. Monday, August 24 at the funeral home chapel. Interment will follow at 12:30 p.m. at Mount Comfort Cemetery, Alexandria.

Online guest book is available at [covenantfuneralservice.com](http://covenantfuneralservice.com).

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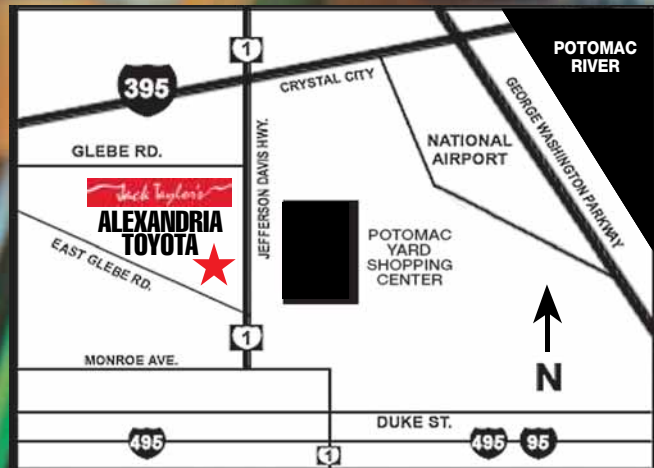
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**Old Town Alexandria** **\$775,000**

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**Sue Goodhart**

703.362.3221

www.TheGoodhartGroup.com



**Alexandria/Belle Haven** **\$1,899,000**

1930s majestic brick home! High ceilings; gracious formal rooms; 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths and a 2-car garage all on one of Belle Haven's most beautiful streets! Classic and comfortable!

**Janet Caterson Price**

703.960.5858

www.JanetPriceHomes.com



**Old Town Alexandria** **\$1,219,000**

18th century charm permeates this nicely renovated, 3-bedroom, 2.5-bath, sun-washed end townhouse with well-proportioned formal rooms, gourmet kitchen opening to an engaging family room, full baths with radiant floors, four fireplaces, inviting garden. 411 S Lee Street.

**Lauren Bishop**

202.361.5079

www.LaurenBishopHomes.com



**Old Town Alexandria** **\$363,000**

Exciting opportunity to own a condo steps from King Street. Light and bright with bay window, this 1-bedroom, 1-bath condo features Brazilian cherry floors, freshly painted walls, Baldwin brass door knobs, and a KitchenAid range with 2 convection ovens. Garage parking for 1 car for 1 year.

**Babs Beckwith**

703.627.5421

www.BabsBeckwith.com

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to our Alexandria Office.



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rhunt@McEneaney.com

www.rosshuntrealtor.com



**Alexandria/Del Ray** **\$599,000**

Totally renovated end unit featuring open bright floor plan, 2 spacious bedrooms, 2 full baths, fabulous kitchen, large lower level perfect for overnight guests. Corner lot with stone garden wall, paver patio and driveway. Walk to Del Ray's trendy "Avenue" cafes, shops and Metro.

**Joy Sutherland & Casey Sutherland**

703.725.5061 | 703.628.1386

www.JoySutherland.com



**Alexandria/Mt Woodley** **\$405,000**

Located on a corner lot surrounded by open green space. Recently renovated kitchen with tons of cabinetry and eat in space. Beautiful deck with great views. Stone fireplace in family room, with walk out to spacious back yard. 2 master suites upstairs, guest bedroom on lower level.

**Pam Cornelio**

571.236.4398

www.PamCornelio.com



**Alexandria** **\$559,000**

Amazing location right off the GW Parkway. Close to shops, dining, dog park and bike/jog trails. A commuters dream! 2-bedroom condo with 2 baths not to be missed. 828slaters304.mceneaney.com

**Sue Goodhart**

703.362.3221

www.TheGoodhartGroup.com



**Woodbridge** **\$525,000**

A stunning home boasting an updated interior with a private backyard, a pool, and a screened-in porch on over one acre. Cherry cabinets, granite countertops, hardwood floors, plantation shutters, and built-in shelving. Backing to a farm, this home is a MUST SEE!

**David Gray**

571.305.1495

www.homeswithdavid.com



Victor Lee, of Alexandria, stopped to show his daughter Emma all the life in the pond below. Turtles, ducks, and fish call the pond at Ben Brenman Park home. Egrets have been spotted there, as well.

# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

2015-2016



## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

# About the Alexandria Gazette Packet

**A**s your local, weekly newspaper, the Alexandria Gazette Packet's mission is to deliver the local news you need, to try to make sense of what is happening in your community, to gather information about the best things in and around your community, to advocate for community good, to provide a forum for dialogue on local concerns, and to celebrate and record achievements, milestones and events in the community and people's lives.

Here in our Newcomers and Community Guide, we've included an expanded and updated version of our award-winning Insider's Guide to the Parks, plus information on local government, nonprofits and business organizations, plus tips and tidbits from the community.

We invite newcomers and long-time residents alike to let us know how we're doing and let us know what is going on in your part of the community. If you have questions or ideas, send us an e-mail or call us, contact us on Facebook or send us a tweet. We invite you to send letters to the editor or to send an email with feedback about our coverage.

We want to know if someone in your family or your community published a book, started a business, became an Eagle Scout, raised money for a good cause, accomplished some feat like running a marathon, supporting a cause or having art included in an art show. We publish photos and notes

about personal milestones and community events, including births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, awards and obituaries.

We are also interested in events at your church, mosque, synagogue, community center, pool, school, club, etc. Email us a note about the event, being sure to include when and where the photo was taken and the names of all the people who are in a photo. We also publish notes about news and events from local businesses. Notes about openings, new employees and anniversaries are welcome. It is especially important to us to let people know about events ahead of time in our calendar of events. We appreciate getting notice at least two weeks ahead of the event, and we encourage photos.

The Gazette Packet is one of 15 papers published by the independent, locally owned Local Media Connection LLC, serving the suburbs of Metropolitan Washington in Northern Virginia and Potomac, Md.

Our flagship paper, the Alexandria Gazette Packet is one of the oldest continuously publishing papers in the country, beginning publication in 1784.

The Connection Newspapers have won hundreds of press awards in just the past few years, including the Virginia Press Association Award for Journalistic Integrity and Community Service, Best in Show for our Insiders Guide to the Parks, first place for our community guides, plus awards in news, art, business, special projects, sports, entertainment, design, photography and much more.

We have staff and contributors here at the Connection Newspapers with remarkable talent and experience, far greater than one might expect. We continue to publish 15 distinct papers every week that serve their communities in distinct ways.

We welcome contributing writers, with the caveat that our freelance pay is nominal; if you are interested in covering news or events in your community, email [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com). We offer summer and year-round educational internships with information at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/internships](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/internships).

## Keep in Touch

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:** Email to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com) or submit online at <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/>

In addition to our weekly coverage, we have monthly special focus pages on Wellbeing; Education, Learning, Fun; and HomeLifeStyle, plus other seasonal specials including Real Estate, Senior Living, Fall Fun, Food and Entertainment (also Winter, Spring and Summer), a twice annual Pet Connection, and others. If you have story ideas for these, email [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com); if are interested in marketing, email [sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com).

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### CONTACT:

Email both the Alexandria Gazette Packet and the Mount Vernon Gazette at [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)

For advertising and marketing, email [sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com) or call 703-778-9431.

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— MARY KIMM

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PHOTO BY LAURA MAE SUDER

## Friendship Firehouse

The Friendship Fire Company was established in 1774. Some of the fire company's stories and equipment are preserved in the Friendship Firehouse Museum at 107 S. Alfred St.

## Alexandria Gazette Packet

### NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

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## John Taylor Chapman

Democrat for Alexandria City Council

### DURING HIS 1st TERM, JOHN:

- Worked to modernize city budget process
- Pushed for increased housing goals in the city Affordable Housing Plan
- Led the approval of the city's Youth Master Plan
- Supported increased investment in the city's aging infrastructure
- Fought for increased affordable housing within The Beauregard Small Area Plan
- Supported neighborhood recreation & aquatic opportunities

*"John Chapman has focused his service on the Council on making sure everybody in the city has a chance to get ahead. From his work on housing, education and pre-k, I know he is committed to keeping Alexandria a family-friendly community."*  
— Delegate Rob Krupicka



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## SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

### SEPTEMBER

Labor Day is Sept. 7

9/9/2015.....HomeLifeStyle Pullout – Real Estate & New Homes  
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## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



PHOTO BY JOHN BORDNER

The Alexandria waterfront abounds with recreational and entertainment facilities. Easy access to National Harbor is available through the Potomac Riverboat Company's water taxi service.



PHOTO BY JOHN BORDNER

Art on the Avenue in Del Ray is one of the premier events in the city. This year's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration takes place Oct. 3.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Local theaters like MetroStage, above, The Little Theatre of Alexandria and Port City Playhouse offer a wide array of award-winning entertainment.

# There's No Place Like Home

## Alexandria: From the waterfront to the West End.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

Most visitors to Alexandria know the city as the hometown of such notables as George Washington and Robert E. Lee. With cobblestone streets and a lively waterfront, the city attracts more than three million visitors every year.

But beneath the obvious attractions like the Torpedo Factory Art Center or the George Washington Masonic Memorial are the Doggy Happy Hours or the Hard Times horse that give the city a character all its own.

At 15.4 square miles and with a population of just over 150,000, Alexandria hosts nationally recognized events such as the Scottish Walk and Del Ray's Art on the Avenue. But off the beaten path of King Street are attractions such as the Tomb of the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier and the National Inventors Hall of Fame.

In the West End are the Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site and the Winkler Botanic Reserve, a tranquil nature sanctuary tucked in the shadows of the BRAC cen-



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN

Glass harp musician Jamey Turner is a popular attraction along the Alexandria waterfront.

ter and Interstate 395.

While there are volumes written about Alexandria's historic past, there is an edgier side of the city that attracts artisans and even inspired musician Dave Grohl of Foo Fighters fame to write "Arlandria" in homage to his hometown neighborhood.

Rock legend Jim Morrison, Willard Scott, "Nashville" star Chip Esten and "Saturday Night Live" alum Casey Wilson also hail from Alexandria, but you can't consider yourself a local until you've listened to Jamey Turner play "Ode to Joy" on his glass

harp at the waterfront.

Turner's talent led him to the "Tonight Show" where Johnny Carson remarked, "Have you ever heard anything like that in your life? That is wonderful."

For more traditional entertainment, do as the locals and head to the Birchmere, take in a concert by the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra or see a show at MetroStage, The Little Theatre of Alexandria (LTA) or Port City Playhouse.

If you're looking to perform yourself, a wide variety of classes are available for chil-

dren and adults at LTA's home on Wolfe Street, where actor Dermot Mulroney and Academy Award winner Marcia Gay Harden honed their craft.

Last but certainly not least, Alexandria is a community of service to others. Organizations like the Rotary Club, Senior Services of Alexandria or Carpenter's Shelter provide a helping hand to some of the city's most vulnerable citizens.

So whether you spend a few years or stay for a lifetime, there really is no place like Alexandria to call home.



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN

Astronaut Buzz Aldrin studies the names on the Gallery of Icons at the National Inventors Hall of Fame. Located on the campus of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, the Hall of Fame museum is free and open to the public.



PHOTO BY JOHN BORDNER

The Hard Times horse has been greeting diners at the original Hard Times Chili Café since 1980.



PHOTO BY JOHN BORDNER

The water fountain at Market Square is a popular destination for relaxing, people watching and the Saturday morning Farmers Market.



PHOTO BY JOHN BORDNER

Tourism attracts more than three million visitors annually to the streets of Alexandria. The Alexandria Visitors Center, located at the corner of King and Fairfax streets, is thought to be the oldest building in the city dating back to 1724.





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# Willie BAILEY

## for City Council

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### LEADERSHIP

I didn't have much growing up but have been very blessed in my life. I'm lucky enough to be able to give back to our community. I started Firefighters and Friends to the Rescue because I saw a need in the community. For the past fifteen years, I've had the opportunity to help thousands of children in Alexandria and around the Northern Virginia area receive school supplies, winter coats, sneakers, and toys for the holidays. To me, it doesn't matter who gets credit. When I see a need in Alexandria - I want to fix it immediately.

### LOYALTY

As a twenty year veteran of the U.S. Army and an active firefighter, I know what it means to serve. These jobs require putting aside personal differences to work for the greater good. We need more of that in Alexandria. I'm not a politician. I'm an Alexandrian who loves his city and knows we can do better.

### PASSION

Our city is rapidly changing. Whether it's waterfront development or the quality of schools, we need someone who isn't afraid to take on the issues facing Alexandria. I'm running because we need to make Alexandria work for everyone - especially our less fortunate residents. Too many Alexandrians cannot find affordable housing. Too many of our children do not receive a quality education. We cannot run our city how we did ten years ago and expect improvement. We can do better as a city. As city councilor, I will always put the people of Alexandria first. I'm not running for City Council for myself - I'm walking to City Hall with you.

**Get Involved**  
[www.bailey4council.com](http://www.bailey4council.com)  
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Paid for and authorized by Willie Bailey for Alexandria City Council

## NEWCOMERS GUIDE

# Welcome Home

BY WILLIAM D. EUILLE  
MAYOR

**W**elcome to Alexandria! On behalf of my colleagues on City Council, I'd like to extend a warm welcome and thank you for choosing this historic community as your new home.

During its 266-year history, Alexandria was a tobacco trading post; one of the 10 busiest ports in America; a part of the District of Columbia; home to both the nation's largest slave trading firm and a large community of freed blacks; a Civil War supply center for Union troops; and a street-car suburb for federal workers. Today, Alexandria is a growing, urban community with an unparalleled quality of life. We're a vibrant, diverse city of nearly 150,000 people with a small-town feel, but just minutes from the bustle of our nation's capital.

There is so much to see and do. Our parks and green spaces are a haven for nature lovers, walkers and bicyclists, and we're a transit-oriented community, offering many options for getting around town and beyond. We're a destination for foodies, a haven for shoppers, and a place where the arts thrive. Alexandria is an Eco-City, committed to protecting and sustaining our natural resources. We're a great place for young people and a caring community.

Alexandria is also a hub of innovation, home to national, regional, and local businesses, tech startups, creative firms, trade associations and nonprofits, and the



United States Patent and Trademark Office. In 2017, we will welcome the National

Science Foundation and the Transportation Security Administration to their new headquarters in Alexandria. It is truly an exciting time to be here!

In Alexandria, we have a strong tradition of community, government, and organizations working together to help shape our city's future and reach out to our most vulnerable residents. We hope you will consider the many options available: serving on a board or commission, attending City Council meetings, mentoring children, or taking advantage of other volunteer opportunities through the city or through its many nonprofit and charitable organizations. Please visit [alexandriava.gov/Boards](http://alexandriava.gov/Boards) or [alexandriava.gov/Volunteer](http://alexandriava.gov/Volunteer) for more information.

Finally, as you settle into your new home, there are bound to be questions. If you need any information about Alexandria's government or services, please contact our customer information service, Call.Click.Connect., at 703-746-HELP (4357) during normal business hours. Call.Click.Connect. may also be accessed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, through the City's web site at [alexandriava.gov](http://alexandriava.gov).

## BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS

### Alexandria Chamber of Commerce

801 North Fairfax St, Suite 402. Offers a variety of programs and services to assist member firms in promoting and expanding their business base. Call 703-549-100 or visit [www.alexchamber.com](http://www.alexchamber.com).

### Alexandria Convention & Visitors Association

With more than 300 members, the Alexandria Convention & Visitors Association has strong ties to the Alexandria business and tourism communities. Visit [www.visitalexandriava.com](http://www.visitalexandriava.com).

### Armed Forces Communication and Electronic Association of Northern Virginia

400 North Washington St., Suite 300. Based in Alexandria, the organization seeks to promote communication between private businesses in the region and government agencies. Call 703-778-4645 or visit [www.afceanova.org](http://www.afceanova.org).

### Northern Virginia Black

### Chamber of Commerce.

The Alexandria-based organization provides resources to black-owned businesses in Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William counties. Visit [www.northernvirginiabcc.org](http://www.northernvirginiabcc.org)

### Pakistan American Business Association Inc. (PABA)

9302 Old Keene Mill Road, Suite B, Burke. PABA is a non-profit, bilateral trade association that promotes business opportunities between Pakistan and the United States of America, and nurtures leadership skills within the Pakistani American business community. Call 703-627-1500 or visit [www.pabausa.org](http://www.pabausa.org).

### Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Northern Virginia

Located in Herndon, the organization serves businesses lead by and those that work with the Hispanic community in the area. Visit [www.hccnva.org](http://www.hccnva.org).

### Asian American Chamber of

SEE BUSINESS, PAGE 5

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## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

# 'Our Promise — That Every Student Succeeds'

BY DR. ALVIN L. CRAWLEY  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Alexandria City Public Schools is quite literally on the move! Our students are showing clear growth based on our latest Standards of Learning (SOL) test data. The largest increases were seen in English and math, which were targeted focus areas during the past year. I applaud the extraordinary work of our teachers and principals who kept their focus on student success and in doing so, were champions for every child. While these results are commendable, our relentless focus on the whole child will be the hallmark of an ACPS education as we work to ensure excellent schools where every student is happy, healthy and well-educated.



Dr. Alvin L. Crawley, superintendent of schools, plays with students.

Enrollment is growing by an average of 4 percent yearly. As a consequence, our school division will begin the process of redistricting with the goal of implementing new school attendance boundaries for the school year 2016-17. Redistricting is needed because all but two elementary schools are at

capacity and enrollment is projected to continue its upward trend over the next decade. Redistricting is a challenging task, but we pledge to engage every part of our community in the process.

Our aging facilities will be undergoing modernization, as we know that learning environments have a direct impact on instruction. Four ACPS schools have reached

their recommended 75-year life span and 14 of our 17 school buildings are more than 45 years old. Due to rising enrollment, some of these schools no longer have music rooms, art rooms, teacher work rooms or science labs. Included in the 10-year Capital Improvement Program budget are plans to build a new Patrick Henry PreK-8 school and modernize Douglas MacArthur Elemen-

tary School, Cora Kelly School for Math, Science and Technology, George Mason Elementary School, and Matthew Maury Elementary School. As a community, we will also need to find creative solutions to address secondary school capacity challenges given enrollment trends and available land space.

Through the awesome commitment of community members and staff, our School Board adopted ACPS 2020, a new strategic plan that will guide the school division for the next five years. This plan reflects the essential components of a high-performing school division by focusing on six goal areas: academic excellence/educational equity; family and community engagement; exemplary staff; facilities and learning environment; health and wellness; and effective and efficient operations. This fall, the plan will come alive throughout the school division as we transform words to actions.

Central to our strategic plan is our promise to our families and community that every student succeeds. As we begin another exciting school year, we invite Alexandrians to become part of our success story by getting involved in volunteering at a school or mentoring a child. We welcome the opportunity for you to join us in our pursuit of excellence.

## Honoring Living Legends

Since its founding in 1749, Alexandria has been home to Living Legends the likes of George Washington and his compatriots, war heroes, community leaders, good neighbors and the "Now Generation." Until 2007, few of Alexandria's contemporary Legends were recognized, but then came Living Legends of Alexandria project.

Each year since, a select group of Alexandrians are recognized for their vision, commitment and perseverance towards making Alexandria a better place to live, work and do business. Few have sought recognition, but Living Legends of Alexandria has found them, photographed them and written biographies about them and their ac-

complishments to capture the often unrecognized contributions they have made to the betterment of Alexandria.

As a nonprofit organization, the existence of Living Legends of Alexandria depends on the support of community businesses and residents. It holds an annual "unveiling" reception of each year's Legends and publishes a catalog of their photos and biographies. The catalog is collected by the Alexandria Library, the Library of Virginia in Richmond and is registered at the U.S. Library of Congress.

The portraits of the 2015 Living Legends of Alexandria are displayed in the Market Square Lobby of City Hall or at [www.AlexandriaLegends.org](http://www.AlexandriaLegends.org).

### BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS

FROM PAGE 4

#### Commerce

8300 Boone Blvd., Suite 450. Located in Tysons, it offers programs to Asian and Pacific business communities in the region. Call 703-752-6292 or visit [www.asian-americanchamber.org](http://www.asian-americanchamber.org).

#### U.S. Lebanese Chamber of Commerce

A privately held business association founded in 2010 offering networking and resources to Lebanese Americans. Call 703-761-4949.

#### Afghan American Chamber of Commerce (AACC)

8201 Greensboro Drive, Suite 103, McLean. AACC provides resources to members through business advice, conferences, seminars, networking events, publications and other avenues to stimulate U.S.-Afghanistan business and investment; also, sector-based Working Groups seek to reduce impediments to business and market progress for members. AACC also serves as a link between the private sector and government to encourage economic policies that result in increased business and investment. 703-442-5005 or [www.a-acc.org/](http://www.a-acc.org/).

The Little Theatre of Alexandria  
THE LITTLE THEATRE  
2015/2016 SEASON  
LAUGHING STOCK  
SEP. 5 - 26, 2015 ▲  
The Tale of the Allergist's Wife  
OCT. 24 - NOV. 14, 2015 ▲  
A CHRISTMAS CAROL  
DEC. 4 - 20, 2015 ▲  
Grey Gardens  
JAN. 16 - FEB. 6, 2016 ▲  
The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)  
FEB. 27 - MAR. 19, 2016 ▲  
TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD  
APR. 23 - MAY 14, 2016 ▲  
THE HISTORY BOYS  
JUN. 4 - 25, 2016 ▲  
WWW.THELITTLETHEATRE.COM  
600 WOLFE STREET, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314  
BOX OFFICE: 703-683-0496

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Del Pepper

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Allison Silberberg for Mayor  
For Council: Pepper - Bailey - Chapman - Lovain - Smedberg - Wilson  
[www.delpepper.com](http://www.delpepper.com)

Paid for by Pepper for Council • Authorized by Redella S. "Del" Pepper

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# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

## Current City Council Leadership

Mayor William D. Euille (D)  
Vice Mayor Allison Silberberg (D)  
Councilman John T. Chapman (D)  
Councilman Timothy B. Lovain (D)  
Councilwoman Redella S. "Del" Pepper (D)  
Councilman Paul C. Smedberg (D)  
Councilman Justin Wilson (D)

## Current School Board

*District A*  
William E. Campbell  
Karen A. Graf (Chairman)  
Stephanie A. Kapsis  
*District B*  
Kelly C. Booz  
Justin P. Keating  
Marc Williams  
*District C*  
Ronnie Campbell  
Patricia Ann Hennig  
Christopher J. Lewis (Vice Chairman)

## Candidates for November 2015 General Election

### Senate of Virginia, 30th District

Adam P. Ebbin (D), incumbent  
James R. Fisher (IG)

### Senate of Virginia, 35th District

Richard L. "Dick" Saslaw (D), incumbent  
Joseph R. Murray (R)

### Virginia House of Delegates, 45th District

Mark H. Levine (D)

### Virginia House of Delegates, 46th District

Charniele L. Herring (D), incumbent  
Sean T. Lenehan (R)  
Andrew G. "Andy" Bakker (L)

### Alexandria Mayor

Allison Silberberg (D)

### Alexandria City Council

Willie F. Bailey Sr. (D)  
John Taylor Chapman (D), incumbent  
Timothy B. Lovain (D), incumbent  
Redella S. "Del" Pepper (D), incumbent  
Paul C. Smedberg (D), incumbent  
Justin M. Wilson (D), incumbent  
Monique A. Miles (R)  
Fernando M. Torrez (R)  
Townsend A. Van Fleet (R)  
John R. "Bob" Wood (R)  
D. Phil Cefaratti (I)

### Alexandria School Board, District A

William E. "Bill" Campbell, incumbent  
Henry E. "Hal" Cardwell  
Karen A. Graf, incumbent

### Alexandria School Board, District B

C. M. "Cindy" Anderson  
Kelly Carmichael Booz, incumbent  
Mimi L. Goff  
Margaret Lorber  
Veronica R. Nolan

### Alexandria School Board, District C

Ronnie M. Campbell, incumbent  
Daria S. Dillard  
Ramee A. Gentry  
Patricia-Ann "Pat" Hennig, incumbent  
Christopher J. Lewis, incumbent

**The American  
flag billows  
from City Hall.**

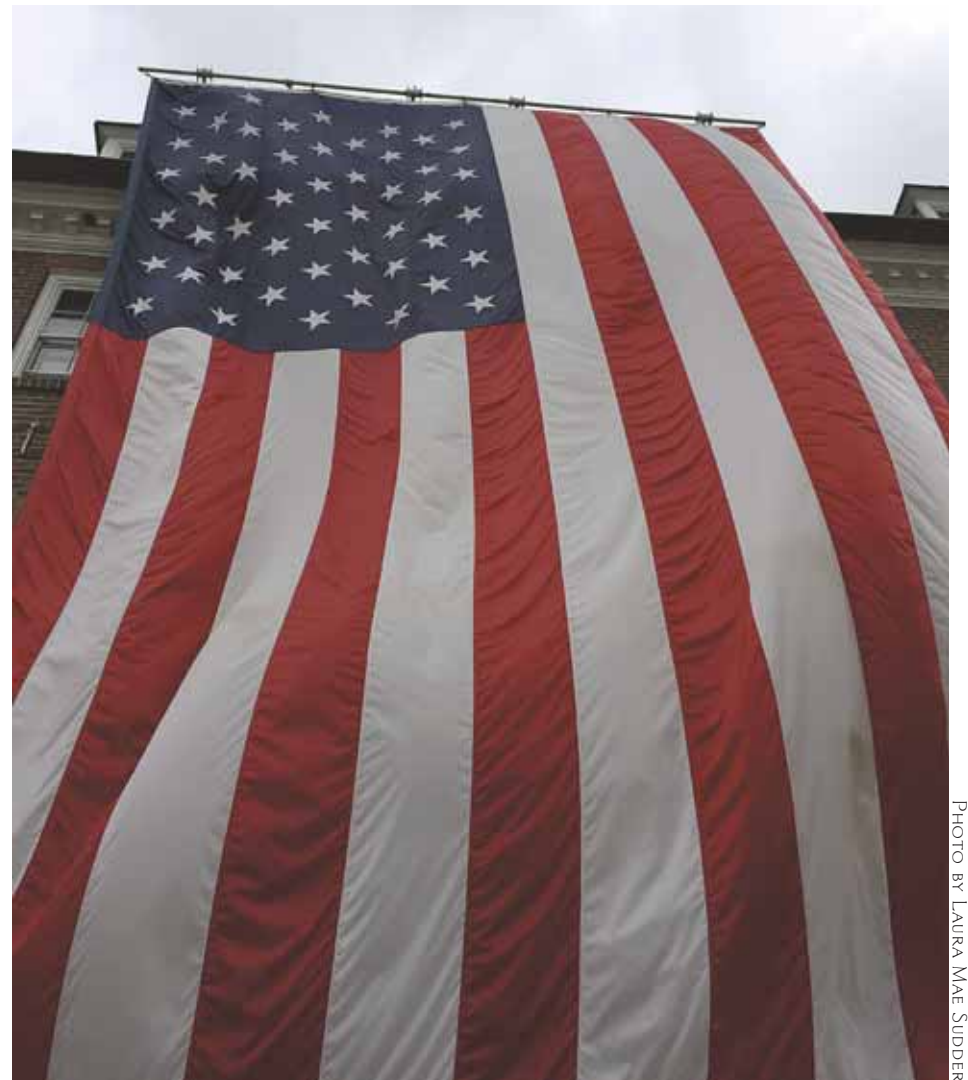


PHOTO BY LAURA MAE SUDDER




*"The Hermitage is where I've finally found my family."*  
— Helena Scott

## Enjoy the Carefree Lifestyle You Deserve

Discover why many people like you have come to call the Hermitage home—the chance to experience a new lifestyle with an array of services and amenities.

The residents at the Hermitage stay busy. Just ask Helena Scott, who was confined to wheelchair for 30 years because of Multiple Sclerosis and with regular physical therapy at the Hermitage, can now walk a mile a day when the weather permits. In her spare time, Helena knits scarves for fellow residents, volunteers in the beauty salon, sits on the Health Center Committee and delivers mail. Our residents also rave about our superb dining service, our courteous and helpful staff, and an overall feeling of caring and security that comes with living at the Hermitage.

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# PARKS

## A SAMPLING OF ALEXANDRIA PARKS

PHOTOS BY RENÉE RUGGLES  
MAP BY LAURENCE FOONG  
DESIGN BY JEAN CARD



**Ben Brenman Park** covers nearly 60 acres and offers sports fields, trails, a fenced-in playground, and a large pond. It was named to honor community activist, the late Col. Ben Brenman, who played a role in acquiring the land. The park sits on the site of the former U.S. Army Base at Cameron Station.

Brothers Zachary (older) and Logan, enjoy the equipment at their neighborhood park. The playground is enclosed, by fencing, and features a soft rubber surface. It's designed for children ages 2-5.



### 1 Armistead Boothe Park

520 Cameron Station Blvd.  
Citywide Park  
Size: 10.81 acres, Features: Athletic fields, basketball court, playground, picnic pavilion, restrooms, tennis courts, and walking/biking trails.

### 2 Ben Brenman Park

4800 Brenman Park Dr.  
Citywide Park  
Size: 59.3 acres, Features: ADA accessible picnic benches and pathways, Amphitheatre, athletic fields, dog park, parking, picnic pavilion with grill, playground, pond, restrooms, and walking/bicycle trails.

### 3 Brookvalley Park

5599 Holmes Run Parkway  
Citywide Park  
Size: 22.03 acres, Features: Garden plots, natural area, playground, picnic areas, walking/bicycle trail, home to Bicentennial Tree.

### 4 Cameron Station Linear Park

5131 Brawner Place  
Citywide Park  
Size: 7.56 acres, Features: Biking/walking/jogging trail

### 5 Chinquapin Park/Forest Park

3210 King St.  
Citywide Park  
Size: 52.89 acres (Chinquapin: 32.08 acres; Forest Park: 20.81), Athletic fields, basketball courts, garden plots, picnic area with grill, parking, playground, tennis courts, recreation center with an indoor swimming pool, and wooded area.

### 6 Four Mile Run Park

3700 Commonwealth Ave. and 4131 Mount Vernon Ave.  
Citywide Park  
Size: 46.75 acres (an additional 1.47 acres has recently been acquired

and a planning process is currently underway for the additional land), Features: Athletic fields, basketball, biking/jogging/walking trail, bird and river watching, fishing, playground, picnic benches, and seating.

### 7 Holmes Run Scenic Easement

Holmes Run Parkway  
Citywide Park  
Size: 8.02 acres, Features: Natural wooded area, walking and biking paths.

### 8 Joseph Hensley Park

4200 Eisenhower Ave.  
Citywide Park  
Size: 21.66 acres, Features: Softball fields, soccer field, restrooms, on-site parking, picnic area, park shelter with grill.

### 9 Potomac Greens Park

700 Carpenter Road  
Citywide Park  
Size: 18.47 acres, Features: Playground, seating area, wooded area with trails

### 10 Potomac Yard Park

2501 Potomac Ave.  
Citywide Park  
Size: 23.4 acres, Features: ADA accessible picnic tables and pathways, special events area with outdoor stage, athletic fields, basketball courts, tennis courts, volleyball courts, picnic area, interactive fountain, ADA playground, stormwater management ponds, and walking/bicycle trails, passive seating areas and historical interpretation. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. daily

### 11 Tarleton Park

4420A Vermont Ave.  
Citywide Park  
Size: 6.14 acres, Features: Dog exercise area, nature area with

trails, open play area, playground, walking/biking trails, and sitting area.

### 12 Witter Recreational Field

2700 Witter Drive  
Citywide Park  
Size: 13.7 acres, Features: Athletic fields (two synthetic turf rectangular), cemetery, park shelters, parking, and restrooms

### 13 All Veterans Park

4725 Duke St.  
Citywide Park  
Size: 37.78 acres, Features: Dog exercise area, trail, observation deck to view Bicentennial Tree.

### 14 Eugene Simpson Stadium Park

426 E. Monroe Ave.  
Citywide Park  
Size: 9.94 acres, Features: Baseball fields, basketball court, dog exercise area, garden, playground and tennis.

### 15 Armory Tot Lot

208 S. Royal St.  
Historical/Destination  
Size: 0.18 acres, Features: Playground/tot-lot, sitting area.

### 16 Fort Ward Park

4301 W. Braddock Road  
Historical/Destination  
Size: 43.46 acres, Features: Amphitheater, dog exercise area, museum, park shelter, parking, picnic areas, playground, and restrooms.

### 17 Founders Park

351 N. Union St.  
Historical/Destination  
Size: 4.67 acres, Features: Dog exercise area, volleyball court, benches, walking paths.

### 18 Freedmen's Cemetery

638 North Alfred Street

Historical/Destination

Size: 0.43 acres.

### 19 King Street Park

1 King St.  
Historical/Destination  
Size: 0.38 Acres, Features architectural design, farmers market, flower beds, plantings, and sitting areas

### 20 King Street Gardens Park

1806 King St.  
Historical/Destination  
Size: 0.80 acres, Features open play area, playground, park shelter, and sitting area

### 21 Market Square

300 King Street  
Historical/Destination  
Size: 1.11 acres, Features: Event space, farmers market, open plaza with fountain and planting beds

### 22 Old Town Pool

1609 Cameron St.  
Historical/Destination  
Size: 2.71 acres (0.48 acres Facility Area), Features: Basketball court, parking, picnic area, and swimming pool with handicap accessible wading pool

### 23 Oronoco Bay Park

100 Madison St.  
Historical/Destination  
Size: 5.08 acres, Features: Event space, parking, picnic areas, and walking/biking/jogging trails

### 24 Point Lumley

1 Duke St.  
Historical/Destination  
Size: 0.38 acres, Features: Riverfront sitting area

### 25 Roberdeau Park

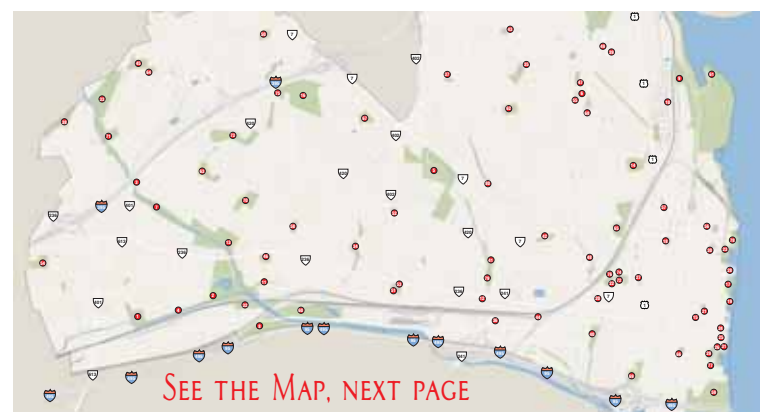
1 Wolfe St.  
Historical/Destination  
Size: 0.23 acres, Features: Riverfront sitting area

### 26 Shipyard/Harborside Park

1 Wilkes St.  
Historical/Destination  
Size: 1.52 acres, Features: Trail and riverside seating

### 27 Waterfront Park

1A Prince St.  
Historical/Destination  
Size: 1.37 acres, Features: Boat docking, open lawn space, riverfront seating, and walking trails



SEE THE MAP, NEXT PAGE



# PARKS



The Versusios, of Alexandria, came to Ben Brenman Park for a family bike ride. The park offers trails throughout and access to the Holmes Run Trail.

- 28

**West's Point Park**  
1 Oronoco St.  
Historical/Destination  
Size: 0.07 acres, Features: Riverfront sitting area and observation deck
- 29

**Windmill Hill Park**  
501 South Union St.  
Historical/Destination  
Size: 3.43 acres, Features: Basketball court, playground, riverfront seating, and sand volleyball
- 30

**Wythe Street Plaza**  
705 North Fairfax St.  
Historical/Destination  
Size: 0.44 acres, Features: Seating area and flower beds
- 31

**Harborside/Shipyard Park**  
1 Wilkes St.  
Historical/Destination  
Size: 1.52 acres, Features: Trail and riverside seating
- 32

**Clermont Natural Park**  
4551 Eisenhower Ave.  
Natural Area  
Size: 5.95 acres, Features: Wooded area
- 33

**Dora Kelley Nature Park**  
5750 Sanger Ave.  
Natural Area  
Size: 46.61 acres, Features: Environmental programs, sitting areas, walking/biking trail, Nature Center, and wooded natural area.
- 34

**Fort Williams Park**  
501 Fort Williams Parkway  
Natural Area  
Size: 8.3 acres, Features: Wooded nature area with a walking path.
- 35

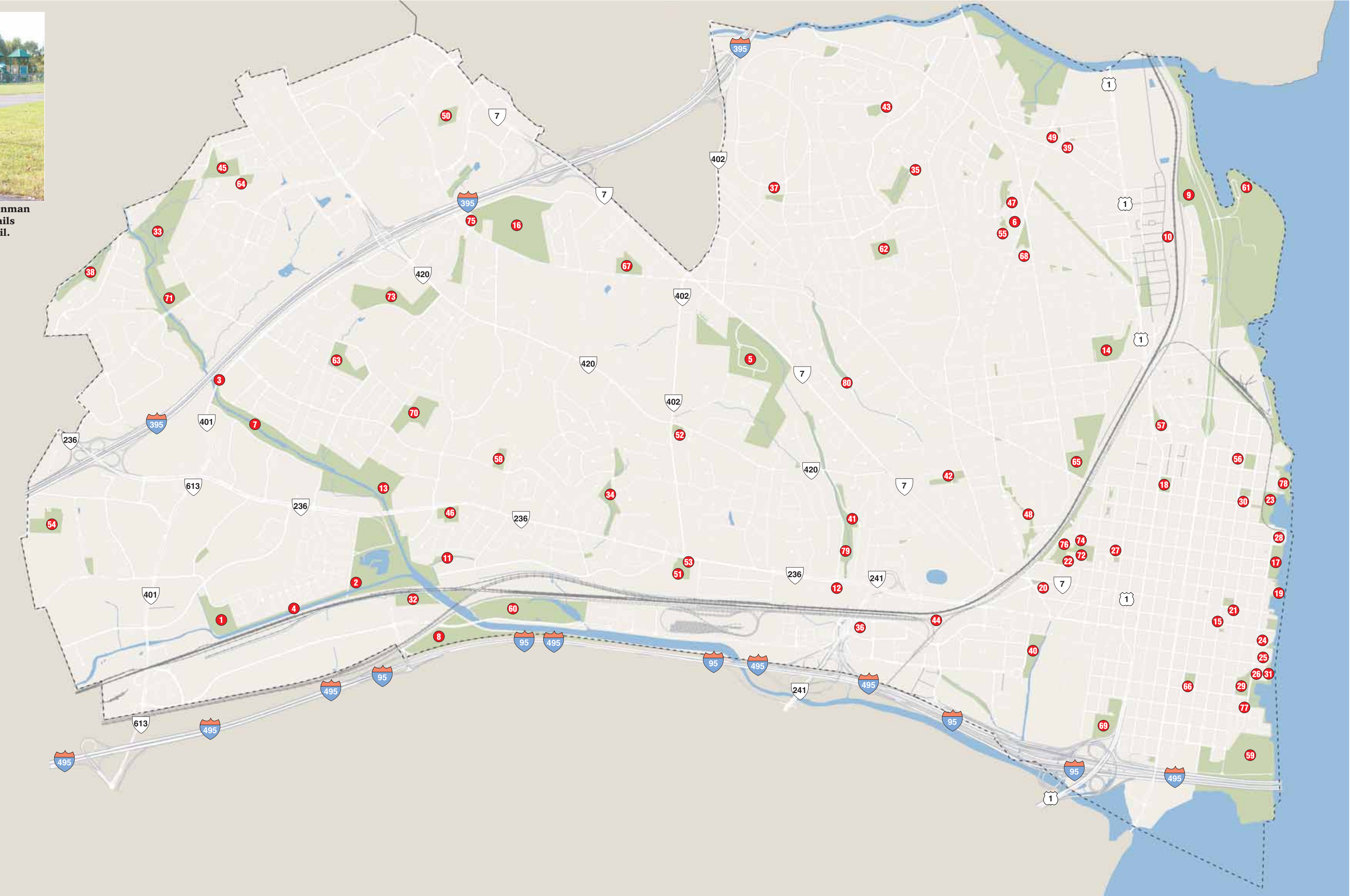
**Monticello Park**  
320 Beverley Drive  
Natural Area  
Size: 6.24 acres, Features: Bird watching, dog area, stream, walking trail
- 36

**Old Cameron Run Channel Park**  
2551 Mill Road  
Natural Area  
Size: 2.83 acres, Features: A nature area with stream
- 37

**Robert Leider Park**  
3002 Valley Drive  
Natural Area  
Size: 1.3 acres, Features: Nature area with trail
- 38

**Rynex Nature Park**  
1500 North Chambliss St.  
Natural Area  
Size: 9.32 acres, Features: Heavily wooded nature area
- 39

**3550 Commonwealth Avenue**  
3550 Commonwealth Ave.  
Neighborhood Park  
Size: 0.53 acres, Features: Adopt-a-Garden





# PARKS



**Gon Jekodu (right), prepares to throw the soccer ball to his dad, as his brother Fevuea watches. The Alexandria family came to the park to practice their soccer game.**



**Anita H., of Alexandria, brought her dogs Bailey (left) and Anna, for a good walk and some fun in the dog park.**



**A large pond, complete with bridges, fountains, and a gazebo, is the centerpiece of the park.**

## **40 African American Heritage Memorial Park**

500 Holland Lane  
Neighborhood Park  
Features: One-acre 19th century African American Cemetery, memorial sculptures, park design includes part of the original landscape of the cemetery and a wetland.

Size: 8.16 acres, Features: Parking, tennis courts, wooded nature area with a walking trail

Neighborhood Park  
Size: 3.31 acres, Features: athletic fields

## **46 Ewald Park**

4452 Duke St.  
Neighborhood Park  
Size: 3.88 acres, Features: Basketball court, open space/field, parking, playground, swimming pool and bathhouse

## **47 Goat Hill Park**

33 Kennedy St.  
Neighborhood Park  
Size: 2.47 acres, Features: Playground equipment, sitting areas, natural wooded area.

## **48 Hooffs Run Park and Greenway**

18A E. Linden St.  
Neighborhood Park  
Size: 4.53 acres, Features: Basketball half court, dog exercise area, garden, tennis court, and playground.

## **49 Hume Springs Park**

100 Dale St.  
Neighborhood Park  
Size: 0.53 acres, Features: Playground and sitting areas.

## **50 James Mulligan Park**

3300 28th St.  
Neighborhood Park  
Size: 3.55 acres, Features: Natural wooded area, picnic area, and playground.

## **51 Luckett Field**

3540 Wheeler Ave.

## **41 Angel Park**

201 W. Taylor Run Parkway  
Neighborhood Park  
Size: 10.34 acres, Features: Athletic fields, basketball court, playground, and shelter with grill.

## **42 Beach Park**

201 Rucker Place  
Neighborhood Park  
Size: 1.42 acres, Features: open lawn area with seating, playground.

## **43 Beverley Park**

620 N. Overlook Dr.  
Neighborhood Park  
Size: 1.74 acres, Features: Hard court play area, playground with a park shelter and picnic tables, sitting areas, and wooded nature area.

## **44 Carlyle Dog Park and Tennis Courts**

450 Andrews Lane  
Neighborhood Park  
Size: 2.96 acres, Features: Fenced dog exercise area, tennis courts, parking

## **45 Chambliss Park**

2505 N. Chambliss St.  
Neighborhood Park



**Victor Lee, of Alexandria, stopped to show his daughter Emma all the life in the pond below.**

Size: 1.47 acres, Features: Basketball court, playground, and tennis court

## **58 Taney Avenue Park**

4149 Taney Ave.  
Neighborhood Park  
Size: 2.57 acres, Features: Open play area, sitting areas, picnic area, and wooded nature area.

## **59 Jones Point Park**

1 Jones Point Drive  
National Park  
Features: Playground, athletic fields, trails, fishing piers

## **60 Cameron Run Regional Park**

4001 Eisenhower Ave.  
Regional  
Features: Great Waves Waterpark, miniature golf, batting cages, picnic shelter and a special events pavillion

## **61 Daingerfield Island**

1 Marina Drive  
National Park  
Size: 106 acres, Features: sailing, sailing classes, fishing, field sports and a restaurant

## **62 George Mason Park**

2601 Cameron Mills Road  
Shared Use  
Size: 5.36 acres (9.40 acres with school), Athletic fields, basketball courts, tennis courts, parking, playground, and sitting area

## **63 James K. Polk Field**

5000 Polk Ave.  
Shared Use  
Size: 8.44 acres, Features: Located on Polk School grounds, athletic fields, basketball courts, and playgrounds

## **64 John Adams Park**

5651 Rayburn Ave.  
Shared Use  
Size: 1.54 acres, Features: Athletic fields, basketball court, and playground.

## **65 Lenny Harris Memorial Fields at Braddock Park**

1005 Mount Vernon Ave.  
Shared Use  
Size: 7.09 acres - Braddock Field / 2.61 George Washington Fields, Features athletic fields

## **66 Lyles-Crouch School**

530 S. Saint Asaph St.

Shared Use  
Size: 1.39 acres, Features small ballfield and playground

## **67 Minnie Howard Field**

3701 W. Braddock Road  
Shared Use  
Size: 5.38 acres, Features: Lighted athletic field with synthetic turf, lighted tennis courts, parking, and rest rooms

## **68 Mount Vernon Field & Recreation Center**

2600 Mount Vernon Ave.  
Shared Use  
Size: 1.58 acres, Features: Athletic fields and tennis court

## **69 Nannie J. Lee Center**

1108 Jefferson St.  
Shared Use  
Size: 14.6 acres, Features: Athletic fields, basketball court, playground, recreation center, tennis courts, and volleyball court

## **70 Patrick Henry Field**

4643 Taney Ave.  
Shared Use  
Size: 11.56 acres, Features: Athletic fields, tennis courts, wooded area

## **71 William Ramsay Field**

5700 Sanger Ave.  
Shared Use  
Size: 10.94 acres, Features: Athletic fields, basketball court, playground, and tennis courts recreation center with a full basketball court, and adjacent activity/game room.

## **72 Jefferson Houston Elementary School Park**

1501 Cameron St.  
Shared Use  
Size: 8.44 acres, Features: Basketball court, playground, open field.

## **73 Hammond Upper and Lower Fields**

4646 Seminary Road  
Shared Use  
Size: 18.91 acres, Features: Athletic fields, running track, asphalt track and soccer field, lit roller blade hockey rink

## **74 Buchanan Park**

1501 Cameron St.  
Size: 0.3 acres, Features: Basketball court and playground.

## **75 Fort Ward Athletic Facility**

4421 W. Braddock Road  
Size: 5 acres, Features: Synthetic Turf Athletic Field, Tennis Courts and Parking.

## **76 Metro Linear Park**

300 Buchanan Street  
Size: 3.83 acres, Features: A pathway connects the Buchanan Street neighborhood community to the Metro Stations at Braddock Road and King Street.

## **77 Pomander Park**

600 S. Union St.  
Size: 0.84 acres, Features: Riverfront sitting area

## **78 Rivergate City Park**

2 Montgomery St.  
Size: 2.84 acres, Features: Riverfront sitting, picnic areas, and volleyball

## **79 Taylor Run Park**

Taylor Run Parkway East  
Size: 3.34 acres, Features: Wooded area

## **80 Timberbranch Parkway**

Timberbranch Parkway  
Size: 6.19 acres, Features: Dog exercise area, and wooded area



# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



Business, civic and service organizations provide a way to meet people and give back to the community. Here, members of the West Alexandria Rotary Club gather to help spruce up John Ewald Park.

PHOTO  
CONTRIBUTED

## Connect and Contribute

Business, service and civic groups lead community engagement.

It was Martin Luther King Jr. who said "Everybody can be great because anybody can serve." Whether you have five minutes or five hours, consider joining one of the many organizations in Alexandria that help solve problems, improve lives, connect citizens and strengthen the community.

**Alexandria Rotary Club**  
P. O. Box 320666  
Alexandria, Va. 22320  
[www.alexandriarotary.org](http://www.alexandriarotary.org)

**Alexandria West Rotary Club**  
[www.awrotary.org](http://www.awrotary.org)

**Kiwanis, Kiwanis of Del Ray**  
[www.alexandriakiwanis.org](http://www.alexandriakiwanis.org)

**Jaycees**  
P.O. Box 1836  
Alexandria, Va. 22313  
[www.alexjaycees.org](http://www.alexjaycees.org)

**Volunteer Alexandria**  
123 N. Alfred St.  
Alexandria, Va. 22314  
[www.volunteerallexandria.org](http://www.volunteerallexandria.org)

**Alexandria Chamber of Commerce**  
801 N. Fairfax St. # 207  
Alexandria, Va. 22314  
[www.alexchamber.com](http://www.alexchamber.com)

**Del Ray Business Association**  
2308 Mount Vernon Avenue, #727  
Alexandria, Va. 22301  
[www.visitdelray.com](http://www.visitdelray.com)

**West End Business Association**  
3213 Duke Street, Box #128  
Alexandria, Va. 22314  
[www.alexandriawebea.com](http://www.alexandriawebea.com)

**Old Town Business and Professional Association**  
P.O. Box 1294  
Alexandria, Va. 22313  
[www.otbpa.com](http://www.otbpa.com)

**North Old Town Citizens Association**  
P.O. Box 25571  
Alexandria, Va. 22313  
[www.notice-alexandria.org](http://www.notice-alexandria.org)

**Old Town Civic Association**  
P.O. Box 1213  
Alexandria, Va. 22313  
[www.oldtowncivic.org](http://www.oldtowncivic.org)

**Del Ray Citizens Association**  
P.O. Box 2233  
Alexandria, Va. 22301  
[www.delraycitizens.org](http://www.delraycitizens.org)

**Eisenhower Partnership**  
2121 Eisenhower Avenue, Suite 200  
Alexandria, Va. 22314  
[eisenhowerpartnership.org](http://eisenhowerpartnership.org)

— JEANNE THEISMANN

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[aha@athomeinalexandria.org](mailto:aha@athomeinalexandria.org)

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*Reconstruct our Jewish hearts*

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## September 2015

### ONGOING

**Wine in the Water Park.** Every Friday in September, beginning Sept. 4. 6-10 p.m. Crystal City Water Park, 1750 Crystal Drive. Combines sips and sounds to create an outdoor event featuring interesting wine varietals and music in the neighborhood's signature Crystal City Water Park. Visit [crystalcity.org](http://crystalcity.org) for more.

### FRIDAY/SEPT. 4

**Big Chalk Draw 2015.** 8-10 a.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. School supplies donations are welcome at this chalk art community event. Free. Call 703-360-4220 or visit [www.staidansepiscopal.com](http://www.staidansepiscopal.com).

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 12

**25th Annual Rosslyn Jazz Festival.** 1-7 p.m. Gateway Park, 1300 Lee Highway, Arlington. Artists to headline the festival include The Funk Ark, Sonny Knight and the Lakers, Debo Band and The Dirty Dozen Brass Band. Check [www.rosslynva.org/culture#events](http://www.rosslynva.org/culture#events) for updates.

**Memorial 5K.** 6 p.m. in Crystal City, Arlington. Honors the victims, firefighters, and public safety who responded on Sept. 11, 2001. \$35, \$40 entry fee. [www.arlington911race.com/](http://www.arlington911race.com/).

### SEPT. 12-25

**33rd Annual Senior Olympics.** Various times at various locations. Participants over 50 years old will participate in track and field, swimming, diving, tennis, table tennis, golf, miniature golf, ten pin bowling, Wii bowling, scrabble, duplicate bridge, cribbage, Mexican train dominoes, pickleball, racquetball, handball, volleyball, badminton, bocce, eight ball pool, cycling, horseshoes, yo-yo tricks, American style Mah Jongg, 5K run



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON

## George Washington's Mount Vernon

A popular tourist destination, George Washington's former estate-turned-museum, Mount Vernon regularly hosts special tours, dinners, and other educational events. Throughout the year guests may find a Colonial Fair and Market, Wine Festival, Christmas celebrations, a naturalization ceremony celebrating new U.S. citizens, and more. The estate is open for regular tours 365 days a year, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Regular admission tickets are \$17 for adults, \$16 for seniors (aged 62 and over), \$9 for youth (aged 6-11), and free for children (younger than 5). Visit [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org) to learn more.

and more. Admission varies based on event. Visit [www.nvso.us](http://www.nvso.us).

### SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 19-20

**Colonial Market And Fair.** 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. Visit the 18th century at this colonial celebration featuring crafting demonstrations, puppet shows, military drills, and traditional food and music. Tickets are \$9-17. Children age 5 and under are free. Visit [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org).

**King Street Art Festival.** Saturday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 480 King St. In its 13th year, the festival features art displays, art giveaways and sales and live music. Free. Visit [www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com/artfest](http://www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com/artfest).

**Scottish Highlander Festival.** 10 a.m.-2:15 p.m. on Saturday; 11 a.m. on Sunday at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N Fairfax St. Attend a fashion show, highland dance performance, or Celtic concert on Saturday or an Outlander Tea and Tour on Sunday. Prices vary based on activity. Visit [www.carlylehouse.org](http://www.carlylehouse.org) for more.

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 26

**St. Luke's Annual Craft Fair.** 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 8009 Fort Hunt Road, Mount Vernon. Connect with old friends and neighbors. Cold drinks and luncheon items from the St. Luke's grill will be available, along with a bake sale featuring cakes, pies, cookies and brownies. Also fresh produce from a

nearby farm, entertainment provided by a guest guitarist and two local pianists. For children, there will be a moonbounce, face-painting and games. Visit [www.saintlukeschurch.net](http://www.saintlukeschurch.net) or call 703-765-4342 for more.

**74th Annual Historic Alexandria Homes Tour.** 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in Old Town Alexandria. For the 74th annual Historic Alexandria Homes Tour, the public may visit six historic homes and gardens in Old Town Alexandria, all within walking distance of one another. Proceeds benefit Inova Alexandria Hospital. Tickets are \$35 through Sept. 25 and may be purchased online. Thereafter, tickets are \$40 and may be purchased at The Twig's Thrift Shop, 106 N Columbus St. Visit [www.thetwig.org/homes-tour](http://www.thetwig.org/homes-tour) for more.

**3rd Annual Community Celebration and Business Expo.** 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at INOVA Mount Vernon Hospital, 2501 Parkers Lane. Learn more about the community and local businesses. Take part in the chili cook-off, cute baby contest, ugly dog contest and scavenger hunt. Free to attend. Visit [www.mtvernon-leechamber.org](http://www.mtvernon-leechamber.org).

### SUNDAY-THURSDAY/SEPT. 27-OCT. 3

**Fall for the Book Festival at GMU.** Times vary. Select locations throughout Northern Virginia, D.C., and Maryland. This week long regional celebration of literature and the arts, connects readers and authors at all levels. Offering bookworms the chance to meet their favorite writers. Free and open to the public. Visit [www.fallforthebook.org](http://www.fallforthebook.org).

## October 2015

### FRIDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 2-4

**Wine Festival and Sunset Tour.** 6-9 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Learn about the successes and failures of George Washington's wine endeavors, listen to live music and tour where Washington stored his wine. Tickets are \$36-\$46. Visit [www.mountvernon.org/calendar](http://www.mountvernon.org/calendar).

### SATURDAY/OCT. 3

**Charity 5k.** 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at Cameron

Run Park, 4001 Eisenhower Ave. Run or walk to promote traffic safety. \$20-35 per person, depending on when you register. Visit [www.theartofdriving.org/ART\\_5K/](http://www.theartofdriving.org/ART_5K/).

**Art on the Ave.** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. along Mt. Vernon Avenue, Del Ray. Multicultural arts festival featuring music, art, and food. Rain or shine. Free. Visit [www.artontheavenue.org](http://www.artontheavenue.org).

### FRIDAY/OCT. 16

**Art on Tap 2015.** 7-10:30 p.m. at The Art League Gallery, 105 N Union St. Craft brews from local breweries get paired with a work of art by an Art League instructor, and local restaurants choose a brew/artwork coupling to serve as their muse for an appetizer. Guests vote on their favorite trifecta. Tickets are \$35-45. Visit [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org).

### FRIDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 16-18

**FreedomWalk Festival.** The U.S. FreedomWalk Festival is a weekend long, non-competitive, social walking challenge bringing participants of all ages and abilities together for fun, fitness, and international friendship. Different trails will be offered each day, and a variety of distances ranging from 3-27 miles. Visit [www.usfreedomwalk.org/](http://www.usfreedomwalk.org/).

### FRIDAY-SATURDAY/OCT. 23-24

**Halloween Pumpkin Hunt.** 5:30 p.m. on Friday and 1:30 p.m.; 3:30 p.m. and 5 p.m. on Saturday at Lee-Fendall House Museum, 614 Oronoco St. Elementary school-aged children and younger may participate in the hunt and will receive a toy pumpkin. The event will also feature Halloween crafts, food and drink, ghost stories and a costume parade. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$12 for children participating in the hunt. Visit [www.leefendallhouse.org](http://www.leefendallhouse.org) or contact John Christiansen at 703-548-1789 or [contact@leefendallhouse.org](mailto:contact@leefendallhouse.org).

### SATURDAY/OCT. 24

**VolunteerFest.** A region-wide day of community service helps nonprofits accomplish tasks they would not have time or resources to do on their own. Visit [www.volunteerfairfax.org/individuals/volunteerfest.php](http://www.volunteerfairfax.org/individuals/volunteerfest.php) for more.



PHOTO BY RENEE RUGGLES

**Young Kaelin concentrated on her work at a past Big Chalk Draw. It takes place each year at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church. The church accepts donations of school supplies for the upcoming school year.**



# ENTERTAINMENT

A SAMPLING OF ANNUAL  
COMMUNITY EVENTS

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 24-25

**Fall Harvest Family Days.** 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Pioneer Farm in George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Celebrate the beginning of autumn with the family at Mount Vernon with activities including wagon rides, apple-roasting and a straw bale maze. The event is included with purchase of admission to Mount Vernon; tickets are \$17 for adults, \$9 for children, \$16 for seniors and free for children 5 years and younger. Visit [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org) for more.

## November 2015

### TUESDAY/NOV. 3

**Election Day.** General election. Visit [www.sbe.virginia.gov/](http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/) and [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm).

### FRIDAY-SATURDAY/NOV. 6-8

**Alexandria Film Festival.** AMC Hoffman Center 22, 206 Swamp Fox Road and Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. The Alexandria Film Festival brings together short and feature length films of all genres from emerging and established, local and international filmmakers. Last

year, the festival brought more than 60 films and 50 filmmakers to Alexandria from as far as Sri Lanka and Uruguay. All ticketed events will be held at the AMC Hoffman Theater 22, with Beatley Central Library offering free programs to the public. Visit [www.alexandriafilm.org](http://www.alexandriafilm.org) for more.

### WEDNESDAY/NOV. 11

**Mount Vernon Salutes Veterans.** 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Honored guests (veterans) are invited to place a flower at Washington's tomb, enjoy a concert by the Harmony Heritage Singers and the United States Air Force String Orchestra. Free for veterans and active duty military members, \$9-17 for everyone else. See [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org) for more.

### Arlington National Cemetery Veterans Day Ceremony.

Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington. About 5,000 visitors attend the annual remembrance ceremonies in the Memorial Amphitheater. Visit [www.arlingtoncemetery.mil](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil).

### FRIDAY/NOV. 27

**Tree Lighting Ceremony.** 6 p.m. at Market Square, 301 King St. Attend

the ceremony in which the City Tree is lit and visited by Santa, the Town Crier, and other city officials. Free. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov](http://www.alexandriava.gov) for more.

### NOV. 28-JAN. 6

**Christmas at Mount Vernon.** 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Mount Vernon decks the halls with themed Christmas trees on the estate and festive greenery in the Mansion. Visit [www.mountvernon.org/christmas](http://www.mountvernon.org/christmas).

## December 2015

### FRIDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 4-6

**Fine Art & Fine Craft Holiday Market 2015.** Colasanto Park, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. The market offers handmade fine arts and fine crafts from local artists (including pottery/ceramics, photography, jewelry, cloth, paper crafts, and glass). Free. Visit [www.thedelrayartists.org](http://www.thedelrayartists.org).

### SATURDAY/DEC. 5

**45th Annual Campagna Center Scottish Walk Parade.** 11 a.m. Old Town Alexandria, the parade begins at St. Asaph and Wolfe Streets. More than 100 Scottish Clans, pipe and drum bands, Scottish dancers, re-enactment groups, Scottie dogs, dignitaries and, of course, Santa Claus will march through the streets of Old Town. Visit [www.campagnacenter.org/scottishwalkweekend/parade](http://www.campagnacenter.org/scottishwalkweekend/parade).

### THURSDAY/DEC. 31

**First Night Alexandria.** Events take place throughout the day at numerous venues around the City of Alexandria. Visit [www.firstnightalexandria.org](http://www.firstnightalexandria.org) for more.

## February 2016

### MID-FEBRUARY

**Community Tax Assistance Day.** Fairfax SkillSource Center, 7611 Little River Turnpike, Suite 300 West, Annandale. The IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program offers free assistance with 2015 Federal and state tax returns for households with a total income of \$52,000 or less. Visit [www.volunteerfairfax.org/individuals/vita.php](http://www.volunteerfairfax.org/individuals/vita.php).

## March 2016

**Persian New Year Celebration.** The Nowruz Festival celebrating the Persian New Year will include entertainment from musicians, dancers, artists, costumed characters, and traditional players. About 55 street vendors will be offering traditional and exotic foods, as well as jewelry, crafts, and other traditional Persian products. Visit [www.nowruzfestival.org](http://www.nowruzfestival.org) for more.

### SECOND TUESDAY IN MARCH

#### Clarendon Mardi Gras Parade.

Annual parade to celebrating Fat Tuesday. Visit [www.clarendon.org/mardi-gras](http://www.clarendon.org/mardi-gras).

### FRIDAY/MARCH 20-SUNDAY/APRIL 17

#### National Cherry Blossom Festival.

Enjoy world-class entertainment from the U.S. and Japan as they welcome springtime and celebrate the anniversary of the gift of trees from Tokyo to Washington, D.C. Visit [www.nationalcherryblossomfestival.org](http://www.nationalcherryblossomfestival.org).



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT

**Thousands of residents and guests watch the firework display from Oronoco Bay Park at the conclusion of the annual Alexandria Birthday Celebration.**

## April 2016

### APRIL - JUNE

**Relay for Life.** Fundraisers participate in all-night-long events to help those affected by cancer through the American Cancer Society. Visit [www.relayforlife.org](http://www.relayforlife.org) for specific events and details.

### SATURDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 16-17

**4th Annual Arlington Festival of the Arts.** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Highland Street in the Clarendon District, Arlington. More than 100 artists will showcase their work including paintings, jewelry, pottery, glass, and much more. Visit [artfestival.com](http://artfestival.com) for more.

### SATURDAY/APRIL 23-30

**Historic Garden Week.** This eight-day statewide event provides visitors an opportunity to see gardens, as well as houses with more than 2,000 flower arrangements created by Garden Club of Virginia members. Visit [www.vagardenweek.org](http://www.vagardenweek.org).

## May 2016

### MONDAY/MAY 23

**Memorial Day Jazz Concert.** 1-6 p.m. at Waterfront Park, Alexandria. A variety of jazz performances take place throughout the concert. Waterfront Park features lawn seating and the attendees may bring

lawn chairs and blankets. Food, such as barbeque, fried chicken, hot dogs, hamburgers, snow cones and funnel cakes are available for purchase, but everyone is welcome to pack a picnic lunch. Pets should be left at home. Admission is free. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation) for more.

## July 2016

### SECOND SATURDAY IN JULY

#### USA and Alexandria Birthday Celebration.

Oronoco Bay Park, 100 Madison Street, Alexandria. Celebrate Alexandria's 265th birthday along the Potomac waterfront with fireworks, cake and live music. Visit [www.visitalexandriava.com/events/USA-Alexandria-Birthday-Celebration/6607](http://www.visitalexandriava.com/events/USA-Alexandria-Birthday-Celebration/6607).

## August 2016

**Summer Restaurant Week.** Mid-August, in neighborhoods throughout Alexandria, including Old Town, Del Ray, Carlyle and West End. Menu options vary by location. Visit [www.AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com](http://www.AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com) or call 703-746-3301 for more.

**Ice Cream Making.** Saturdays in August. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at 3200 Mt. Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. Cool down with 18th century ice cream making demonstrations. Admission: Adults, \$18; Children, \$9; Under 5, free. Visit [www.mountvernon.org/](http://www.mountvernon.org/) for more.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## Celebrate The Persian New Year

The Nowruz Festival, a colorful celebration of the Persian New Year, visits Alexandria each year in March. Hundreds gather to partake in traditional Iranian food, art, music, and performances. Admission to the festival is usually free, and well-attended by vendors offering food, crafts, books, and more. Visit [www.nowruzfestival.org](http://www.nowruzfestival.org).





## Back 2 School Back 2 Safety

For many children, back-to-school means returning to a safe place. Twice as many kids in Alexandria report abuse during the fall months than any other time of year. The Center for Alexandria's Children is the one place where they come for help and healing.

As a resource center for professionals, parents and children, we are dedicated to one goal:  
*eliminating child abuse in the City of Alexandria.*



the Center for  
ALEXANDRIA'S  
CHILDREN

The Center for Alexandria's Children  
1900 North Beauregard Street, Suite 200  
Alexandria, VA 22311  
T: 703.746.6008  
[CenterforAlexandriasChildren.org](http://CenterforAlexandriasChildren.org)

## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



PHOTO BY LAURA MAE SUDDER

### Carlyle House Historic Park

Brogan and owners David and Sarah Janette are seated at the corner of the Carlyle House. On the National Register of Historic Places, the building is the only stone 18th-century mansion in Alexandria. Daily tours of the house, exhibits and lectures reveal the life and times of John Carlyle in pre-Revolutionary Alexandria.

### COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

❖ **ACT for Alexandria** is a community foundation that serves as a catalyst for increasing charitable investment and community engagement locally. Their mission is "to raise the level and effectiveness of giving and engagement in Alexandria." Located at 421 Prince St., Suite 220. Call 703-739-7778 or visit [www.actforalexandria.org](http://www.actforalexandria.org).

❖ **Alexandrians Involved Ecumenically (ALIVE)** is a nonprofit organization of volunteers from over 40 religious congregations and the community working together to help those in need. ALIVE provides emergency food assistance, emergency financial assistance, shelter, year-round preschool, furniture and housewares. ALIVE offices are located at 2723 King St. Call 703-837-9300 or visit [www.alive-inc.org](http://www.alive-inc.org).

❖ **The Alexandria Community Services Board (CSB)** is a group of 16 volunteers appointed by Alexandria City Council, which oversees the use of public funds to provide mental health, intellectual disability and substance abuse services through the Department of Community and Human Services. The office is located at 720 North Asaph St. Call 703-746-3499 or visit [www.alexandriava.gov/mhmrsa](http://www.alexandriava.gov/mhmrsa).

❖ **Animal Welfare League of Alexandria (AWLA)** provides pet adoptions, spay and neuter assistance, education and community service and outreach. AWLA is located at 4101 Eisenhower Ave. Call 703-746-4774 or visit [www.alexandrianimals.org](http://www.alexandrianimals.org).

❖ New and current residents are invited to join the **Ballyshaners**. The Ballyshaners (Gaelic for "Old Towners") organize and host Alexandria's St. Patrick's Day Parade, and the Annual Irish Festival each August. The festival is a fundraiser for the parade. An independent organization whose mission is to preserve and promote Irish heritage, The Ballyshaners meet once a month from April through December at restaurants throughout the city, then weekly from January until the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Fundraisers are held in January and February. Visit [www.ballyshaners.org](http://www.ballyshaners.org).

❖ **Bridges to Independence (b2i)** offers shelter to homeless people and works in coordination with public agencies, businesses and community groups to give homeless people the support, shelter, counseling, and employment training needed to regain self-sufficiency. The office can be found at 3103 9th Road N, Arlington. Call 703-525-7177 or visit [www.bridges2.org](http://www.bridges2.org).

❖ **At Home Alexandria** is part of a national "village movement" of small nonprofit groups. At Home Alexandria's (AHA) mission is to help residents ages 55+ in Alexandria live independently and in their homes for as long as they can. AHA provides an array of services like transportation, light home maintenance, errand running, gardening, technical support, snow shoveling, and light housekeeping. It also organizes a variety of social and educational events. The offices are located at 3139 Mount Vernon Ave. Call 703-231-0824 or visit [www.athomeinalexandria.org](http://www.athomeinalexandria.org).

❖ As the largest homeless shelter in Northern Virginia, **Carpenter's Shelter** serves over 1,000 homeless and formerly homeless children and adults each year. Carpenter's Shelter offers continuous services, aiding the chronically homeless and shelter residents through their transition back into independent living. Ninety percent of those who complete the Carpenter's Shelter program never return to homelessness again. Carpenter's Shelter is located at 930 North Henry St. Call 703 548-7500 or visit [www.carpentersshelter.org](http://www.carpentersshelter.org).

❖ **The Campagna Center** operates programs that support children in Alexandria by providing services that allow them to arrive at school ready to learn and ensure they are academically successful at each grade level. Programs include Alexandria Head Start, Early Head Start, full-day preschool The Campagna Early Learning Center, extended-day preschools program Afternoon Adventures, before- and after-school tutoring/child care Campagna Kids, tutoring and mentoring with Building Better Futures and education programs for immigrants and refugee families with the New Neighbors program. The Campagna Center is located at 418 South Washington St. Call 703-549-0111 or visit [www.campagnacenter.org](http://www.campagnacenter.org).

❖ **Center for Alexandria's Children (CAC)** is a public-private partnership based on the Children's Advocacy Center Model, which has been shown to improve outcomes for families and victims of abuse. The center provides services for victims and their families and coordinates the response between victims and nonprofits aiming to serve them. The Center is located at 1900 North Beauregard St. Call 703-838-4381 or visit [www.centerforalexandriaschildren.org](http://www.centerforalexandriaschildren.org).

❖ **Child and Family Network Centers** provides free and fully accredited preschool education for children living in poverty in Northern Virginia, including free family support, literacy, job training, and health programs to the parents of students. Currently, Child and Family Network Centers serve nearly 200 children and their families each year at six program sites throughout Alexandria and Arlington. The home office is located at 3700 Wheeler Ave. Call 703-836-0214 or visit [www.cfnc-online.org](http://www.cfnc-online.org).

❖ **Community Lodgings'** mission is to lift families from homelessness and instability to independence and self-sufficiency through transition-in-place housing, affordable housing and youth education programs. The main office is located at 3912 Elbert Ave., Suite 108. Call 703-549-4407 or visit [www.communitylodgings.org](http://www.communitylodgings.org).

❖ **Computer C.O.R.E.** helps low-income adults acquire the technological and life skills they need to pursue their career aspirations; tuition is free, and accordingly, donations are needed. The main office is at 5881 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Call 703-931-7346 or visit [computercore.org](http://computercore.org)

SEE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, PAGE 15



### ADMISSION OPEN HOUSE

Allow us to introduce you to Madeira's innovative academic programs and school community at one of our open house events. Meet teachers, take a campus tour, and experience our dynamic boarding and day environment.

Sunday, September 26 • 1:00 pm

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[www.madeira.org/openhouse](http://www.madeira.org/openhouse)

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# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

## COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

FROM PAGE 14

❖ The mission of **Hopkins House** is to provide quality educational programs and opportunities to children, youths and their families, regardless of income, to help them achieve their full intellectual, economic and social potential. The office is located at 5904 Richmond Highway, Suite 525. Call 703-549-8072 or visit [www.hopkinshouse.org](http://www.hopkinshouse.org).

❖ **Literacy Council of Northern Virginia** teaches adults the basic skills of reading, writing, speaking and understanding English. Offers one-to-one tutoring programs for adult learners as well as beginning-level ESOL and Family Learning adult programs. Offices are located at 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. Call 703-237-0866 or visit [www.lcnv.org](http://www.lcnv.org).

❖ **Northern Virginia Family Services** offers employments and job training, health care, housing, mental health, foster care and home visitations to new parents. Northern Virginia Family Services is headquartered at 1455 White Granite Drive, Suite 100 in Oakton with centers and thrift shops throughout the region. Call 703-385-3267 or visit [www.nvfs.org](http://www.nvfs.org).

❖ **Rebuilding Together Alexandria** offers home repair and maintenance for vulnerable veterans, elderly, disabled and families with children. Rebuilding Together's office is located at 700 Princess St., Suite 206. Call 703-836-1021 or Visit [www.RebuildingTogetherAlex.org](http://www.RebuildingTogetherAlex.org).

❖ **Senior Services of Alexandria** provides support services for elders, helping them to age with dignity. SSA operates the Meals on Wheels delivery

program and DOT transportation reservations for the city, and presents educational programs through monthly events, a speaker series and a monthly cable show called Senior Living in Alexandria. SSA also operates the AniMeals on Wheels program with the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, which provides food for pets for low-income seniors. SSA's Friendly Visitors Program matches volunteers with isolated seniors for weekly visits, while the Grocery to Go program delivers groceries to seniors who have difficulty shopping. Contact SSA at [www.seniorservicesalex.org](http://www.seniorservicesalex.org) or 703-836-4414.

❖ **Stop Child Abuse Now (SCAN) of Northern Virginia** provides parent education, public education-re: child abuse and court advocacy for abused and neglected children. Visit the SCAN offices at 205 South Whiting St., Suite 205. Call 703-820-9001 or visit [www.scanva.org](http://www.scanva.org).

❖ **Volunteer Alexandria** aims to offer comprehensive human services to the entire Alexandria community; services include volunteer recruitment and placement, court-referred community service placement, community awareness events and volunteer management training. Visit the main office at 123 North Alfred St. Call 703-836-2176 or visit [www.volunteeralexandria.org](http://www.volunteeralexandria.org).

❖ **Friends of Guest House** offers structure, supervision, support and assistance to female ex-offenders who sincerely want to improve their lives and break the cycle of incarceration. Friends of Guest House offers the only program for women of its kind in Northern Virginia, and receives countless inquiries every year. The Guest House is located



**Streetscapes** Along Princess (left) and Prince streets.

at 1 East Luray Ave. Clients may call 703-549-8072 24/7 for support. Visit [www.friendsofguesthouse.org](http://www.friendsofguesthouse.org).

❖ Incorporated in 1985, in Virginia, through partnership with 14 agencies, **Christian Relief Services (CRS)** offers up to 24 months of transitional housing, case management and supportive services for homeless people. Around the country CRS operates affordable

housing units. Contact [info@christianrelief.org](mailto:info@christianrelief.org), visit [www.christianrelief.org](http://www.christianrelief.org), or call 703-317-9086.

❖ **Assistance League of Northern Virginia**, is an all-volunteer organization that clothes, feeds, educates and nurtures those in need. Working through six elementary schools and Inova Fairfax Hospital, Assistance League touches the lives of some of the

most needy in Northern Virginia. The schools involved include Dogwood Elementary in Reston, Lynbrook Elementary and Garfield Elementary in Springfield, Cora Kelly Elementary in Alexandria and Pine Spring Elementary in Falls Church. Volunteers and donors always needed. Email [ALNorthernVA@yahoo.com](mailto:ALNorthernVA@yahoo.com) or visit [www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org](http://www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org).

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## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

# Getting to Know Alexandria's High School Sports

## T.C. Williams

**School:** T.C. Williams High School  
**Mascot:** Titans  
**School Colors:** Red, white and blue  
**Athletic Director:** Steve Colantuoni, 703-824-6860

**Football Coach:** Marc Matthie (first year)

Matthie takes over a program that broke a 22-year playoff drought in 2013 but finished 2-8 in 2014. The Titans won their opener against Dunbar 28-19 last season, but lost their next five games. TC defeated Lee 40-38 for its other victory.

**Boys' Basketball Coach:** Bryan Hill

**Girls' Basketball Coach:** Keshia Walton

**Boys' Soccer Coach:** Martin Nickley

**Baseball Coach:** Chris Metz  
**Rival School:** West Potomac



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

**Colson Jenkins (6), seen during the 2014 season, and the T.C. Williams football program will be led by first-year head coach Marc Matthie.**

## Boys' indoor track team were 2015 state champs.

**What happened last year:** The boys' indoor track team won the 6A state championship. Noah Lyles won indoor state titles in the 55m and the 300m (repeat), and Josephus Lyles captured the 500m championship. The boys' 1600m relay team repeated as state champion. During outdoor track season, Noah Lyles repeated as 100m and 200m state champion, and Josephus Lyles repeated as 400m state champ. Iye Massaquoi won the girls' discus state championship. The boys' cross country team qualified for regionals. Then-senior harrier Anteneh Girma placed second at the 6A North region cross country meet and sixth at the state meet. The field hockey team went 12-3-1 in the regular season, but lost to Woodson in the opening round of the Conference 7 tournament. The boys' basketball team earned the No. 2 seed in the conference tournament, but lost to eventual conference champion South County in the opening round. The baseball team went 6-13-

1 during the regular season, but upset Annandale in the opening round of the conference tournament to earn a regional berth.

**Notable:** The T.C. Williams football program, made famous nationally by the 2000 Disney movie "Remember the Titans," starring Denzel Washington, won state championships in 1971, 1984 and 1987. Despite success that spanned into 1990, T.C. Williams experienced a 22-year postseason drought that ended in 2013, when the Titans went 7-3 in the regular season and qualified for the playoffs.

**Quotable:** "We battled all year long. We played everybody tight all year long. We're trying to change a culture and this is part of it — playing teams like this and getting as far as we can get. No one expected T.C. Williams to be where we're at today at the beginning of the year. Some other high school is supposed to be playing today, not us." — T.C. Williams baseball coach Chris Metz after the Titans lost to eventual state champion Madison in the opening round of the regional tournament.

**Members of the Bishop Ireton girls' lacrosse team celebrate beating St. Stephen's & St. Agnes to win their second consecutive VISAA state championship.**



PHOTO BY MARK STEPHENS

## Bishop Ireton

**School:** Bishop Ireton High School  
**Mascot:** Cardinals  
**School colors:** Burgundy and gold  
**Athletic director:** Bill Simmons, 703-212-5169  
**Football coach:** Tony Verducci (ninth year)

The Cardinals won five of their first six games and finished the 2014 season with an 8-4 record, including a 26-0 playoff victory over Saint John Paul the Great.

**Boys' basketball coach:** Neil Berkman  
**Girls' basketball coach:** Jason Harris  
**Boys' lacrosse coach:** Brandon Rose  
**Girls' lacrosse coach:** Rick Sofield  
**Baseball coach:** Rex Thomas  
**Rival school:** Bishop O'Connell

**What happened last year:** The girls' lacrosse team finished 20-3, repeated as VISAA Division I state champion and was ranked No. 4 in the final Nike/Lacrosse Magazine High School Girls' National Top 25 poll. The girls' basketball team reached the VISAA Division I state semifinals, losing to eventual champion Paul VI. The boys' soccer team reached the

## Girls' lacrosse repeated as VISAA champion.

WCAC semifinals.

**Notable:** The Bishop Ireton girls' lacrosse program experienced a season of firsts in 2014. The Cardinals captured their first WCAC title, beating Good Counsel in the championship game. Less than a week later, Ireton defeated St. Stephen's & St. Agnes in the VISAA state championship game. It was the first time the Cardinals had ever beaten the Saints, who are annually ranked among the nation's best.

**Quotable:** "Our word the past two weeks has been redemption. Redemption is if you fall short or you make a mistake, you make good on it. We fell short of what we were capable of and in this game we redeemed ourselves and we made good on it." — Then-senior Charlotte Sofield, after the Bishop Ireton girls' lacrosse team repeated as VISAA champion. The Cardinals lost in the WCAC tournament semifinals nine days earlier.

## St. Stephen's & St. Agnes

## Girls' lacrosse, field hockey won ISL AA titles.

**School:** St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School

**Mascot:** Saints  
**School Colors:** Red, white, green and gold.

**Athletic Director:** Stephanie Koroma (girls), 703-212-2776; Andrew Taibl (boys) 703-212-2775

**Football Coach:** Bernard Joseph (fifth year)

The Saints finished the 2014 season with a 4-6 record, beating St. Albans 28-9 in the regular-season finale. SSSAS lost to Alexandria foes Bishop Ireton and Episcopal.

**Field Hockey Coach:** Dionna Jordan

**Boys' Soccer Coach:** Bo Amato.

**Boys' Basketball Coach:** Ron Ginyard

**Girls' Basketball Coach:** Calvin Crenshaw

**Boys' Lacrosse Coach:** Andrew Taibl

**Girls' Lacrosse Coach:** Kathy Jenkins

**Rival School:** Episcopal

**What happened last year:** The girls' lacrosse team went 28-1 and won the ISL AA tournament title with a 13-12 victory over Georgetown Visitation. The Saints won 28 consecutive games before losing to Bishop Ireton in the VISAA state championship game for the second year in a row. SSSAS was ranked No. 5 in the final Nike/Lacrosse Magazine High School Girls' National Top 25 poll. The field hockey team went 20-3-1, won the ISL AA tournament championship with a 1-0 victory over



PHOTO BY MARK STEPHENS

**Ellie Carson, left, and the 2015 St. Stephen's & St. Agnes girls' lacrosse team finished ranked No. 5 in the Nike/Lacrosse Magazine High School Girls' National Top 25 poll.**

Georgetown Visitation, and lost to Norfolk Academy in the VISAA state semifinals. The boys' basketball team lost to rival Episcopal in the IAC semifinals, and lost to Trinity Episcopal in the VISAA state quarterfinals. The boys' soccer team lost to rival Episcopal in the IAC championship match.

**Notable:** St. Stephen's & St. Agnes girls' lacrosse coach Kathy Jenkins surpassed 600 career victories in 2012 and is approaching 700. Former Saints field hockey coach Marsha Way reached 500 career wins in 2013.

**Quotable:** "I thought we did really, really well with this team this year. They exceeded our expectations the whole season. We had close games and we came back and this one we just didn't finish." — Girls' lacrosse coach Kathy Jenkins after her team lost to Bishop Ireton 12-10 in the VISAA state championship game, snapping a 28-game win streak.

## Episcopal

**School:** Episcopal High School.

**Mascot:** Maroon.

**School Colors:** Maroon and black.  
**Athletic Director:** Jim Fitzpatrick (boys), 703-933-4034; Jen Fitzpatrick (girls), 703-933-4036.

**Football Coach:** Panos Voulgaris (fourth year).

The Maroon finished the 2014 season with a 7-2 record, winning six of their final seven games.

**Boys' Soccer Coach:** Rick Wilcox.  
**Boys' Basketball Coach:** Jim Fitzpatrick.

**Girls' Basketball Coach:** Katrina Reed.

**Baseball Coach:** Chris Warren.  
**Boys' Lacrosse Coach:** Scott Conklin.

**Girls' Lacrosse Coach:** Ashley McDowell.

**Rival School:** St. Stephen's & St. Agnes.

**What happened last year:** The boys' soccer team beat rival St. Stephen's & St. Agnes 2-0 to win the IAC championship. The boys' basketball team won the IAC title, defeating three-time defending champion Bullis in the tournament final. The softball team defeated Stone Ridge to win the ISL A championship.

## Softball, boys' soccer, basketball won league titles.

**Notable:** U.S. Senator and former Republican presidential candidate John McCain graduated from Episcopal in 1954. McCain played football, tennis and wrestled while at the school, holding for two years the record for "fastest pin," according to the school's Web site. NFL running back Tim Hightower attended Episcopal for two years, graduating in 2004. He rushed for 2,010 yards and 22 touchdowns in 14 games with the Maroon. Hightower played college football at the University of Richmond and was drafted by the Arizona Cardinals in the fifth round of the 2008 NFL Draft, No. 149 overall. Arizona advanced to Super Bowl XLIII during Hightower's rookie season, losing to Pittsburgh. He played three seasons with the Cardinals and one with the Washington Redskins, totaling 2,054 yards and 24 touchdowns. As of mid-August, Hightower was attempting a comeback with the New Orleans Saints after three years away from the NFL.