



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Patsy Ticer leads the Democratic Party in the 2007 St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Patsy Ticer Dies at 82

City's first female mayor a political trailblazer.

By JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Patsy Ticer had a passion for politics. She came by it naturally, majoring in political science in college and marrying local politician Jack Ticer during his first term on Alexandria's City Council. But among friends, she was also known for her love of tennis.

"Tennis was a huge passion for mom," said Ticer's daughter Margaret Janowsky. "Her mother was a semi-professional player in D.C. and mom played throughout her lifetime. Many of her friends remember mom as much for wearing her little tennis skirts around town as they do for her politics."

But it was Ticer's political career that garnered her accolades from across the nation as Alexandria's first elected female mayor then four-term Virginia state senator. On Aug. 7, the longtime Democratic party matriarch died at Inova Alexandria Hospital after suffering complications from a fall. She was 82.

"It is difficult to imagine a time when Patsy was not deeply involved in our community," said Mayor Allison Silberberg. "I have often introduced Patsy as the most beloved person in our city, and she was that and so much more. She was a rock star. Everywhere we went, citizens wanted to come over and speak with her."



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN

Patsy Ticer, left, was a longtime supporter of Mayor Allison Silberberg.

Patricia Keyser Smith was born Jan. 6, 1935, in Washington, D.C. In 1947, her family moved to Alexandria. She graduated from George Washington High School in 1951 and continued her education at Sweet Briar College, where she earned a bachelor's degree in political science in 1955.

In 1956, Ticer married City Councilman John "Jack" Ticer. They lived in Yates Gardens until 1961 when they purchased a home on Prince Street. Ticer, whose parents had worked on Jack's political campaign, became involved in neighborhood activism and had a career in real estate before entering into politics at the urging of her husband and also then-mayor Charles Beatley.

SEE PATSY TICER, PAGE 19

Back to School

Year-Round school starts again at Samuel Tucker Elementary.

By VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

Most Alexandria students have a few weeks of summer left. There's still time for a last minute vacation or a few more summer sleepovers. But Samuel Tucker Elementary isn't like most schools. After a five-week summer break, the year-round program at Tucker kicked off again on Aug. 3.

"Every [year] it starts off the same," said Principal Rene Pascal. "You get that beginning of the year energy and excitement. What's surprising is the genuine embracing of this early start. These kids are ready to go back."

Pascal says the key to offering a positive year-round school experience is making sure students see school as more than just a class-

room. Pascal adds that his school has the best playground in the area.

According to the Association of Curriculum and Development (ASCD), research shows year-round schools are slightly better in academic achievement than schools with extended summer breaks. ASCD also notes that year-round education can also be beneficial for low income families who cannot afford summer school or programs for their students. The majority of parents with students in year-round schools express a favorable opinion of the program. The idea has hit some bumps in Alexandria though. The Mount Vernon Community School was also briefly a year-round program and a dual-language program, but in 2014 then-Principal Peter Balas

SEE YEAR-ROUND, PAGE 24

Safe Place Nearby

National initiative offers local children a safe refuge.

By VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

The youth had been missing from home for five years; his mother had assumed he was dead. When he finally showed up at one of the Safe Places, the details about his life began to unfold. The youth was a runaway from Alexandria. It would be easy enough to find his

family, except that he was from Alexandria, La. Mike Mackey, the gang coordinator, contacted Michael Johnson with the Department of Parks and Recreation. Through the Safe Places program, Johnson was able to find the child's family and arrange to have him sent back home. A little while later, Johnson flew down to Loui

SEE SAFE PLACE, PAGE 24

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Let Them Eat Cake Friendship Firehouse Festival celebrates 243rd birthday.

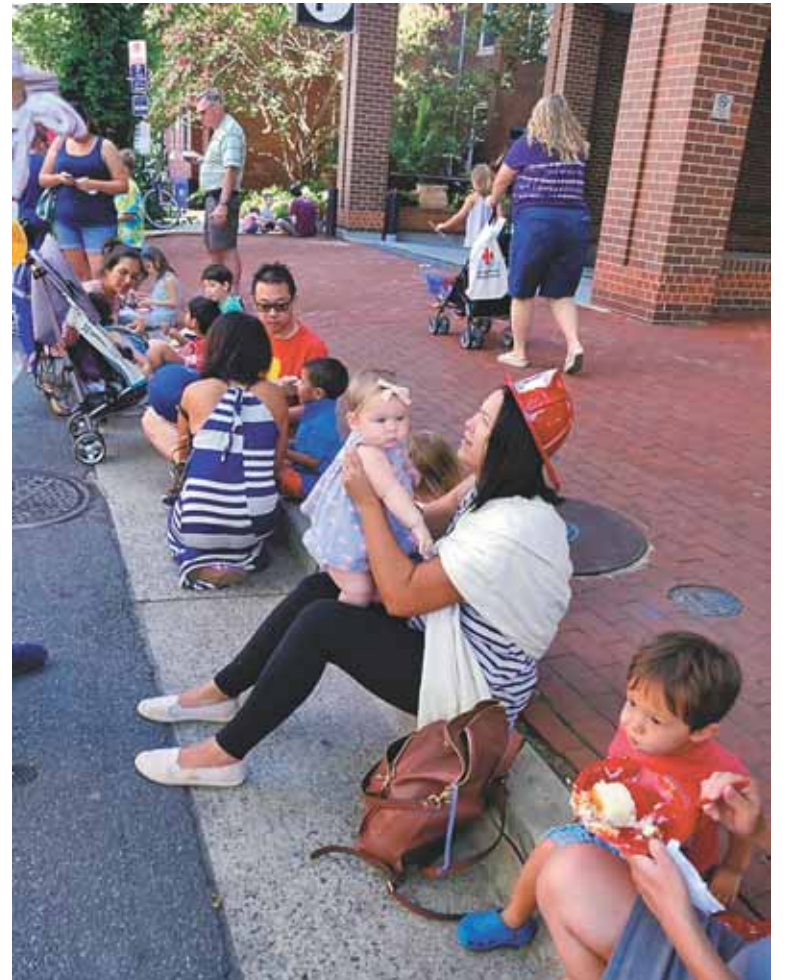


Councilwoman Del Pepper, Mayor Allison Silberberg and Alexandria Fire Chief Robert C. Dubé are ready to cut the first piece of cake at the 243rd birthday party of the Friendship Firehouse Festival. This is sponsored by the Friendship Veterans Fire Engine Association. Pepper said, "This is sure a large knife."



Tiny hands have been waiting patiently and are finally rewarded with a large piece of white cake piled high with frosting at Saturday's 243rd birthday celebration.

PHOTOS BY
SHIRLEY RUHE
GAZETTE PACKET



Cake lines the curb as well wishers sit to enjoy a piece in celebration of the annual Friendship Firehouse Festival on Saturday, Aug. 5.



Caylee Conley, 3-1/2 years old, concentrates on the spray coming out of her hose as she aims at a window on the simulated burning house. She has come from Woodbridge to attend the annual festival.



Assisted by her father and an Alexandria firefighter, 18-month-old Amelia Newman holds tight to her firehose aimed at the burning house located at the end of the alley.



Two-year-old twins Sam and Nico Manchester pause with their father after climbing on the firetruck at the Firehouse Festival on the 100 block of S. Alfred Street.



Councilwoman Del Pepper and Mayor Allison Silberberg struggle to keep their fire hats on as a gust of wind sweeps across the street.

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Working for Summer Miracles

Kidsave's families host foreign foster children.

By LAURYN OVERHULTZ
GAZETTE PACKET

A group of Colombian foster children and the Colombian ambassador stood in a room chatting about the children's summer in America so far. The youths were going around the circle saying what they loved to do most here. Most responses were about soccer, crafts or playing outside. One child, 11-year-old Santiago, had an answer for the ambassador that stood out the most.

"Just being with my family," Santiago responded to the Colombian ambassador.

Santiago has been living with Eddie and Cathy Miller of Alexandria for the past four weeks of this summer through the organization Kidsave. Every weekend, the host families take the children to different events put on by the organization so that the children may meet with potential adoptive families. The children also got to participate in fun events around the area, such as meeting the Colombian ambassador.

Kidsave is a non-profit organization that works to match older children in institutionalized care with host families for different periods of time. The host family is responsible for advocating for the children and helping them build connections so they may be adopted.

John and Donna Sabo of Fairfax have been hosting two siblings for the past four weeks, 12-year-old Diana and 8-year-old Emmanuel. The siblings have loved riding bikes and swimming.

"The kids seem happiest when in water



Santiago in a plane at Andrews Air Force Base where Eddie Miller used to fly planes.

Get Involved

To provide funding, volunteer or become a host family, contact Kidsave at 202-503-3100 or go to www.kidsave.org.

and I see both being great additions to a swim team. They both have come a long way since they arrived and had no ability to swim," said Donna Sabo. "But mostly, I think they just enjoy being able to act like kids, something they haven't had an opportunity to do much of in their lives."

The Miller family and the Sabo family participated in a Kidsave program called Summer Miracles. In the Summer Miracles program, foreign foster children are placed in host family homes for the summer. This particular summer the children were here for four weeks and the end goal is to have the children be adopted.

Terry Baugh and Randi Thompson created Kidsave together after visiting foreign orphanage institutions and learning about what happens to orphans after they are too old to stay in the orphanages. Baugh said that these institutions are overcrowded and most of the time, older children are pushed out.

"When they get out of these institutions, they don't have a job. They don't have a skillset. Many haven't completed their education. They are essentially set up for homelessness," Baugh said.

From there, Baugh and Thompson decided to put together a program that would help older children make connections so they may be adopted or create a support system for them when they



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Emmanuel and Diana together.

SEE SUMMER, PAGE 8

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Teens Tackle Poverty Close To Home

Catholic Diocese of Arlington sends 820 teen volunteers.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
GAZETTE PACKET

Rory Cameron from Arlington took off with a fleet of mini vans on June 24 where he was headed for a week of WorkCamp with the Catholic Diocese of Arlington. Lily McIntire changed into her white shirt with the blue motto for this year “I Will Love” stamped on the back. She headed for the prayer circle before taking off on Sunday afternoon.

WorkCamp began 29 years ago with 18 teens in one parish. In 2017 there were 820 teens and another 400 adults working on 190 projects to make homes warmer, safer and drier for those in need. Kevin Bohli, director of the Diocese of Arlington’s Office of Youth Ministry, says the projects are always within the boundaries of the diocese, which includes 21 counties and seven cities in central and northern Virginia.

PEOPLE AT WORK

“We want our teens to understand you don’t have to travel a long distance to find poverty or to help those in need. Service begins right here at home,” Bohli said.

Cameron worked this year in a trailer park to build a new deck with a wheelchair ramp for an elderly woman who had trouble getting out. The first day they took out several



Carolina Magro

big bushes and “our leader had us save all of the flowers and move them.” The next day they started building the deck. “Measuring was critical in building the framing for the deck so when the ramp is connected it would fit right,” he said.

Cameron says the teenagers get tool training before they participate in WorkCamp. “Each parish has its own individual tool training. It is a basic course — hammer, drill, nails.” But he says his dad has had him do projects for years so he is pretty good at building. “But some kids don’t know anything.”

Carolina Magro, from Alexandria, says she also did tool training. I could use a hammer but I’m not comfortable with power tools.

“We had a contractor watching us to supervise our projects step by step.” Cameron said, “They were very big on safety — always wear safety glasses, gloves, drink excessive amounts of water.”

McIntire says the first step was always to walk around the work site to spot any potential hazards like power lines or unlevel grounds.

Magro, in her second year as a volunteer, says this year she had lots of small projects for a deaf couple including installation of new storm doors, refurbishing the garden, fixing the railing and the outdoor steps. Her project last year had been the floor for a playroom for mothers with young children. She says the women and children were living in a temporary situation because they were homeless or in a bad place. Magro says she had heard a lot about WorkCamp and her sister had done it. “It’s relational ministry and rewarding helping her and knowing her life changed.”

McIntire says this is her third year at



Emily Madden

WorkCamp. “The first year I didn’t know what I was doing but all the kids in the parish do WorkCamp.” She estimates they had 40-50 teenagers this year from her parish. “It is important to make lasting friendships, not just superficial. I got close with the crew. Every year I would go in with the mindset that it wouldn’t be as fun as the last year so you work harder, but I had an amazing experience.”

Cameron says it was a joke in his family that his mom was going to make him go the first year and then he could go back if he liked. This is his third year; all three years he has been assigned to decking projects. “I like construction. It’s very fun and I like helping people.” He says the residents would come out and talk to them about once a day. “She had limited mobility but she seemed very thrilled with us.”

McIntire says that each day was pretty

much routine starting with mass at 7 a.m. Emily Madden, a 4th year camper from Alexandria, said, “The bathroom lines are pretty long but that’s just a little sacrifice you do for the good feeling you have.” This is followed by breakfast. Cameron says they had breakfast each day with teenagers they knew but during the workday from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. they were assigned to a group of teenagers from a different parish. “They like to have you get to know each other.”

On the way to the site each day there was a “devo,” a teen devotional leader who led the group in prayers during the car ride and lunch. Madden says they would have a discussion about what they were going to do that day, “tie in the Catholic aspect, make sure we were doing the work for the right reason.”

SEE TEENS TACKLE, PAGE 13



Teenagers at WorkCamp 2017 through the Diocese of Arlington’s Office of Youth Ministry hydrate during a break on their project to make houses safer, drier and and warmer for those in need in the central and northern Virginia area.



Teresa Nguyen, left, with crew

PHOTOS BY
NATALIE J. PLUMB

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Science and Magic Converge at Apothecary Museum

Harry Potter received a birthday celebration in Alexandria.

BY ANTONELLA NICHOLAS
GAZETTE PACKET

For the sixth year in a row, the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum presented “The Real Science behind Harry Potter,” a succession of special tours given to youngsters on Sunday, July 30 explaining the actual science involved in potions from the Harry Potter universe. The occasion was Harry Potter’s birthday — actually, his birthday is July 31.

The Apothecary, originally founded in 1792, is home to medical equipment and ingredients that are restored to their 18th-century appearances, many of which are mentioned in the Harry Potter series. The tour compared the way “muggles,” non-wizard humans, used the ingredients with the way wizards used them. The tour also noted ingredients in the wizarding world that have equivalent properties to real world ingredients.

“It’s really obvious that there are Harry Potter associations,” said Site Director Lauren Gleason about the similarities between the Apothecary’s herbal remedies and the potions made in the books.

Dragon’s Blood, Mandrake Root, and Unicorn Root all are ingredients that exist

in both the real world and the Harry Potter universe. For example, according to Gleason, Dragon’s Blood is the bright red sap taken from the Dragon Tree found in North Africa, and is used in paints and pigments. Furthermore, in the Harry Potter series, a bezoar stone was given to someone who had been poisoned. Bezoar stones exist in real life; however, in the Apothecary, pharmacists administered charcoal to absorb poison.

To kick off the tour, tour guides quizzed the children with Harry Potter trivia questions. Then the guides discussed the history of the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum. Next, the tour entered the historic laboratory where youngsters were faced with rows and rows of ingredients in glass bottles. Here, they learned about the parallels between the elements on the shelves and the ones used in wizard potions. Finally, the children were led up to a photo corner where they and their parents took pictures with Harry Potter costumes and props.

Apothecary museum volunteers, and volunteers from the Junior Women’s League, gave tours and asked trivia questions.

To add to the celebration, Hooray for Books sold Harry Potter books and merchandise at the museum, and Dolci Gelati, whose store is close by, sold special gelato flavors including “butterbeer” and “knickerbocker glory.”

The youngsters, many of whom have read, or are in the process of reading, the Harry Potter books, enjoyed the tour. “It was



Lauren Gleason, site manager of the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, was dressed as character Dolores Umbridge at the museum’s celebration of Harry Potter’s birthday.



Volunteer Jessica Highland explained to youngsters the similarities between ingredients in the Harry Potter series and ingredients at the museum.

PHOTO BY ANTONELLA NICHOLAS/GAZETTE PACKET

pretty cool to learn about how potions are made” said Richard Woodward, one of the children who attended the event. Richard said he liked learning about the properties of lavender, a plant used in sleeping potions.

Parents took pleasure in the event also. “I really like the antique bottles, they maintain that old-time atmosphere,” said

Charlene Woodward, Richard’s mother.

Matt Slight and his son Grant also enjoyed the historic ambience. “It’s a neat experience — this is historic and we’re getting the kids involved,” Slight said. Grant pointed out that he also liked the lavender for its pleasant fragrance and its sleep-inducing effect.

Restaurateur To Be Honored

Blackburn named Business Leader of the Year.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Bill Blackburn, managing partner with the Home Grown Restaurant Group and past president of the Del Ray Business Association, has been named the 2017 Business Leader of the Year by the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce.

A 15-year resident of Alexandria, Blackburn oversees operations of the Home Grown Restaurant Group, which includes Pork Barrel BBQ, Holy Cow and the sushi bar in Del Ray, and Sweet Fire Donna’s and Whiskey & Oyster in the Carlyle neighborhood.

Blackburn recently completed two terms as president of the Del Ray Business Association and is a current board member of the Alexandria Small Business Development Center. Along with Donna and “Mango” Mike Anderson, the restaurant group has invested dollars and resources into the Del Ray and Carlyle neighborhoods and employs over 100 people in the City of Alexandria.

Blackburn helped established the Holy Cow Burger Fund, through which a quarter for every



Blackburn

sandwich sold is donated to a local Alexandria nonprofit through ACT for Alexandria. Since its inception in 2012, the fund has donated nearly 400,000 quarters (\$100,000) to more than 150 local charities.

As a member of the DRBA, Blackburn has been instrumental in providing knowledge, leadership, time and resources for numerous efforts including: the annual Turkey Trot; the Del Ray Halloween Parade;

providing a 30-foot Christmas tree for Del Ray; leading efforts for First Thursday events; and Art on the Avenue, which draws over 20,000 people to the City of Alexandria.

Additionally, Blackburn serves on the board of directors for the Advocates for Alexandria Aquatics. He resides in Del Ray with his wife Megan, their 2-year-old son and two dogs.

Blackburn will be honored at the annual Business Leadership Awards Presentation and Reception, presented by Burke & Herbert Bank, on Oct. 18 at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial.

For more information, visit www.alexchamber.com.

Summer Miracles

FROM PAGE 5

end up on their own.

The host families have made the home the most stable place for the children. Each week, Santiago sits down and writes out a daily schedule of all the events that will be happening so that he knows what he will be doing. The Miller family also has ‘house rules’ which consist of small rules such as Santiago having to have his room clean before he can do anything that day and rules on how to treat the dogs of the house.

“They don’t have a connection with an adult, a way to get a good job or really anything that propels them forward,” said Baugh. “It saves lives to have parents in it, it improves so much of our lives.”

According to Baugh, there is still a great need for host families. There is an application online, an online orientation and a home

study that has to be completed before becoming a host family.

The main goal of a host family is to advocate for the children and to find someone for them to connect with.

“You are here to find this child the best parents they could possibly have,” said Eddie Miller. “You are here advocating for all the kids, not just my kid. It’s not about me. It’s about them.”

— Eddie Miller

The Miller family had already looked into becoming an emergency foster family for the City of Alexandria when Cathy Miller stumbled across Kidsave on the internet. They became more interested in long-term adoption and decided the Summer Miracles program could be a good fit for them and it did turn out to be a good fit for their family.

“Santiago definitely has changed our lives, in a good way,” Eddie Miller said.

“Santiago definitely has changed our lives, in a good way.”



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Mike Manuel 703.615.6317
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Pia Taylor 301.661.9974
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Mary Taylor 703.785.5619 & Pat Tierney 703.850.5630
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Connie Arega 703.608.3106
ALEXANDRIA / Autumn Chase Hunt \$ 559,000

3 levels with bump-out and 2-car garage/3BR/2.55BA. Open upgraded kitchen - new granite counters, new paint, upgraded hardwoods throughout, and new deck plus oversized windows and high ceilings. Family room off kitchen with gas fireplace. Private walk-out basement to fenced backyard. Gorgeous view!



Mary Taylor 703.785.5619
Arlington / Colonial Village \$ 284,000

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Long & Foster Old Town Historic District Office 703.683.0400
400 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314



OPINION

An Open Letter to Readers and More

Buy an ad in our annual **Newcomers and Community Guide**.

Last year, when I wrote an editorial similar to this one, there was some controversy about it inside Connection Newspapers which includes the Gazette Packet. But many community organizations, civic organizations, businesses and elected officials responded positively, and it made a difference.

I have a special favor to ask, once again:

Buy an ad in our Newcomers and Community Guide.

EDITORIAL To put on my publisher's hat (not my editor's hat) for a minute, if you have a marketing budget, and you value coverage of local newspapers (not just ours), why wouldn't you spend a portion of that budget (any portion) supporting that platform?

Show your support for our organization which continues to be here to support the forces of good in our communities.

Our annual Newcomers and Community Guide is a pullout section that will appear in the Aug. 23, 2017 edition of all 15 Connection Newspapers, published by Local Media Connection. Deadline is Aug. 16.

We are creating a quality special issue, and we need your help. Whether you invest in a

small ad in a single paper (super affordable), or a full page in all 15 of our papers (super value), we appreciate your help this month.

For the same reasons that organizations, businesses and campaigns know they want local newspaper coverage, newspaper advertising is an effective way to reach voters, residents, clients. Connection Newspapers reach more than 200,000 readers, in print and online, including remarkable demographics. Our readers include local and national decision makers in the public and private sector.

According to an independent study cited by the National Newspaper Association: 86 percent of voters who cast ballots in the election four years ago read newspapers in print or online; 79 percent of voters ages 18 to 34 read newspapers in print or online; 91 percent of voters who contribute to campaigns read newspapers in print or online.

The deadline for the Newcomers and Community Guide is Aug. 16. Digital enhancements and support are available. For more information, email sales@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9431.

See www.connectionnewspapers.com/advertising

Share Community Tips

We need help from our readers with ideas for our annual Newcomers and Community Guide.

We're hoping to share special places, activities, events, organizations and volunteer opportunities. What should someone new to your neighborhood know about? Events that should not be missed? Organizations that do a great job? Places to volunteer? A great place to see the sunset? We'd love to have your photos to go along with your suggestions.

We will publish a selection of local tips along with a plethora of information useful to newcomers and long-time residents alike, including our award-winning Guide to the Parks, information on how to vote and more.

See last year's community guides by going to www.connectionnewspapers.com/PDFs/ and scrolling down to Newcomers.

Email tips and photos to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com or send as a letter to the editor via the website at <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/> by Wednesday, Aug. 17.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Role of Social Media in Disasters

BY IOANA LUTAI
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
MANAGER
VOLUNTEER ALEXANDRIA



What is Social Media? How do we get information during an emergency? Is Social Media important in disasters? Is the information obtained from accurate sources? Is the information news or just an opinion?

**VOLUNTEER
ALEXANDRIA**

If you would like to discover the answers to these questions, please attend the "Role of the Social Media in Disasters" on Aug. 14 at 6:30 p.m.

at 123 N. Alfred St. If you would like to attend, please sign up at www.volunteeralexandria.org and enter the name of the

training.

As the lead agency in Alexandria for the recruitment and management of unaffiliated volunteers during an emergency, Volunteer Alexandria in collaboration with Alexandria's Office of Emergency Management are offering this learning opportunity for residents to know how to select and validate information, how to connect with the loved ones and how to notify

authorities if the phone lines are down. The term "social media" refers to Internet-based applications that enable people to communicate and share resources and information. Some examples of social media include blogs, discussion forums, chat rooms, wikis, YouTube Channels, LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter.

Social media can be accessed by computer, smart and cellular phones, and mobile phone text messaging. Social media can be used somewhat passively to disseminate information and receive user feedback via incoming messages, wall posts, and polls. A second approach involves the systematic use of social media as an emer-

gency management tool that includes warnings, receive victim request for assistance, establish situational awareness and upload images to create damage estimates.

To learn more about the role of social media, join us on Aug. 14 at 6:30 p.m. If you would like to become an emergency preparedness volunteer and educate others about disasters and how to prepare for them, please call 703-836-2176 or email our emergency preparedness manager at emergencyresponse@volunteeralexandria.org.

Become a volunteer and participate at our next training, "Active Shooting," on Aug. 24.

LETTERS Creative Solutions

To the Editor:

Seeing the ongoing stream of letters to the editor about bicycles in Old Town, it seems to me the focus should not be on motorists who think bicyclists should behave differently (e.g., not run stop signs), or on bicyclists who feel pedestrians should behave differ-

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 11



Snapshot

Blue heron at Founders Park.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. DEMEO

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Gazette Packet

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

ently (e.g., not jaywalk), or on pedestrians who feel both motorists and bicyclists should behave differently, but rather the focus should be on making Old Town more accommodating to bicycles. Bicyclists using the many bike trails in the D.C. area need to get through Old Town.

How about making half of Union Street one way south for cars, with the other half segregated for bicycles? Besides countries like the Netherlands, and cities like Portland, Ore., communities right in our own area, like Bethesda and Silver Spring, are doing things to make things more accommodating to bicycles. They have found that making things more accommodating to bicycles cuts down on automobile traffic and more bicycles on the road make motorists more tolerant of bicycles. I think we could get creative, rather than complain and expect our law enforcement officers to solve the problem.

Mike Schauer
Alexandria

Sowing and Sewing

To the Editor:

In Old Town, at the water, behind the Torpedo Factory, there is a large sign with several panels, welcoming tourists and provid-

ing some historical information. This large sign has a typo, It says George Washington "sewed" the seeds of revolution, not that he "sowed" them. (I just imagine him with a little sewing machine, sewing those revolutionary seeds.) It is bad enough that the text reads as if it were written for a third grade history book. But to have a mistake like this remain for every new visitor to see is an embarrassment to the city.

I believe the city has its own sign department. I think, perhaps incorrectly, that it costs them next to nothing to make a sign. Ever since they placed that sign, I have reported the typo every year or two, trying to get them to fix it. They won't. Each time I report it, I am routed to a different department. The people in the Office of Historic Alexandria seemed mortified, but nothing was done. One office said the sign would be replaced with the waterfront rebuilding, and if it took years, so be it. Once it was suggested that the city did not have enough money to change the sign panel. Other departments to which I was routed seemed annoyed to be bothered.

I can't fathom why this sign has not been changed. Is it that city staff is now comprised mostly of people who are used to texting abbreviations, and so don't care about something like that? I have no idea, but I think the typo should be fixed now, not years down the pike when the waterfront re-do is finished and a new sign will

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12

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OPINION

Safety Is Everyone's Concern

To the Editor:

Months ago, around the time of the George Washington Parade, I took a photo of a damaged sign along the 700 block of Wilkes Street of Alexandria around the same week of the George Washington Parade. I called the city at 703-746-4000 and it was replaced (and then damaged and replaced again just last month).

I also saw sidewalk/curb damage at the corner of the 600 block of Wilkes and 400 block of South Washington Street where no repair was done until I called it in after weeks as of thinking someone else would have called.

When residents see something unsafe, they should use the city's Call Click Connect online or call 703-746-4000 and report the damage.

Not everything can be



Along the 700 block of Wilkes Street of Alexandria, around same week of the George Washington Parade, this sign was damaged and subsequently replaced after calling City Hall. The new sign was damaged as of July 3, and between all this time large tree branches full of leaves were broken off and covered the sidewalk for days in the same area until that was called in.



Photo of damaged sidewalk/curb at the intersection of 400 and 600 block of South Washington and Wilkes Street.



Photo of lamp pole located on federal property in the 200 block of South Washington and Prince Street.

solved by the city. I photographed a damaged lamp pole in the 200 block of South Washington and

Prince Street, but it's on federal property according to the city's code enforcement office. It's sitting

up high above ground level and it could hurt pedestrians or motorists if wind or rain further dam-

aged its eroded base.

Activist Geri Baldwin
Alexandria

PHOTOS BY GERI BALDWIN

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 11

likely be made.

Visitors should know that Alexandrians know the difference between sowing and sewing.

Marla Brin
Alexandria

Aiming for True 'Eco-city'

To the Editor:

The chaos across the river this summer virtually drowned out some extremely good news for Alexandrians.

At the 2017 Conference of Mayors in

Florida, Mayor Allison Silberberg signed a commitment to transition Alexandria's entire energy portfolio to clean, renewable energy by 2035. She joined more than 130 U.S. mayors who have pledged to steer their city toward 100 percent renewables. They, like so many citizens, understand that clean energy is a boon for city budgets, public health, new jobs and businesses, and economic growth — as well as a healthy environment.

But is it feasible? Completely! Renewable energy has come of age. Renewables, including wind and solar, now generate electricity for less than the cost of oil, coal, and in some cases even natural gas.

Not only that — renewable energy now ranks among the fastest-growing sectors of our economy. Today the solar sector em-

loys more people than oil, gas, and coal combined. The country's fastest-growing occupation?

Wind technician!

Despite its obvious benefits and inevitability, the energy transition has stalled at the national level. We commend Mayor Silberberg and the many other local and state elected officials who are committed to keep the progress going.

Mayor Silberberg is to be commended for this move toward transforming Alexandria into a true "Eco-city." Alexandrians look forward to seeing the City Council back up this pledge with planning and action.

Carole Douglis
Alexandrians for Clean, Renewable Energy (ACRE); Sierra Club

MILITARY NOTES

Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com.

U.S. Air Force Reserve Airman 1st Class **Trevor J. Armentrout** graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas. Armentrout is the son of Jeffrey J. and Tamara L. Armentrout of Alexandria, and brother of Tyler R. Armentrout of Kennesaw, Ga. He is a 2015 graduate of Kennesaw Mountain High School, Kennesaw, Ga.

U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class **Kelly C. Quispe** graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas. Quispe is the daughter of Nicanor and Edelvina Quispe of Springfield. She is a 2007 graduate of Bishop Ireton High School.



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PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

More than 800 teens from the Diocese of Arlington spent time this summer fixing homes for needy families in the surrounding area. Pictured are Bishop Michael F. Burbidge, WorkCamp teen and adult volunteers with Kevin Curtis, after building him a new wheelchair ramp at his Stafford County home. Front row from left are Audrey Craig, 15; Claire Meere, 14; Curtis; Theresa Waggoner, 17; and Timothy Fleury, 17. Back row, from left are Michael Nicklas, 17; Marianne Estebal, 17; Mara Delmare, 15; Jack West, 17; Burbidge; Marylee Helbing, 16; Monica Castro, 18; Benjamin Paczak, adult volunteer; Hannah Ziari, 16; Peter Nickle, 16; Theresa Waggoner, 17; David Crego, 16; and John Williams, 15.

Teens Tackle Poverty

FROM PAGE 6

Teresa Nguyen says everyone in the crew had a role. Hers was to be the “dynamo” to keep up everyone’s spirits.

After they arrived at Madden’s site she says it was measuring space for the gutters and chop sawing the pieces until the lunch break — peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, fruit, snack and drink every day. Then back to work until 4 p.m. followed by a shower. Nguyen said, “They wouldn’t let you into dinner unless you had a shower. I can understand. It got pretty hot.” After dinner there was a program with a speaker or musical performance “and one night I remember we had ice cream,” Nguyen added.

Madden said, “The program was one of my favorite things with lots of music. You got to be with your parish people and your new friends.” Madden says this is her 4th year of WorkCamp where she helped build a wheelchair ramp. “It was somewhere close to King’s Dominion. It was kind of funny, we passed King’s Dominion every day going to the site and coming back.” Next year Madden hopes to return to WorkCamp as part of the home base crew and when she is old enough as an adult leader.

Nguyen, also in her 4th year of WorkCamp, says last year she helped repair a wheelchair ramp “that had boards poking out and nails everywhere” so that the resident’s grandson could safely get out of the house.” On the last day the residents can come together with the crews and they pass around the mi-



Rory Cameron, left, and crew member

PHOTO BY NATALIE J. PLUMB

crophone. “What really touched my heart was my resident came with her two grandchildren and said they were no longer trapped inside the four walls of their house and her little granddaughter could now play outside on the deck without her having to worry and her grandson could get his wheelchair outside.” Nguyen added, “We think they are letting us come inside their house and helping them, but they are really helping me.”

Bohli says he attended WorkCamp as a volunteer contractor in 1995. “The experience had such a strong impact on me that I left my position as a mechanical engineer for the government in 1997 and began to do youth ministry.” In 2001 he took over the diocesan office of Youth Ministry “and began running the very camp that had such a strong impact on my life.”

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Gathering for Oktoberfest

Port City Brewing keeps patrons cool with popular seasonal lager.

BY JAMES MIESSLER
GAZETTE PACKET

Fans of Port City Brewing braved the summer heat on Friday, Aug. 4 to get their hands on a cold one (or three) at the Port City World Headquarters in Alexandria. The main attraction was Oktoberfest, the brewery's acclaimed and award-winning seasonal lager, which was released on Friday. The event drew crowds of thirsty patrons, as well as a Puerto Rican cuisine food truck and a live band, Wes Tucker & the Skilletts. The lager, which is released in late summer annually, is only available for a limited time; those who miss out on this year's batch will have to wait until 2018 to get a taste, as Port City Brewing respects Oktoberfest's seasonal history.

"The popularity of the release event has grown year over year ..."

— Bill Butcher

"Traditionally, Oktoberfest is a harvest beer, and traditionally it goes back to before refrigeration," said Bill Butcher, founder of Port City Brewing. "This was a beer that was brewed in March, and then it would be cellared throughout the summer and the beer would be ready for release at the end of summer around harvest time. It usually sells out in mid-October."

The release event has seen a steady increase in popularity, as has the brewery since its inception in February 2011.

"The popularity of the release event has grown year over year, just as the company has grown and more people have become aware of our beer and of our brewery," said Butcher. "So it seems to get more and more

popular every year."

There's a reason for the large crowds that attended the release event: Oktoberfest is an award-winning lager, and one of Port City Brewing's most popular seasonal items.

"I think people anticipate that this is one of our most popular seasonal beers, and it's an award-winning beer," said Butcher. "It won a silver medal at the Great American Beer Festival. It has quite a bit of market recognition, so there's high expectations and a lot of anticipation around the release of this beer."

It's a beer that is great for quenching a summer thirst due to the refreshing qualities it possesses. "The beer is a Vienna style lager," said Butcher. "It's very refreshing and it's heavily focused on malt, so the beer is malty and bready and has a very refreshing quality to it. One of the things that makes it special is that we lager the beer for six weeks in the tank developing its special flavor characteristics."

While Port City Brewing's Oktoberfest release is a yearly event, for some patrons, Port City Brewing is a weekly affair that offers great beer and great people.

"This is a great place," said Mike Marion, a weekly customer of the brewery. "The people who work here are friendly. They're great people. I know a lot of them personally. [The beer] is also constantly good, from one year to the next. I would recommend it to anybody, as long as they like beer."

Port City's page about Oktoberfest is located at www.portcitybrewing.com/the-beer/oktoberfest/



Patrons gather at Port City Brewing for Oktoberfest, the brewery's award-winning seasonal lager, released on Friday.



PHOTOS BY JAMES MIESSLER

Port City Brewing is located at 3950 Wheeler Ave.

History Beyond the Dominant Historical Figures

Centennial of the Everyday: Humanizing the voiceless.

BY LOGAN BOTTS
GAZETTE PACKET

Known for hosting prominent historical figures, Gadsby's Tavern is using new art to challenge the way people view history.

The Centennial of the Everyday art history tour explores the complex history of Alexandria. As part of the Time and Place art history installment, the Gadsby's exhibition seeks to give voice to the anonymous by exploring stories of those often forgotten throughout history, in particular women, immigrants and the enslaved. The contemporary artwork was selected to reveal the manner in which art is created in conversation with history and compel people to think in a way that historical artifacts and information might not.

Many of the ornate features throughout



Izzeta Mobley, tour guide at Gadsby's Tavern.

PHOTO BY LOGAN BOTTS
GAZETTE PACKET

the museum were designed by artists Lauren Adams and Stewart Watson with the hope of staging an "intervention," challenging the overpowering narrative surrounding dominant historical figures and exposing the contributions of others. A time capsule of Alexandria during the federal era (circa late 1700s through the early 1800s), the tavern artwork serves as a reminder of the difficulties faced by women, immigrants and the enslaved.

Elizabeth Lockwood of Alexandria attended the event and "loved how it peeled back the layers of experience," and "challenged ways to think about the space." Lockwood said she would definitely recommend to anyone interested.

The final installment of the tour will be held Aug. 12 at 10 a.m. and 12 p.m. Tickets are \$15. Art pieces will be on display through Sept. 3. For more information, visit apps.alexandriava.gov/Calendar.

Setting a Summer Table

Warm weather design ideas.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

From a backyard barbeque to a simple brunch, there's still plenty of time to celebrate warm weather with table designs that embody summer's trends.

"We're still in summer and the weather is going to be warm for quite some time," said Amanda Mertins, president of Patina Polished Living in Alexandria. "An indoor or outdoor tablestyle depends on the occasion. Birthdays, holidays [and] retirements, all evoke a different feeling."

Start with fresh foliage inspired by the natural surroundings. "Go out into your garden and use flowers [or] greens on your table," said Mertins. "Simple summer dinner party tables look great with lots of candles in votive holders, mason jars and glass lanterns. Remember to hang some of them in the trees for romance."

Incorporate a personal touch into each place setting, advises Hope Hassell, Case Design/Remodeling. "It will make each guest feel truly welcomed and you will look like the perfect hostess. It's as simple as printing off some photos from your phone or just adding place cards."

"Keep it casual by presenting family-style dishes down the center of the table," added Kimberly Asner, designer at Country Casual



Sea-themed serveware in blue help create an elegant tone for summer entertaining.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MOLLY PRITCHARD



PHOTO COURTESY OF JT INTERIORS
Dinnerware and accessories like these from JT Interiors create a festive summer table.

Teak. "Mix in mood-setting candle lighting and colorful, fresh-cut flowers in multiples for the most impact ... keep arrangements below eye level for easy conversation."

For alfresco dining, practicality is key, says Courtney Thomas of The Picket Fence in Burke. Dinnerware needs to be both durable and aesthetically appealing. "Bamboo dishes ... are perfect for outdoor dining," she said. "They won't break if dropped and are a great alternative to melamine."

Summer offers an abundance of options for using color, says Hassell. "Not only do you have so many options of in-season flowers, but you also have the nature around you to provide the backdrop."

The color blue establishes the type of serene atmosphere that Molly Pritchard of Arlington-based interior design firm, Design Lines likes to create at her summer parties. "Especially light blue because everything

SEE SUMMER TABLE, PAGE 17

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BEFORE

THE CONNECTION
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August 23, 2017

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Due to the popularity and long shelf life of this issue, an overrun of the publication is made to meet demand. Extra copies are delivered to select Chambers of Commerce, Realtors, Citizens' Associations and local government.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF COURTNEY THOMAS

Break-resistant bamboo dishes are ideal for outdoor dining says Courtney Thomas of The Picket Fence in Burke.



COURTESY OF OF PATINA POLISHED LIVING

Adding a fresh flower arrangement to a table design, like this one by Patina Polished Living, will enhance the overall party.

Summer Table Trends

FROM PAGE 16
about it represents summer," said Pritchard. "It's cool and clean and neutral, especially when paired with white or cream. It creates a seaside feel which is very summery."

IN ADDITION TO COLOR, motifs can set the stage for summer dining. Designers at JT interiors in Potomac suggest using white dinnerware, emblazoned with a lemon, to turn an everyday meal into a summer soirée. The tableware can be accented with an array of accessories including platters, coasters, bowls and tea towels. "It creates a very summery look, and it's white and clean.

Lemons and water are summery, like lemonade."

Summer table décor need not be expensive, says Hassell. "Simplicity can be stunning," she said. "The thoughtful placement of a sprig of rosemary can add just enough without having to go overboard."

Originality is a quality that Mertins encourages. "Think outside the box," she said. "Having a brunch? Use a vintage quilt as the tablecloth. Hosting a baby shower? Use silver rattles as decor and baby silver cups for the flowers. The effort you put into your party table will go a long way to the overall success of the party."

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PEOPLE

First Responders Honored

Three officers from the Alexandria Police Department received the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor at the White House, in recognition of their heroism during the June 14 shooting incident at Eugene Simpson Stadium Park. The Medal of Valor is the highest decoration for bravery exhibited by public safety officers in the United States.



Battaglia



Jensen



Jobe

At the ceremony, President Donald J. Trump presented the awards to Alexandria Police Officers Nicole Battaglia, Alexander Jensen, and Kevin Jobe, along with U.S. Capitol Police Special Agents David Bailey and Crystal Griner. Trump also recognized personnel in attendance from the Alexandria Department of Emergency Communi-

cations, Alexandria Fire Department, Alexandria Police Department, Alexandria Sheriff's Office, and other partner agencies who responded to the incident.

The Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor, comparable to the military's Medal of Honor, is awarded to public safety officers who have exhibited exceptional courage, regardless of personal safety, in an attempt to save or protect others from harm.



Summer Graduates

PHOTO COURTESY OF ACPS

On Friday, Aug. 4, more than 20 students from the King Street campus and the satellite campus walked the stage to receive their diplomas as part of the T.C. Williams Summer School Graduation. Summer School Graduation enables students who had not met the graduation requirements at the end of the school year to continue their studies during summer school and obtain the credits to earn their high school diploma.

Library Receives Internship Grant

The Youth Services Department at the Beatley Central Library received an "Inclusive Internship Initiative" grant from the Public Library Association (PLA). The initiative is a Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Grant sponsored by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The grant enables the library to support two paid summer internships.

The selected interns work alongside mentors to create a learning project focused on civic engagement and the interns' interests. The internship's goal is to encourage teens to consider careers in libraries. Additionally, this internship aims to change the image of librarians and to bring diversity and inclusiveness to librarianship. The two interns chosen for the Alexandria Library are Josh Habib and Divine Tsasa Nzita.

Habib is a rising freshman at the College of William and Mary and plans to study biology, with the goal of becoming a doctor. He had volunteered in various Alexandria community organizations since a young age. Most recently, he volunteered with Al-



Teen Services Coordinator Isiah West (center) with summer interns Josh Habib (left) and Divine Tsasa Nzita.

exandria Library through his Senior Experience internship sponsored by Alexandria City Public Schools. He enjoyed the work and people so much that he applied for the PLA internship.

Nzita is a rising junior at T.C. Williams High School has only lived in the U.S. for four years, but has volunteered every spare minute of it to help her community. She plans to study family counseling with a minor in Korean language and literature, and will use the library internship to improve her interpersonal skills.



Rotary in Action

PHOTO BY JAY PALERMINO

Members of Alexandria West Rotary Club (from left) George Valenzuela, Jack Allen, Nadia Mokhtar with John Renner at the Friendship Firehouse Festival on Saturday, Aug. 2 as they are wrapping up a successful morning weathering the winds.



Community Foundation Scholarships

The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia has awarded scholarships to 89 students, totaling \$304,700, to support their continuing higher education beginning in the fall. The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia manages and administers the funds for 25 scholarships that support Northern Virginia students pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees. The Ashworth Grogan Scholarship / E.Koury was awarded to Sheza Shaikh of T.C. Williams High School going to University of Mary Washington.

Returning to TC

The Metropolitan Arts Collaborative (MetroArtsCo), in collaboration with T.C. Williams High School, will offer free ballet classes to TC students for a second year as part of the after-school activities program. Ballet classes will be held in the T.C. Williams Dance Studio and students will be trained by Virginia Britton, director, MetroArtsCo. Classes will begin Sept. 13, Wednesdays 3:30-5:15 p.m., through June 13, 2018. Students will be given an opportunity to sign up for class at the beginning of the 2017 school year. See metroartsco.org.



Patsy Ticer, City's First Female Mayor, Dies at 82

FROM PAGE 1

Ticer was elected to Alexandria City Council in 1982. She became vice mayor in 1984 and succeeded then mayor Jim Moran in 1991 when he was elected to the U.S.



Patsy Ticer as a 1951 graduate of George Washington High School

House of Representatives. In May of that same year, Ticer was elected to a full three-year term, becoming the first elected female mayor in the city's history.

During her tenure as mayor, Ticer championed social services, early childhood education and the arts. She led the city's successful fight against the Washington Redskins and then owner Jack Kent Cooke in his bid to build a new NFL stadium at Potomac Yard.

In 1995, Ticer was elected to the Virginia State Senate, unseating Republican incumbent Bob Calhoun in the 30th District. At the time, there were eight women serving in the state Senate.

"Mom's political campaigns were never about breaking a glass ceiling," said Ticer's daughter Margaret Janowsky. "It wasn't

"Mom's political campaigns were never about breaking a glass ceiling. It wasn't until much later that she realized the significance of her accomplishments."

— Margaret Ticer Janowsky



Patsy and Jack Ticer in a 2005 family photo.



Patsy Ticer with husband Jack, children Catherine, Margaret, Virginia and Jack Jr. and Angus King Jr.

until much later that she realized the significance of her accomplishments."

In the Virginia Senate, Ticer served on the Rehabilitation and Social Services Committee, the Local Government Committee and chaired the Agriculture, Conservation and



Patsy Ticer, center, was an avid tennis player.



Jack and Patsy Ticer

Natural Resources Committee. She announced her retirement in 2011 after serving four terms.

Ticer's accomplishments also included serving as the president of the National Association of Regional Councils. She was only the third woman to be president of the

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

prestigious national organization.

She participated in several local nonprofit and civic organizations and served as a warden at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. She was an Alexandria Hospital board member and served as president of the auxiliary TWIG.

Ticer is survived by her four children: Janowsky and her husband Laurent of Alexandria; John T. Ticer Jr. and his wife Hayley of Vienna, Va.; Catherine Ticer of San Jose; and Virginia Baechler of Alexandria. She also leaves behind five grandchildren: Park and Zack

Ticer; Sandrine and Marcel Janowsky; and Rand Baechler. Funeral arrangements are still pending.

"For me, Patsy was a touchstone and mentor, as she was to so many others," Silberberg said. "This is a profound loss, not just for me but for our entire city."

BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

WELL-BEING RESOURCES

The City of Alexandria reminds the community of resources to help cope with uncertainty or fear following the June 14 shooting incident at Eugene Simpson Stadium Park. Such tragic events—in addition to ongoing violence, political turmoil, and rapidly unfolding world events—can result in added stress, uncertainty, fear and depression.

For those who are experiencing these feelings, know there are resources that can help.

* If you are in crisis and need to talk to someone, call or text the PRS CrisisLink Hotline at 703-527-4077 or text "connect" to 855-11 (TTY, please dial 711).

* The City offers resources for coping with uncertainty and fear (www.alexandriava.gov/92897), with information about reactions to and ways to cope with these feelings, tips on managing general stress, and how you can help support the reactions of children and adolescents who are experiencing these feelings

(www.nlm.nih.gov/health/publications/helping-children-and-adolescents-cope-with-violence-and-disasters-parents/helping-children-cope-parents_146810.pdf).

* City employees have access to a free, confidential Employee Assistance Program with 24/7 telephone and online access.

For immediate police, fire, or emergency medical assistance, call 9-1-1.

As a reminder, the City's emergency hotlines also include the child protective services hotline at 703-746-5800; the domestic violence hotline at 703-746-4911; the emergency services for mental health or substance abuse crisis hotline at 703-746-3401; the adult protective services hotline at 703-746-5778; and the sexual assault hotline at 703-683-7273. All emergency hotlines operate 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

THURSDAY/AUG. 10

West End Business Association Happy Hour. 5:30-7:30 p.m., at Portner Brewhouse, 5770

Dow Ave. Members and guests networking opportunity. Visit www.alexandriaweba.com for more.

FRIDAY/AUG. 11

Free Bus Ride. Passengers who donate new school supplies (i.e. backpacks, notebooks, crayons, etc.) when they board a DASH bus on Friday, Aug. 11 and Monday, Aug. 14, will receive one free ride on DASH. Riders are asked to give their school supply donations to the bus operator when boarding. Last Year, FACE was able to help thousands of students start the school year with backpacks and essential school supplies.

Bunker Brews. 8-10 a.m., at Capitol Post 625 N. Washington St. Suite 425. Meetup event and networking. Visit nvite.com/BunkerBrews/xl212q for more.

Resource Fair. 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at Northern Virginia Community College's Alexandria Campus. In partnership with Fairfax County and

the City of Alexandria, Northern Virginia Community College's Alexandria Campus will host a resource fair for skilled immigrants called "Rebuild Your Professional Career in the U.S." to provide a forum for conversation and the opportunity for community members and professionals to share their experience and learn about strategies for job searching, credentials and training. This work conference is free and open to the public. Registration is required, and space is limited; visit www.eventbrite.com and search workforce conference. Call 703-324-7280, TTY 711 or email WDC@alexandriava.gov for more.

MONDAY/AUG. 14

Free Bus Ride. Passengers who donate new school supplies (i.e. backpacks, notebooks, crayons, etc.) when they board a DASH bus on Friday, Aug. 11 and Monday, Aug. 14, will

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 26

ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

ONGOING

Artwork Inspired by Nature

Exhibit. Various times through Aug. 31 at Huntley Meadows Park Nature Center, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Local artist-photographer Nina Tisara will share some of her mosaic work in an exhibit entitled "Inspired by Nature." Call 703-768-2525 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks.

Oil Paintings by Patricia Uchello. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. through Aug. 31 at the River Farm, 7931 East Blvd. Free. Call 703-768-6983 or visit www.patriciauchello.com for more.

Costumes of Mercy Street. Through Sept. 1, at The Lyceum: Alexandria's History Museum, 201 S. Washington St. To learn more about The Lyceum, visit alexandriava.gov/Lyceum or call 703-746-4994.

Ceramics Exhibition. Various times through Sept. 3 at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Exhibit called "Flexibility in Clay: Gymnastics and Gyration." Call Scope Gallery at 703-548-6288, visit www.scopegallery.org for more.

Gadsby's Tavern Museum Relics. Various times through Labor Day at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Learn the history of the museum, the purchase and see the original woodwork. Call 703-746-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org for more.

Mount Vernon Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-12 p.m., Wednesdays, through Dec. 14. Fresh local food, artisan crafts. Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/mtvernonmkt.htm for more.

Student Art Exhibit. Various times through Sept. 15 at the National Art Education Association (NAEA) gallery, 901 Prince St. NAEA is exhibiting artwork from across the country created by students who are members of the National Art Honor Society (NAHS/high school students) and the National Junior Art Honor Society (NJAHS/middle school students). Call 800-299-8321 or 703-860-8000 or email info@arteducators.org for more.

All the President's Pups. Saturdays 10 a.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. All the President's Pups Walking Tour, along the way, learn about George Washington's love for dogs, his dogs' unusual names, and his efforts to improve the quality of his hunting dogs through breeding. \$7. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

Mercy in Alexandria Walking Tour. Sundays at 1:30 p.m. at Alexandria Visitors Center, 221 King St. Experience an inside access tour of 19th century Alexandria. Inspired by the PBS mini-series "Mercy Street," accompany a trained military historian through Civil War-era Alexandria and learn the actual history behind the TV show. Short tours are \$15, private tours for five are \$149. Visit www.dcmilitarytour.com for more.

The Lyceum: 175 Years of Local History. Ongoing, Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday 1-5 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. On view in the museum's Coldsmith Gallery, the historical objects and images featured represent The Lyceum, the community at work, and commemorations and celebrations. Throughout the exhibition, visitors are invited to "be the curator" and think about why the various artifacts are in the museum's collection, and



"Life of the Universe" by Nahid Navab

Art Exhibits

Meet the artists on Saturday, Aug. 12. 7-9 p.m., at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 4915 East Campus Drive. Exhibitions "Zip Infinity," a series of acrylic paintings by artist Maremi Andreozzi and "The Time of No Time" by Nahid Navab will be on display through Sept. 17.

about how tangible representatives of the past help tell the story of Alexandria's history. Free. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org for more.

Pick-Up Hockey. Ongoing, Wednesdays and Fridays 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Mount Vernon Ice Skating, 2017 Belle View Blvd. Play hockey with other hockey buffs, hitting slap shots and learning puck handling skills that the pros use. Players must have full equipment. 16 and older. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/mtvernon/ or call 703-768-3224 for more.

Medical Care for the Civil War Soldier Exhibit. Ongoing at the Fort Ward museum, 4301 W. Braddock Road. ongoing exhibit which features original medical instruments and equipment from the

Civil War period and information on Union Army hospital sites in Alexandria. Free. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/fortward for more.

Alexandria's Nurses and Hospitals During the Civil War. Ongoing at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. An exhibit on the life of Clarissa Jones, a nurse at The Lyceum hospital during the Civil War. The true story of a nurse in Alexandria during the war, drawing parallels with characters portrayed in the PBS drama "Mercy Street," with references to the experiences of other nurses, such as Anne Reading, who worked in the Mansion House hospital, and Jane Woolsey, who served at the Fairfax Seminary hospital. Admission is \$2. Visit

www.alexandriava.gov/lyceum for more.

Shield of Earth: Defending the Heart of the Union exhibit.

Ongoing, museum hours Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sundays, noon-5 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum, 4301 West Braddock Road. Highlights of the exhibition include military passes issued by Provost Marshal's Office, construction tools, and original photographs of some of Washington's defenders. 703-746-4848 or www.fortward.org.

Who These Wounded Are: The Extraordinary Stories of the Mansion House Hospital exhibit. Ongoing, Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sundays, noon-4 p.m. at the Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St.



Live Music

Sierra Hull in Concert on Thursday, Aug. 17 at 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

Come see the site that inspired "Mercy Street," the new PBS' series inspired by real events that took place at Carlyle House. www.carlylehouse.org or call 703-549-2997

Color Disorder Exhibit. Ongoing, Thursday through Sunday, noon-4 p.m., Sundays, noon-4 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. A joint exhibition of artists Katie Baines and Amy Chan who use diverse painting materials such as acrylic, gouache, airbrush and screen print to build energized abstract paintings. www.nfaa.org or 703-548-0035.

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.

French Movie Night. Every Thursday, 7 p.m. in the back room of Fontaine Caffe and Creperie, 119 S. Royal St. View a French film. Free, no reservation necessary. Call 703-535-8151 or visit www.fontainecaffe.com/reviews.html.

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 or call 703-548-1789.

Alexandria Cars and Coffee invites car enthusiasts to meet for coffee at Hollin Hall Shopping Center in front of Roseina's, 1307 Shenandoah Road. Owners of classic cars, hot rods, exotic cars, motorcycles and more meet to share car stories and drink coffee. Group meets the first Sunday of every month. 8:30-11 a.m.

Fifty Years of Collecting. Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sundays 12-5 p.m. Fort Ward Museum, 4301 W. Braddock Road. An anniversary exhibit of objects from the Fort Ward collection. Free. Visit www.fortward.org or call 703-746-4848.

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 for more.

Second Thursday Music. Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. 7 p.m. Second Thursday of every month. Visit nvfaa.org to view concert calendar and listen to upcoming Second Thursday Music artists.

The Monday Morning Birdwalk takes place weekly, rain or shine (except during electrical storms, strong winds, or icy trails), at 7 a.m. (8 a.m. November through March), is free, requires no reservation and is open to all. Birders meet in the parking lot at the park's entrance at 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Direct questions to park staff during normal business hours at 703-768-2525.

Civil War Sundays. 1-5 p.m. at Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 North Union St., #327. Learn more about the Civil War as it occurred in Alexandria. Find dioramas, newspaper articles and more Free. Visit www.alexandriaarchaeology.org.

Doggy Happy Hour. Starting April 5, Tuesdays through October 5-8 p.m. at Jackson 20 and Hotel Monaco

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- Ocean Dunes at Upton Hill Regional Park, Arlington County
- Pirates Cove at Pohick Bay Regional Park, Fairfax County
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- Volcano Island at Algonkian Regional Park, Loudoun County



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ENTERTAINMENT

Playwright Performs His Work

“Wizard of Hip (or When in Doubt Slam Dunk)” at MetroStage.

BY CAROLYN GRIFFIN
PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
METROSTAGE

For the past 16 years you have seen the work of Thomas W. Jones II on our stage. His direction and choreography, books and lyrics for his original musicals have graced our stage offering exciting world premieres of his work and remarkable story telling. Whether it is the fictional

NOTES FROM THE PRODUCER

“Three Sistahs” or the tribute to Charlie Parker in “Ladies Swing the Blues,” to Bessie Smith in ‘Bessie’s Blues’ or to Pearl Bailey etc. etc. etc., his gift for telling the story and the unique way he can incorporate music into plays that aren’t even musicals make Tom Jones an incredibly dynamic artist. And now you will have the opportunity to see him back on stage because who knew he could also act?!

“Wizard of Hip (or When in Doubt Slam Dunk)” is an original play he wrote and toured throughout the U.S. in the 1990s, landing on stage at Stu-



Thomas W. Jones II

dio Theatre in 1992. It tells the story of Afro Jo as he progressed from adolescence to adulthood. Back in the day he literally toured with a chair ending up off Broadway for an extended run. As we say in our promo material he is now “a little older, a little greyer and hopefully a little wiser.” And this time he has two Lady Doo Wops

to help him tell his story accompanied by keys and percussion. He really does add music to everything!

Opening Aug. 17 and running for five weeks it will be a perfect entertainment for anyone from adolescents to adults. It is a journey that crosses race, class and gender, because we do have to grow up at some point. And hopefully we will all be a little hipper as a result.

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Smoke-Free Restaurant
www.lerefugealexandria.com

Alexandria, 480 King St. Doggy Happy Hour at Jackson 20 and the Hotel Monaco Alexandria offers specials on cocktails and beers plus treats and water for canine companions. Free, but drinks sold separately. Visit www.monaco-alexandria.com for more

Wake Up Wednesdays featuring The Pop Up Cafe. 7-9:30 a.m. on Wednesday's near the King Street Tunnel - Carlyle Entrance located near 2000 Duke St. near Motley Fool. The cafe will feature coffee, live music to help commuters start the day off right and donuts from Sugar Shack. maurisapotts@gmail.com

CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Summer Theatre Camps. Through Aug. 25, various times at the Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. Preschool-8th graders can learn acting, musical theatre, dancing, improv, Shakespeare, film making. Visit www.thelittletheatre.com or call 703-683-5778.

Community Dance. 7:30-9:30 p.m. every third Friday at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Live music. Tickets are \$4. Call 703-765-4573.

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

The Harmony Heritage Singers (Mount Vernon Chapter of Barbershop Harmony Society), a daytime, a cappella, Chorus, rehearses on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, monthly, at Sherwood Hall Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood

Hall Lane, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Newcomers welcome for fun or to book for a performance. Visit www.HHSingers.org, or call Bruce at 703-352-5271.

THURSDAY/AUG. 10

Big Splash. 11 a.m. at Upton Hill Regional Park, at 6060 Wilson Blvd. A celebration of Transurban's Big Splash Grant that funded summer camp programs in Arlington and Alexandria. Visit www.novaparks.com for more.

SATURDAY/AUG. 12

Garden Stroll and Ice Cream Social. 10 a.m.-11:30 at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Stroll the summer gardens with a Master Gardener docent, then cool down at an ice cream social in the 1784 Historic House. \$12. Call 703-941-7987 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring/.

Art of History. 10 a.m.-noon at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Art-focused tour of the “Centennial of the Everyday,” that views history through the lens of contemporary art. \$15. Call 703-746-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

Meet the Artists. 7-9 p.m., at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 4915 East Campus Drive. Exhibitions “Zip Infinity,” a series of acrylic paintings by artist Maremi Andreozzi and “The Time of No Time” by Nahid Navabwill be on display through Sept. 17.

Boardwalk Astronomy. 8-10 p.m., at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Join naturalists on a tour of constellations, comets and other current events happening in the heavens above. \$8. Call 703-768-

2525 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows-park/.

AUG. 12-13

8th Annual Alexandria Summer Sidewalk Sale. Various times, participating stores throughout Old Town and Del Ray. Visit VisitAlexVA.com/SidewalkSale for more.

SUNDAY/AUG. 13

An Outlandish Geek Tour. noon-1 p.m. at the Apothecary Museum, 105-107 S. Fairfax St. Learn about a few of the herbal medicines featured in Diana Gabaldon's “Outlander” series of novels, from cascara to dauco seeds. Tour recommended for adults only. \$15. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Apothecary or call 703-746-3852.

Summer Chamber Music Series. 3 p.m. Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Join trombonist Tyler Castrucci, along with violist William Neri, and cellist Molly Jones for an afternoon of chamber music. Free. Visit www.wmpamusic.org for more.

Medical Music Group. 4 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, 4915 East Campus Drive. “Music You Can't Refuse,” concert. \$20-50, veterans and students free. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/ or vanmmg@hotmail.com.

Artist Reception. 4-6 p.m. at the The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Artist Leslie Nolan talks about her exhibit, “Seduction,” on display through Sept. 17. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

Documentary Film Tour. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Alexandria. Hosted by Calek and SIR NOFACE Producer Justin Holstein, the “SIR NOFACE

ENTERTAINMENT

LIVES" tour offers attendees the chance to be among the first to see Calek's mind-bending SIR NOFACE documentary, which chronicles the Australian Government-sanctioned paranormal investigation of Cockatoo Island. Visit sirnoface.com for more information.

TUESDAY/AUG. 15

Genealogy Talk. 1-3 p.m. at the Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Learn how to use various record groups to find your pre- and post-Civil War Virginia ancestors and their plantation from genealogist Char McCargo Bah. Visit www.mvgenealogy.org for more.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 16

Wake Up Wednesday. 7-9:30 a.m. at the Duke Street Tunnel Connecting Carlyle to King Street Metro. Free coffee with a purchase of a donut, entertainment from local performers. Every Wednesday through September. www.alexandriava.gov/CarlyleFun.

THURSDAY/AUG. 17

Garden Tour and Tea. 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Tour the glorious gardens with a Master Gardener docent who will lecture about Green Spring past and present. Afterwards, enjoy a traditional English afternoon tea. \$32. Call 703-941-7987 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring for more.

Sierra Hull in Concert. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

AUG. 17-SEPT. 17

Wizard of Hip. Various times at MetroStage, 1201 North Royal St. Featuring Thomas W Jones II as he journeys from adolescence to adulthood as Afro Jo with original music by William Knowles and two back-up singers. Call 703-548-9044 or visit www.metrostage.org.

AUG. 18-27

Alexandria Summer Restaurant Week. Area restaurants offer \$35 for a three-course dinner or \$35 dinner for two; select locations offering lunch from \$10-20/person. Visit www.AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com or call 703-746-3301 for more.

SATURDAY/AUG. 19

Casting Leaves in Concrete Workshop. 9:30-11 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Green Spring staff demonstrates casting and painting techniques and assists participants in making one to take home. \$40 for the program plus \$25 supply fee. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring for more.

Sketch Hike. 10 a.m.-noon, at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Join park naturalist and artist Margaret Wohler at the park's Norma Hoffman Visitor Center and hike up to Historic Huntley to sketch some of the Mason family villa's historic architecture and landscaping. \$8. Call 703-768-2525 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows-park/.

Gardening Author Talk. 3-4:30 p.m. at the Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Nancy Lawson, a naturalist and columnist for All Animals magazine, will talk about her recent book, "The Humane Gardener: Nurturing a Backyard Habitat for Wildlife." Visit alexlibraryva.org.



Leslie Nolan's "Pulled By What Would Be"

Artist Reception

Artist Leslie Nolan talks about her exhibit, "Seduction," 4-6 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 13 at the The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. "Seduction" will be on display through Sept. 17. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

SUNDAY/AUG. 20

Tea and Princess Diana Lecture. 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Explore the many faces of Diana: fairytale princess, style icon, humanitarian and mother. Afterwards, enjoy a traditional English afternoon tea. \$32. Call 703-941-7987 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring for more.

Chamber Music Concert. 3-5 p.m., at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Cellist Randy Ward and pianist Chloe Sunyang Choi will play music by Beethoven, Brahms, and Vaughn Williams. Visit www.wmpamusic.org

DEADLINE AUG. 20

Open Invitation for Chorus. Rehearsals begin at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays at the Northern Virginia Community College Alexandria campus, 5000 Dawes Ave. Email leckstein@nvcc.edu or call 703-845-6252.

MONDAY/AUG. 21

Alexandria Chamber Golf Tournament. 1 p.m. at the Mount Vernon Country Club, 5111 Old Mill Road. Hot dogs and brats, beverages, reception, dinner, prizes. Sponsorships available, email micarrocchi@alexchamber.com.

Great American Eclipse. All day at Historic Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Learn the science behind eclipses and how to view them safely, solar eclipse glasses will be provided to attendees at all the programs. \$7 to \$12 per person. Visit go.usa.gov/xNvvb for more.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 23

Wake Up Wednesday. 7-9:30 a.m. at the Duke Street Tunnel Connecting Carlyle to King Street Metro. Free coffee with a purchase of a donut, entertainment from local performers. Every Wednesday through September. www.alexandriava.gov/CarlyleFun.

THURSDAY/AUG. 24

Historian Lecture. 7 p.m. at The

Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Meredith Barber is a local historian and student at William and Mary. Through research at the National Archives, she discovered previously unknown Athenaeum history during the Civil War including its employment as a logistics center by the Union Army. \$5, free for NVFAA members. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

SATURDAY/AUG. 26

Garden Terrarium Workshop. 1-2:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Begonia enthusiast Johanna Zinn provides information on this genus and teaches techniques for creating a terrarium. \$38 plus supplies. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring for more.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/AUG. 26-27

Begonia Show and Sale. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Show sponsored by the Potomac branch of the American Begonia Society. Free. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring for more.

SUNDAY/AUG. 27

Sister Musicians Concert. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. Artists and sisters Shelby Lynne and Allison Moorer will perform in support of their upcoming release "Not Dark Yet." Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

MONDAY/AUG. 28

7th Annual Charity Golf Tournament. 8 a.m. at Fort Belvoir Golf Club 8450 Beulah St., Fort Belvoir. Benefit for America's "Adopt A Soldier," an established nonprofit organization who has through

grassroots volunteerism, donations, and partnerships; provides a positive impact to our nation's wounded, deployed service members, hospitalized military children, homeless veterans, veterans and their families. Email golftournament@americasadoptsoldier.org for more.

Fall Vegetable Gardening. 7-8:30 p.m. at the Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Learn inexpensive techniques to extend the harvest and even enjoy some of the crops in the

Summer Sunset Movies In Mount Vernon

The Mount Vernon Rec Center at 2017 Belle View Boulevard will be the location for family-friendly movies throughout the summer. Twice a month, from 7-11 p.m., movies will start at sunset. The movie schedule is as follows:

- ❖ Aug. 11 - "The Lego Batman Movie"
- ❖ Aug. 25 - "Beauty and the Beast"

dead of winter. Visit mgnv.org or call 703-228-6414 for more.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 2

Celebrate Honeybee Day. 10 a.m.-noon at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Meet a beekeeper, see inside a beehive, learn a bee dance, do a bee scavenger hunt, learn how bees are important to the food supply and get tips on how to help honeybees. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring for more.

Saturday Cinema at Carlyle. 7:36 p.m. on John Carlyle Square, 300 John Carlyle St. Billy Crystal and Meg Ryan in "When Harry Met Sally." Free. Visit www.AlexandriaVA.gov/CarlyleFun.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 8

Patriot Day Golf Classic. 11:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. at Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road. 4th Annual Patriot Day Golf Classic to benefit two veteran and wounded

warrior organizations. Visit www.bellehavenc.com/golf/patriotday for more.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 9

Fall Garden Day. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Numerous local plant and garden craft vendors will have gardening materials, while a silent auction, bake sale, live music, food and kids' activity tent add to the festivities. Free. Call 703-642-5173 for more.

MONDAY/SEPT. 11

Yoga for Gardeners I. 9:30-10:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. This class features a gentle introduction to the vinyasa method which helps participants increase the strength, flexibility and endurance necessary for gardening. Class held indoors. \$123/person for 11 lessons. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring using code 290 426 2401 or call 703-642-5173.

Garden Sprouts: Nature

Playgroup. 10-11:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Preschoolers learn through nature-themed toys and puzzles while parents meet other playgroup parents one Monday a month. September's theme is "Pollinators Everywhere." Adult must accompany registered child. \$6/child. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring using code 290 401 2701 or call 703-642-5173.

SEPT. 16-17

Street Art Festival. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at 480 King St. King Street from Washington Street to the waterfront is transformed into an outdoor art gallery with original artwork by more than 200 artists from the U.S. and abroad. Featuring live music, and interactive art activities, as well as The Art League's Ice Cream Bowl Fundraiser. Visit www.artfestival.com/festivals/alexandria-king-street-art-festival.

SATURDAY/SEPT 23

Alexandria Symphony Orchestra. 8 p.m. at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Fisher Art Gallery NOVA, Alexandria Campus, 4915 East Campus Drive. Michael Rossi,

guest conductor. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 24

Alexandria Symphony Orchestra. 3 p.m. at George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Michael Rossi, guest conductor. Visit www.alexsym.org or call 703-548-0885.

SATURDAY/OCT. 7

Saturday Cinema at Carlyle. 6:41 p.m. on John Carlyle Square, 300 John Carlyle St. Featuring Alfred Hitchcock's "The Birds." Free. Visit www.AlexandriaVA.gov/CarlyleFun.

SATURDAY/OCT. 14

Members Support Party. 7-9 p.m., at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. The Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association invites members and friends to join us for La Vie en Rose, a French evening in the Athenaeum Gallery. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

Year-Round School Starts Again at Tucker Elementary

FROM PAGE 1

decided to cut the year-round program and focus funds and resources on the dual language program.

It's Paschal's seventh first day as principal of Tucker. Each time, Paschal says he gets a little more relaxed and a little more confident in the leadership team. He has a little extra help today, with former assistant principal Victor Powell coming by to assist with the day one activities and get back into the swing of things. It was a momentary throwback for Powell, who this year takes over as principal of Matthew Maury Elementary School.

Paschal says the first day is always focused first and foremost on safety and security.

"We're getting the kids into school and out through the the day," said Paschal. "Then at lunch you have to worry about food allergies and then about lunch money. Then it's about getting kids home. It's complicated, because everything is new for the kid."

In the school's office at the end of the day, administrators are scrambling to find a student who is not on the proper assigned bus. A flurry of phone calls are made with administrators reaching out to everyone who might have been with the child at various points of the day. Within minutes it's discovered that the student got on a bus with her sister, different from the one originally scheduled.

"We only had one kid left on a bus today," Paschal said. No student is allowed to get off the bus if they don't have a parent



Samuel Tucker Elementary students on the first day back to school



there to pick them up, which Paschal says can be a source of frequent frustrations in phone calls and parent conferences.

Paschal said it's often the parents who have a hard time letting go on the first day of school, which is why the PTA sponsors a "Boo-Hoo Breakfast" for parents dropping their students off for the first time.

At the first administrative meeting this week, Paschal says there's a tradition where teachers and administrators share their best day one story. Paschal already has his picked out. After dropping off his child, a parent came up to Paschal on his way out and said he was so happy to see that the students in the classroom had already sat down and were getting to work before the bell had rung.



Samuel Tucker Elementary students on the first day back to school.

PHOTOS BY
SUSAN HALE THOMAS/
ALEXANDRIA CITY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Finding Safe Places Nearby

FROM PAGE 1

siana to attend the youth's graduation and see him get accepted into the military.

Johnson has a dozen stories like this; A girl from Illinois who'd taken a wrong turn in life, a local student who had been expelled from school and facing a mental crisis. They all came in through the Safe Places program. The big black and yellow diamond emblem can be seen on public buildings like recreation centers and libraries across the city. Safe Places is a community program where youth in crisis can get immediate help. A network of sites and resources are staffed by various agencies, trained volunteers, and some businesses. The program started in Louisville, Ky. in 1982 and spread from there. Its spread in Virginia has been limited, however. Currently, Johnson says the only other Safe Places network in Virginia is in Hampton Roads.

There are 36 Safe Place sites across Alexandria, including all recreation centers, libraries, and fire departments. Each is manned by trained staff that know how to deal with issues related to suicide, bullying, and other issues youths might have come into contact with. Johnson noted that the program doesn't take the place of 911, but it does offer youth a comfortable place to address these issues away from the public view.

The program costs the city \$25,000 annually, through the Department of Parks and Recreation, which funds training and public awareness. Johnson said the program receives roughly six cases each year for bullying and six or seven gang-related issues. There were three runaway cases last year.

To reach out to the Safe Places program, call 703-746-5400 or reach out to the national organization at nationalsafeplace.org.

Schools Active in Summer

Many of the students are well into their summer vacations, but school never ends. At a School Board meeting on June 22, departing Superintendent Alvin Crawley addressed the board as superintendent for the last time to update the board members on the status of summer programs.

According to Crawley, staff spends the summer months reviewing data from the previous school year. Data on school accreditation from the previous year is expected to be released.

As a new West End school prepares to open in Fall 2018, Crawley said staff are working on preparing the school's new instructional programs. With redistricting also scheduled to take effect at the fall start of the 2018 school year, staff is also working on new transportation plans for the bus routes and preparing new train-

ing for the school bus drivers.

"They are the face of ACPS," said Crawley, "Sometimes the first face of the day."

Various summer school programs are taking place across ACPS. 2017 also marks the second year for the summer theater school, a program started out of George Washington Middle School last year. This summer also marks a transition period for the school system. In addition to having a new interim superintendent, Crawley noted that there are six new principals coming into the school system. Each of the new principals is assigned a mentor and a staff person at the ACPS main office as a resource to help them learn about the school system and transition into their new roles.

— VERNON MILES

SCHOOL NOTES

Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos are welcome.

Luanne Guthrie, of Alexandria, was named to the Champlain College

(Burlington, Vt.) trustee's list for the spring 2017 semester.

Wes Peterson Jr., of Alexandria, was invited to the local Fab Frosh Camp Top 100 in May in Washington, D.C. He will be attending Bishop O'Connell High

School in Arlington, to play basketball for Coach Joe Wootten.

Darby Philbrick, class of 2018, was voted one of three Hamilton College athletes that have been selected for the 2017 NESCAC Women's Lacrosse All-

Conference Team.

Philbrick was voted onto second team with all-conference honors leads the Continentals with 30 goals and adds six assists for 36 points. She's in the top 20 in the conference with 34 draw controls (15th) and 25 ground

balls (18th) and has caused 12 turnovers. She has 71 goals and 16 assists for 87 points in her 49-game Hamilton career. Philbrick has won 80 draws, picked up 64 ground balls and caused 33 turnovers. She attended St. Stephens & St. Agnes High School.

Legals



ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS INVITATION TO BID NUMBER 170706

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public is seeking responses from qualified bidders for the provision of HVAC unit replacements at Mount Vernon Community School located at 2601 Commonwealth Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22305. Specifically, HVAC Units CU-1, CU-2, CU-3, CU-4, and RTU-1 will be replaced.

A non-mandatory pre-bid conference will be held August 9, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at ACPS Central Office located at 1340 Braddock Place, Alexandria, VA 22314. The pre-bid conference will take place in the 6th Floor Conference Room 610-2, with a site visit following.

All questions must be submitted via email, with the notation, "ITB No. 170706, MV Replacement Units" on or before 3:00 p.m. on August 15, 2017. If necessary, an addendum will be issued and posted to the ACPS Vendor Self Service site (registration with login is required).

Sealed electronic bids shall be received in **ACPS' Vendor Self-Service System on or before 3:00 p.m. August 22, 2017.** The time of receipt shall be determined by the system time stamp in the Vendor Self-Service System. Mailed paper bids shall not be accepted.

Offerors submitting bids in the Vendor Self-Service System should also send (1) one original response on a USB flash-drive, labeled as "ITB 170706, MV Replacement Units" on or before 3:00 p.m. on August 22, 2017 to Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314. The time of receipt for the mailed or hand-delivered USB shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement Office.

ITB documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8181, or by downloading the ITB from the ACPS website at <https://www.acps.k12.va.us/purchasing>. **Registration on the Vendor Self Service system at <https://acps.munisselfservice.com/> is required.**

Meloni Hurley
Procurement Manager

Legals



ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS REQUEST FOR INFORMATION NUMBER 170707

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking proposals from qualified Offerors to evaluate and select those who are best qualified and eligible to receive financial assistance for academic support services in accordance with the ACPS Partners in Education (PIE) Grant.

All questions must be submitted via email, with the notation, "RFP 170707, Partners in Education Grant" on or before 3:00 p.m. on August 14, 2017. If necessary, an addendum will be issued and posted to the ACPS Vendor Self Service site (registration with login is required).

Sealed electronic proposals shall be received in **ACPS' Vendor Self-Service System on or before 3:00 p.m. August 25, 2017.** The time of receipt shall be determined by the system time stamp in the Vendor Self-Service System. Mailed paper proposals shall not be accepted.

Offerors submitting proposals in the Vendor Self-Service System should also send (1) one original response on a USB flash-drive, labeled as "RFP 170707, Partners in Education Grant", on or before 3:00 p.m. on August 25, 2017 to Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314. The time of receipt for the mailed or hand-delivered USB shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement Office.

RFP documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8181, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPS website at <https://www.acps.k12.va.us/purchasing>. **Registration on the Vendor Self Service system at <https://acps.munisselfservice.com/> is required.**

Meloni Hurley
Procurement Manager

An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them.
-Werner Heisenberg

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Legals

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S&D FOOD SERVICE LLC trading as JACK'S PLACE, 222 N. LEE STREET, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a BEER AND WINE ON PREMISES license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Tserendogor Batjargal, Owner. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

I believe the future is only the past again, entered through another gate.
-Arthur Wing Pinero

Announcements

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OBITUARY



Marla Kahn McConnell was born on December 6, 1951 in Chicago Illinois. She died on July 21, 2017 at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, MA from complications from a liver disease.

Marla's mother and father were Estelle Kahn (deceased) and Albert Kahn, (deceased). Marla grew up on the north side of Chicago and attended Solomon Elementary School and Von Steuben High School. She also attended the A.G. Beth Israel Hebrew School. She enjoyed singing in the high school choir. She also loved to dance. For college Marla went to Southern Illinois University where she graduated in 1972 with a degree in Special Education. Marla went on to teach Special Education at Matthew Henson Middle School in Charles County Maryland from 1975 to 1978.

In 1972 Marla married the late Mark Reisch and had two sons from this marriage, Jason and Daniel. Their marriage ended in divorce.

On June 1, 1991 Marla married Terry McConnell. Together they raised Marla's two boys and Terry's children, Matt and Melissa. A fifth child, Karin Purugganan was adopted later. Marla was very proud of the fact that all five children graduated college and found good jobs. Marla was an extremely caring parent with a no-nonsense attitude. She provided each child with good boundaries and love.

Marla taught preschool at MOPs Preschool and Resurrection Preschool in Alexandria Virginia in the 1980s. In the early 1990s Marla taught at the Alexandria Community Network Preschool for disadvantaged children. In the mid 1990s Marla worked as a chef at the Anne Mimi's restaurant in Alexandria. In the late 1990s through 2005 Marla worked as a circulation specialist at the James M. Duncan branch of the Alexandria Public Library. Marla excelled at every job she ever did. She approached every situation with verve and a sparkling personality. Her smile was magnetic.

In 2006 Marla and Terry moved to Shelburne Falls, MA. Marla and Terry loved living in New England. In the summers they loved swimming in their pool in their backyard. Year round they loved to play Bananagrams. Marla was a fantastic chef. She was also a great artist, making many attractive quilts. Most of all Marla was a loving wife, mother, sister and friend. Family was very important to Marla. She loved her many cousins in Chicago and California.

Marla will be greatly missed. Marla is survived by her husband of 26 years, Terry McConnell. She is also survived by Jason and Daniel Reisch. She is also survived by Karina and Alex Purugganan and their five children Moses, Maire, Ella, Declan and Philomena. She is also survived by Melissa Craig and Kyle Craig and Marla's son Matt McConnell and wife Caroline and children Charlotte, Cameron, Jackson and Kirsten. She is also survived by her sister Linda Kahn and her husband, Chris Gordon; her sister Beth Malichi, Beth's daughter Naama Ashtamker, her husband Nimrod, and their children Kfir and Maya, Beth's son Alon, and son Naor and his wife Nofar and daughter, Arbel.

In lieu of flowers please make donations (by check only) to the Arms Library at 60 Bridge St. Shelburne Falls, MA 01370 for the new children's room.

Coincidental Or Not



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

One of our older/oldest cats, Biscuit, born late September 2006 and his oldest human parent, yours truly, born late September 1954, are both having teeth issues. In fact, the exact same teeth issues: the 1st molar and the 2nd bicuspid in the "upper right quadrant" are causing us problems and have to be extracted.

Biscuit's teeth extraction will be done by our regular veterinarian. Mine will be done not by my regular dentist but by a specialist, an oral surgeon. Unfortunately, the two practices are not related so there's no chance of a "BOGO." Nor is there any chance that the two procedures will be about the same cost. My teeth extraction will be double at a minimum, perhaps even quadruple, if I'm lucky. (I made inquiries.) Accordingly, Biscuit's extraction will occur/has occurred first.

What's of interest to me is the coincidence that Biscuit and I need the same teeth extracted at the same time. Which when you consider that Biscuit and I are approximately the same age, is not really a surprise. It's really more of a fact of life/aging - for both of us. Perhaps there are other behaviors and/or physical/mental indicators in Biscuits day-to-day activities which might clue me in to my own aging process. After all, we are living similar lives.

So far, Biscuit's post-teeth-extraction recovery has been uneventful. He's been spry and energetic. He's been on the kitchen counter, various window sills, the dining room table, the ironing board and all the other furniture; he's knocked over the wicker trash basket in our bedroom three times and he's been eating like a dog. In short, he's "back baby."

He almost appears to be smiling - except when we attempt to give him his post-procedure pills. As per usual, during the day he's sleeping on the back of the couch and at night he's curled up in the laundry basket; and he's still the first cat - of five, an hour early, I might add, for breakfast and dinner, to place his order/meow his presence. He's as ready to eat as ever. He hasn't missed a beat or a step. If I had to summarize/characterize his actions now, I'd say he has a real joie de vivre, "an exuberant enjoyment of life." So what am I waiting for? Godot?

As for my procedure, I've been told it takes 30 minutes or so. Local anesthesia is used (unlike Biscuit who was totally sedated/anesthetized). Moreover, the post-surgical pain is not terrible and the chance of infection is minor. And though I'll have a space in my gums where my teeth used to be, no longer will I be anticipating the pain and discomfort that cracking or splitting either of these two teeth would cause. The only pain I'll likely have is the pain of payment. (See 7/26/17 column entitled "Taking Care of Business" for associated details.)

I guess my curiosity/concern is whether I trust anything I've observed from Biscuit's dental experience - considering we're the same age. Is what's good for the cat also good for the human - all things being equal, sort of? Is Biscuit's return to normalcy so quickly and so easily - and so vigorously, a lesson to be learned? If seeing is believing and I do see extremely well for someone nearing his 63rd birthday, then Biscuit's 'experience' and the comparison between his pre- and post-extraction behavior should be an inspiration to us all, especially those of us of similar age with one and the same, two actually, teeth which need to be extracted.

I mean, the procedure I've been putting off is not exactly brain surgery, it's oral surgery. I'm not admitted to a hospital. It's outpatient. I'm in and then out. Same day service, just like the restaurant where my wife, Dina works. I don't even need someone to drive me home (unlike Biscuit. I had to drive him home.) And now that Biscuit is home, safe and sound, I suppose it's time for me to buck up and schedule my appointment. After all, it has nothing to do with cancer and everything to do with quality of life. I'd say that's a win-win.

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Potomac Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.

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BULLETIN

FROM PAGE 19

receive one free ride on DASH. Riders are asked to give their school supply donations to the bus operator when boarding. Last Year, FACE was able to help thousands of students start the school year with backpacks and essential school supplies.

ARHA Board of Commissioners. 8 a.m. Alexandria Redevelopment & Housing Authority. Contact Roy Priest at 703-549-7115.

Joint City-Schools Facility Inv. Task Force: **Tour.** noon. Contact Katherine Carraway at katherine.carraway@alexandriava.gov or 703-746-3855.

Boards and Commissions Chair Meeting. 6:30 p.m. Human Services Building, 2525 Mt. Vernon Ave. Contact Kate Garvey at kate.garvey@alexandriava.gov or 703-746-5979.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 16

Backpack Stuffing Marathon. Volunteers wanted for FACE's Backpack Stuffing Marathon. Call FACE at 703-619-8414.

Alexandria Archaeological Commission (AAC). 7 p.m. St. Elmo's Coffee Shop, 2300 Mt. Vernon Ave. Contact Eleanor Breen at Eleanor.Breen@alexandriava.gov or 703-746-4399.

THURSDAY/AUG. 17

Backpack Stuffing Marathon. Volunteers wanted for FACE's Backpack Stuffing Marathon. Call FACE at 703-619-8414.

SATURDAY/AUG. 19

Half-day Citizens' Police Academy. 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Alexandria Police Department Headquarters, 3600 Wheeler Ave. This academy allows residents and community members to learn about various aspects of the Police Department during the summer months. Topics will include patrol operations, use of force policies, the K9 Unit, Special Operations Team, crime scene investigation and criminal investigations. This free class is limited in size to approximately 45 participants. Participants of this half-day Citizens' Police Academy must be at least 18 years of age and live or work in the City of Alexandria. Visit alexandriava.gov/Academies to apply.

MONDAY/AUG. 21

Foster Parent Orientation. 6-7:30 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. The City of Alexandria will hold a free, no obligation information session for prospective foster parents. An agency representative will be on hand to answer questions and explain the requirements to foster and/or adopt. For questions or to RSVP, call 703-746-5858 or email Christine.Levine@alexandriava.gov.

SATURDAY/AUG. 26

Boating Safety: Weather Forecasting. 9:30 am - Noon. at the Alexandria West Marine Store, 601 S. Patrick St. Learn about boating safety at free seminars on the last Saturday of the month, July through October. Classes will be taught by the Northern Virginia Sail and Power Squadron. Books about the topic each session will be available for purchase. Visit www.nvps.org for schedule.

THURSDAY/AUG. 31

Application Deadline. The Alexandria City Council is seeking applicants to fill vacancies on boards, commissions, and committees. All applicants must complete a Personal Data Record Form no later than 5 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 31, 2017 for consideration at the Sept. 12, 2017 City Council meeting. For a complete list of vacancies, go to www.alexandriava.gov/boards.

Orientation for Prospective Volunteers. 3:30 p.m. at the Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. in the large meeting room. RSVP Northern Virginia, the region's largest volunteer network for people 55 and older, will hold an orientation for prospective volunteers. The event is free and open to the public. Free parking. To sign up for the Aug. 31 orientation email chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org or call 703-403-5360. To learn more about RSVP, visit www.rsvpnova.org.

9

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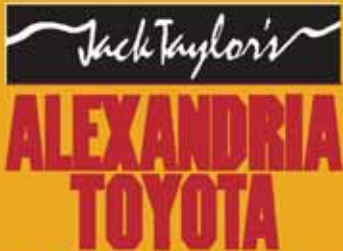
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