

Alexandria Gazette Packet



25 CENTS

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AUGUST 24, 2017



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

A crowd gathers at the Alexandria City Dock Aug. 21 to watch the Great American Eclipse.

Moon Mania Thousands gather to watch solar eclipse.

JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

They came prepared. Armed with certified eclipse glasses or homemade viewers, crowds took to the streets, parks and rooftops across the city Aug. 21 for a glimpse of what was billed as the Great American Eclipse.

"It was the chance of a lifetime to experience this event," said Elle Taubner who joined eclipse watchers along the Alexandria waterfront. "I wasn't sure what to expect but it was exciting to take time out of the day to witness this."

Traveling at about 1,500 miles an hour, the

moon's shadow cut a 70-mile swath across the country in the first total eclipse of the sun in nearly a century to traverse the U.S. from coast to coast.

While not in the path of totality, Alexandrians were able to witness a partial eclipse, with about 81 percent of the sun being obscured as the moon passed between the sun and Earth. Locally, the eclipse began at 1:17 p.m., reached its peak at 2:24 p.m. and ended at 4:01 p.m.

"I'm glad we had the glasses to see and experience this properly," added Richard Tauber. "That allowed us to be able to watch the eclipse in its entirety."

SEE MOON MANIA, PAGE 10

Dedicated To Community

Tim Elliott, former School Board chair championed Scholarship Fund of Alexandria.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Tim Elliott, former School Board chair and champion of the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria, died Aug. 17 at Goodwin House Alexandria following a seven-year battle with multiple myeloma.

Elliott was known around the city for his many civic endeavors. In addition to serving nine years on the School Board, he was a member of the Alexandria Parks and Recreation Commission, co-chair of the Alexandria Cultural Assessment Commission and vice chair and board member of the Old Town Civic Association.

"I keep my fingers in the pie and that keeps life sweet," Elliott said when named a Living Legend of Alexandria in 2011.

Elliott also served on the City Manager's Small Business Task Force and represented the OTCA



PHOTO BY STEVEN HALPERSON

Tim Elliott

on the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Task Force. In the 1970s, he was one of the plaintiffs in a suit against the City of Alexandria to prevent the construction of high rise apartment buildings along the Potomac River where Founders Park now stands.

"I definitely got my sense of serving the public from my Dad," said Elliott's daughter Farar, who works as a curator for the U.S. House of Representatives and has

SEE TIM ELLIOT, PAGE 17



PHOTO BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE-PACKET

Melinda Douglas, Public Defender

The Best Defense Money Can't Buy

Public Defender Office celebrates 30 years.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

Today, Alexandria's accused take legal representation for granted, but Kenneth Labowitz remembers the Alexandria legal system before Melinda Douglas. Labowitz said he remembered a time when lawyers representing the indigent were incentivized to have their clients plead guilty. There was one lawyer in the city who spoke Spanish,

and when he wasn't available to take a case with a Spanish-speaking client, the city would appoint a lawyer who spoke French because it was close enough.

But that started to change in 1987 with the establishment of Alexandria's Office of the Public Defender. Rather than calling on lawyers to work pro bono cases, the Office of the Public Defender has a staff of full time lawyers working cases for those who cannot afford representation. Those who remember the office's founding and have worked with it over the years credit the success to the driving passion and willpower of its founder and Chief Public Defender: Melinda Douglas.

On Aug. 18, a who's-who of le-

gal professionals in Alexandria came together to celebrate Douglas and 30 years of the Public Defender's Office. N. Alfred Street is packed with law offices, and nearly all of them seemed to be present for the celebration. The event was hosted by the Law Offices of Zwerling/Citronberg, Christopher Leibig, and Joni

Robin. Several judges, current and retired, praised Douglas' work to reform Alexandria's public defense.

"I was a young judge when the office first started, and it's grown into an excellent organization," said Donald Haddock Sr. "[I've seen] hundreds of cases where cli-

SEE PUBLIC, PAGE 11



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Seeing More for Themselves

Joint city-schools capital planning task force tours proposed public school project sites.

BY DAN BRENDEL
GAZETTE PACKET

The Ad Hoc Joint City-Schools Facility Investment Task Force toured several of Alexandria City Public Schools' (ACPS) capital projects on Monday, Aug. 14. City Council charged the task force to find a way to sequence and streamline 33 city and public school system capital projects during FY19-27. These are forecasted to cost \$645 million, leaving a funding gap of \$106 million. The photos show the variety of the school system's reported needs, namely with respect to increasing capacity for projected enrollment growth.



The vehicle maintenance garage at the ACPS Transportation Center. Four maintenance bays service all of ACPS's vehicles, though not all bays can accommodate buses. Currently mechanics are able adequately to prepare buses each day for their morning runs, but only if they "hump," according to one mechanic. With busing capacity needs expected to increase with rising enrollment, more bays and parking are needed. Upgrading the facility will cost an estimated \$6.1 million over FY19-27. A fleet management study, which the city expects to be complete by late fall, may identify opportunities to streamline both city and school vehicle maintenance. Currently the two fleets are maintained in separate facilities across the street from one another.



A utility basement at George Mason Elementary School has flooded with raw sewage several times in recent years, due to malfunctions and inadequate sizing of the pump apparatus. ACPS says George Mason is among its sites that are most under-capacity and in the worst material condition. Reconstructing the school will cost an estimated \$40.9 million over FY19-27, as well as require "swing space."



The Task Force and entourage crowd into George Mason Elementary School's band room, which is too small to accommodate a full rehearsal including all of about 100 band members.



A windowless classroom at George Mason Elementary School.



An inoperable wheelchair lift at Cora Kelly Elementary School. Because the lift is old, ACPS has been unable to locate replacement parts to get it back in working order. As there is no other mechanized access to the upper floor, school leadership has to rearrange teachers and classrooms to accommodate disabled students on the ground floor. This means that school is currently out of compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. ACPS says Cora Kelly is among its sites that are in the worst material condition. Other problems include no fire sprinklers in most rooms and a roof in need of replacement. ACPS's \$1 million emergency reserve would not be enough to cover a catastrophic roof failure. Reconstructing the school will cost an estimated \$30 million over FY19-27, as well as require "swing space."



The occupational therapist's office at Douglas MacArthur Elementary School includes electrical panels, which, for fire safety reasons, preclude anyone from sitting closer than 21 inches from the rear wall. ACPS says Douglas MacArthur is among its sites that are most under-capacity and in the worst material condition. Other problems include visibly evident water intrusion through the outer walls and an air conditioning system on the fritz. Reconstructing the school will cost an estimated \$48.6 million over FY19-27. It will also be the first to require a temporary school ("swing space") to accommodate students in the interim, at the additional cost of \$22 million in FY19.



A utility basement housing electrical equipment at George Mason Elementary School floods during heavy rains.



A large crack through a tiled cinder block wall at T.C. Williams High School Minnie Howard Campus, ostensibly caused by an earthquake. ACPS proposes constructing a new high school at the Minnie Howard site, which will cost an estimated \$118.4 million over FY19-27 — the single most expensive project under the Task Force's consideration.



A rotting outside window casing at Matthew Maury Elementary School. Water damage and intrusion into inside spaces was a common theme on the tour. ACPS says Matthew Maury is among its sites that are in the worst material condition. Design and planning for school reconstruction will cost an estimated \$6.1 million over FY19-27. Construction will cost an estimated \$30 million, beginning FY28, one year beyond the Task Force's purview.



An undersized resource-room-turned-classroom at Matthew Maury Elementary School. While the grade level served requires 900 square feet, the room actually measures 600 square feet.

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Christine Garner 703/587/4855



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Courting Controversy

Planning Commission reviews its mission.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

The Planning Commission has one goal: to judge whether new developments and plans for Alexandria will be beneficial to the city in the long run. As the Planning Commission gets ready for a busy fall session, the group met on Aug. 18 at the AlexRenew facility to review that mission, from reexamining the basics of that role to diving into details like the accessibility of open spaces.

According to Karl Moritz, director of Planning and Zoning, the Planning Commission looks to have a busier than usual schedule for the fall as the commission tackles a variety of small area plans and addresses some of the larger questions about development requirements in Alexandria.

As the Planning Commission prepares for the fall, the group faced fundamental questions of how to operate and what their priorities as a commission should be. For some, that meant a slight change in direction: steering into controversy rather than deliberately avoiding it.

"We have to make good plans for the city," said Nathan Macek. "That doesn't always mean the least contentious plans. We need to be the ones who stand out and say 'this is what's best for the city', not 'this is what's least controversial.'"

Macek pointed to the waterfront plan approved in 2012 as an example of a good plan for the city that had been hampered by bowing to public criticism.

"We tried to appease the dissent and we ended up with a watered down plan," said Macek. "I regret that."

This drew agreement from other members of the Planning Commission.

"Some citizens were concerned about what's good for their neighborhood and not what's good for the city as a whole," said Planning Commission member Mary Lyman.

As the Planning Commission moves into their fall docket, staff member Nathan Imm said the Planning Commission is going to have to address questions and concerns

about the open space policy in Alexandria. Currently, Imm said the tendency is to have private ownership of open spaces provided through development with a public easement, but the city has to face problems with inaccessibility to these spaces by members of the public.

The alternative is open space funded through development that publically owned by the city. However, Planning Commission Member Mindy Lyle pointed out how this ideal situation can end up horribly for local residents. Lyle said, where she lives, there is a large park that is completely unusable because the city only mows the property twice a year. Not only is it an eyesore, but these kinds of overgrown parks can house dangerous animals. Lyle says neighbors have encountered snakes and even coyotes in the brush of what Macek called the Wilds of the West End. Before any public space becomes owned by the city, Lyle said the Planning Commission needs to ensure that there is a feasible maintenance plan put forward by the city that can be followed through on for years.

Dirk Geratz, a planner for the city's Development Division, also said there are issues where the open space requirements do not work for the type of site being constructed. Geratz noted that similar issues come up for developer contributions to the affordable housing fund when locating affordable housing at the development site is not feasible, but that no such mechanism currently exist for open space requirements.

City staff outlined other policy review discussions coming up in the fall, like the setback requirements for front porches for residents and attempts to make short term uses for retail space, like Halloween stores, easier to process.

One of the unanimous agreements was for the Planning Commission to push for more face-to-face meetings with the City Council. Members of the commission said a joint work session with council would help the commission understand the council's goals for the city and get on the same page in terms of what they are looking for in new developments.

The first Planning Commission meeting of the fall will be on Sept. 5 in the Oswald Durant Memorial Center at 1605 Cameron St.

Arrest Follows Robbery Attempt

The Alexandria Police Department is investigating an attempted robbery and sexual battery that occurred in the area of Duke Street and N. Jordan Street on Monday, Aug. 14. At approximately 3:24 p.m., officers were dispatched to an attempted robbery on the bike trail near Holmes Run Parkway. A male suspect grabbed the victim from behind and demanded money. The victim struggled with the suspect and he fled on foot.

At 3:59 p.m., officers were dispatched to the 500 block of N. Jordan Street for call where a suspect grabbed the buttocks of a woman walking up the stairs inside an

apartment building. The victim screamed at the suspect and he fled. The suspect in both incidents was described as a black male with short hair, who was also tall and slim.

An 18-year-old city resident has been charged with attempted robbery and abduction for the first incident, and sexual battery for the second incident. The suspect was arrested on Aug. 16 and is being held without bond.

It is possible the suspect may have assaulted other women and anyone with information about this incident or others is asked to contact Detective Brad Cecchetti at 703-746-6858.

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A Hero's Farewell Norm Hatch laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery.

BY DEAN LAUBACH
SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE PACKET

I never had the chance to meet Norman Hatch. Yet in paying my respects to this Marine Corps veteran I felt as if I had been at the funeral of a dear friend. Major Hatch's impact on the historical record of World War II reaches far beyond those with whom he interacted directly. I first learned of Norm's service history in middle school and as my fascination with the U.S. Marines in the Pacific Theater grew, so too, did my amazement at his extremely unique role. Having practically been born with a camera in hand, I still cannot fully grasp the presence of mind it required to chronicle the horror and carnage that would define infamous island fighting on Tarawa and Iwo Jima.

Though intensity was equal for both these engagements, the contrast is in their duration. Tarawa lasted roughly 76 hours in late November of 1943, while Iwo continued for 36 days through February and March 1945. Footage Norm captured while with the 2nd Marine Division would later be compiled into a documentary. "With the Marines at Tarawa" went on to win an Academy Award and presentation of the award took place while Iwo was still raging. Norm was now with the 5th Marine Division. On the fifth day of fighting [Feb. 23rd], he was largely responsible for spreading the word to other cameramen that the American flag was soon to be raised atop Mount Suribachi. This action directly resulted in AP photographer Joe Rosenthal's immortal image of the event. Surviving either of these brutal fights was a true miracle for all involved, be they riflemen, machine-gunners, demolition teams, or a photographer hitting the sand with a camera and film rolls.

His documentation continues to remain invaluable to the current generation of researchers, keeping the flame of knowledge



Thomas Hatch places a rose on the casket of his father, Norman Hatch, at Arlington National Cemetery. Hatch's sister Colby stands at right preparing to distribute roses to those in attendance at the burial of her father.



A U.S. Marine color guard stands at attention during the playing of Taps.



Thomas Hatch is presented with the American flag that draped the casket of his father, Norman Hatch, Aug. 17 at Arlington National Cemetery.

lit now 72 years since bullets stopped flying on Iwo. Indeed, this is precisely how his impact on me remains strong though I

never even got to shake his hand and say "Thank you." It was Aug. 17 that those who knew his kindness gathered at Arlington National Cemetery to do so, to say a final thank you and farewell. After the funeral reception, I came upon local musician Jamey Turner and his Glass Harp. I asked him "Do you know the hymn of the United States Marine Corps?" He smiled enthusiastically and played a verse as a tribute to Norm in front of the Torpedo Factory Art Center, a massive reminder of Alexandria's contribution to the war effort.

To me, gazing on an image conveys the hell of war even more starkly than reading the text of a narrative. Vivid as words may be, they require a mental image to be formed. A photograph is a raw, unchanging moment in time. It captures a scene that so many others saw. How many thousands

of others saw the black sand of Iwo run red? How many Marines walked past their now dead brothers-in-arms recorded by Norm at Tarawa? How many sons, fathers, or brothers ended up appearing in his images? Would that be the last photo of them alive? Hundreds of connections can be formed through this extensive body of work. Every time I review an image in my research, I will pause upon seeing the credit marked "Norman Hatch, S/Sgt., U. S. M. C.," grateful and humbled for his enormous contribution. Semper Fidelis sir, and thank you for a job very well done.

Dean Laubach is a 21-year-old college student recently named as web developer for the 5th Marine Division Association. He traveled five hours from his home in Pennsylvania to attend the funeral of Alexandria resident and WWII combat photographer Norman Hatch.



Riflemen prepare to fire a 21-gun salute in honor of Alexandria resident and World War II Marine combat photographer Norman Hatch.



Dean Laubach, right, salutes the casket of World War II Marine combat photographer Norman Hatch Aug. 17 at Arlington National Cemetery. Laubach, who never met Hatch, traveled five hours from his home in Pennsylvania to pay his respects to the longtime Alexandria resident.

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Open House Sunday 2-4pm • Alexandria

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Millside

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OPINION

Expand Medicaid Now

It's too late to get back the \$10 billion Virginia turned down, but not too late to gain coverage for 400,000 and boost the economy.

Virginia's General Assembly has refused to accept one of the key provisions of the Affordable Care Act, expansion of Medicaid at almost no cost to Virginia that could have covered 400,000 uninsured Virginians and would have brought more than \$10 billion into the state. It has also cost lives.

EDITORIAL

Ironically, the failed efforts to "repeal and replace" the Affordable Care Act included changes to Medicaid that would have penalized states, like Virginia, that did not expand Medicaid, permanently reducing federal funding.

"In all of the bills proposed in the House and Senate to repeal the ACA, none of them left the non-expansion states better off," said Gov. Terry McAuliffe on Monday, Aug. 21, in calling again for Virginia to expand Medicaid, al-

most entirely paid for by the federal government.

"I have called for Virginia to expand Medicaid for three and a half years now. In that time, we have forever forfeited a whopping \$10.4 billion of our federal tax dollars," McAuliffe said. "We have missed an opportunity to cover 400,000 low-income Virginians."

More than 140,000 residents of Fairfax County have no health insurance. More than 40,000 residents of Arlington and Alexandria have no health insurance. That's more than 12 percent of the people who live in one of the wealthiest areas in the nation.

A Harvard Medical School study determined that the decision by 25 states to reject the expansion of Medicaid coverage under the Affordable Care Act would result in between 7,115 and 17,104 more deaths than had all states opted in. In Virginia, the number of

deaths due to failure to expand Medicaid: between 266 and 987.

Refusing to accept federal funds to provide healthcare to uninsured Virginians makes no more sense than declining federal funds for transportation or education.

In Virginia, 102,000 uninsured people with a mental illness or substance use disorder could qualify for coverage if Medicaid were expanded under the Affordable Care Act.

As Virginia wrestles with heroin and opioid addiction, expanding Medicaid would allow for expanding treatment programs. One of the big obstacles to helping people who are fighting addiction is the availability of treatment when it is most needed. More people die of opioid overdoses in Virginia than in vehicle crashes.

It is beyond cruel that an ideologically driven General Assembly can turn away health care for so many. It's beyond understanding why the General Assembly would turn down billions of dollars in direct health care dollars, plus the tremendous boost to the economy and jobs that federal investment would generate.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Why Does Old Town Look Like This?

To the Editor:

The following open letter is addressed to Mayor Silberberg, members of City Council, City Manager Mark Jinks.

How can it be that our City Council members, city manager, and city employees travel the streets of Old Town and do not see the unkept state of our city streets? The tree wells are full of weeds and dead trees, the unclean sidewalks have been taken over by weeds, and the medians are neglected. We residents see it, visitors see it, and it is remarked upon by everyone who lives here and visits. It is a disgrace.

Has the moratorium on cleanliness of the landscape come about to bring pressure to the BID decision? Or is it a lack of accountability on the part of those who are paid to keep the city clean and attractive. Look at the main intersection of Old Town at King and Washington streets, look at the knee high weeds in the tree wells, and ask yourselves if this makes you proud.

It must not be a question of money or manpower. Our two-person Adopt-a-Block maintains eight blocks of Duke, Fayette and Henry Streets with weekly weed abatement, planting, and litter patrol. If two senior women can do it, the



resources of the city should be able to do even better.

I have attached several photos of King and Washington streets, sidewalks and medians, and the public parking lot on King Street. This is what your citizens see and wonder why you do not see it as well and take action. Please walk the streets, take a good look, and make Old Town's tree wells and sidewalks something that we can be proud of. Not just one cleanup,

but a lasting priority.

Kathryn M. Huettner
Alexandria

Updating Parking Standards

To the Editor:

Thank you for your recent cov-



erage of Alexandria's Parking Standards for New Development Projects Study. Alexandria's existing off-street parking requirements date to the 1960s, an era prior to the introduction of Metrorail service, when auto-oriented suburban growth predominated. This study provides an important opportunity to update the city's parking standards to reflect the modern multimodal city that Alexan-

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 9

Alexandria Gazette Packet

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

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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A Connection Newspaper

The Alexandria Gazette Packet is distributed weekly to selected homes in the City of Alexandria. Any owners or occupants of premises that do not wish to receive the paper can notify the publisher by telephone at 703-778-9426 or by email to circulation@connectionnewspapers.com, and the distributor will be notified to discontinue service.



LETTERS

FROM PAGE 8

dria has grown to become.

Our mission is to right-size the city's requirements for off-street parking to be constructed for new development and offered by businesses. The study is informed by recently-collected data on off-street parking patterns at a cross-section of restaurants, retailers, commercial offices, hotels, and other businesses across the city. The data (all of which is published on the city's web site) show that demand for off-street parking — even when free — is significantly less the amount required to be supplied by most businesses. That means that existing regulations require businesses to offer parking that patrons aren't using, a wasteful cost that is passed on to consumers.

One of the most surprising findings from the data is that over half the patrons of city restaurants surveyed walk or bike to get there. And because most restaurants in the Central Business District are already exempted from providing parking, the survey didn't include eateries on King Street, the city's quintessential walking street. Why require a restaurant to build a parking lot larger than the restaurant itself when demand for that

much parking doesn't exist?

Current regulations offer businesses the opportunity to ask for a parking reduction. In the last three years, nine Special Use Permit cases seeking only a parking reduction were heard by City Council. That action not only delays the opening of new businesses, but saddles applicants with city fees and attorney costs to successfully navigate the process. The work of the task force will not only reduce the number of businesses requiring council permission to open, but also provide a fair and predictable framework for determining how much parking they should be provide.

The Gazette Packet article was particularly informative and well-researched, but I would like to correct the record regarding task force membership: Eight members of the 11-member group are residents of Alexandria, and includes the Old Town Civic Association's representative to the former Old Town Alexandria Parking Study Work Group.

Our work is not yet complete, and we will continue to refine our recommendations. Members of the public have an opportunity to weigh in at each of our meetings and forthcoming Planning Com-

mission and City Council public hearings. Additional opportunities for public input will be announced soon.

There will continue to be a place for people who wish to drive in Alexandria to park their cars. But the reality is that many people bike, walk, and use transit, taxis and Uber to reach local businesses, and don't require a parking space when they arrive. Instead of paving over our great city with half-empty parking lots, let's put precious acreage to more exciting and productive uses.

Nathan M. Macek, Chair
Parking Standards for New Development Projects Task Force
Alexandria

Write

The Gazette Packet welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to: Letters to the Editor, Gazette Packet, 1606 King St. Alexandria VA 22314, Call 703-917-6444, Email gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

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Moon Mania

FROM PAGE 1

At Jones Point Park, members of Cub Scout Pack 129 gathered to watch the eclipse.

“This is pretty exciting,” said 9-year-old Chase Green, a third-grader at Charles Barrett Elementary School who was joined by his younger brothers Pierce, 7, and Finn, 6. “We made our own viewing box to see the eclipse.”

Elle Taubner was surprised by what didn’t happen as the eclipse peaked, revealing the corona, or halo of gas surrounding the sun.

“I expected it to get darker and cooler,” she said. “It’s amazing to realize how much heat and light even just 19 percent of the sun still gives off.”

The next total solar eclipse in the U.S. will sweep from Texas to Maine on April 8, 2024.

“I’m glad we took time out to be here,” said Richard Tauber, who was visiting Alexandria from Scotia, N.Y. “Even without being in the path of totality, it was spectacular witnessing this phenomenon.”



The City of Alexandria’s Nannie J. Lee Recreation Center celebrated the solar eclipse on Monday, Aug. 21 as campers, wearing protective eyewear, look at the eclipse from the Kelly Cares Miracle Field. The Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities’ office is at 1108 Jefferson St. Call 703-746-5535. Fall registration is available now.



PHOTO BY CHARLOTTE HERR

Members of the Old Town Alexandria legal community view the eclipse while standing in the courtyard outside the City of Alexandria Courthouse.



The agents at McEneaney Associates gathered with solar eclipse glasses Monday’s big event: Chris Pritchard, Madeline Caporiccio, Martha Floyd, and Jean Betty.



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Brothers Chase Green, 9, Pierce Green, 7, and Finn Green, 6, watch the eclipse through their homemade viewing box Aug. 21 at Jones Point Park. The three brothers were part of Cub Scout Pack 129 gathering in the park for the event.



The eclipse’s progress is visible in the light between shadows of leaves of a tree in Old Town Alexandria, 2:38 p.m. Monday, Aug. 21.



PHOTO BY MARY KIMM/GAZETTE PACKET

PHOTO BY NINETTE SADUSKY

Alexandria astrophysicist Marley studying the solar eclipse at the Naval Observatory.

Public Defender Office at 30

FROM PAGE 1

ents were well defended by lawyers passionate about their work.”

“[Douglas] is the only public defender, and her reputation is not only second to none,” said Joe King, an Alexandria lawyer, “it’s the best defense money can’t buy. Her lawyers are among the best lawyers in Alexandria, and the city overall is better because of it.”

Commonwealth Attorney Bryan Porter, who often faces off against Douglas in the courtroom, praised her work.

“The Office of the Public Defender is a real institution and has significantly increased the quality of representation for indigents in Alexandria,” said Porter. “We may be adversaries in the courtroom, but we’re comrades outside.”

For Douglas, the first few months were a whirlwind of putting everything together while also immediately jumping into cases.

“I was hired in May, and I was in court July 1,” said Douglas. “Meanwhile, we were finding space, hiring lawyers, and getting equipment.”

When they started, the only office space they could get was a big, long room where they separated workspaces with borrowed purple dividers. Douglas credits the office’s early success to financial support from the City of Alexandria at a time when her public defender office was one of the first in the Commonwealth. According to Douglas,

there were three public defender’s offices across the state that all started up in that year.

“It was an adventure,” said Douglas. “I had a chance to do it my way with a lot of autonomy. When I went to law school, it was because of social justice [issues], not for money. I never got that thrill from private work. It’s about empowering the unempowered. It’s an opportunity to work for those people and with other like-minded young lawyers.”

Douglas said working alongside idealistic young lawyers who want to make the world a better place despite the horrible pay is the best part of the job. Eventually, the office that originally had a sign swinging on the door saying “Send Help” was able to hire more staff and investigators. Still, Douglas says Alexandria’s Office of the Public Defender faces many of the same problems public defenders across the country do: underfunding. “We always need more money to train people,” said Douglas. “We do the best we can with scholarships and fellowships. But Alexandria leads in terms of local supplements, they’ve been helping to get us funded.”

Despite the challenges, Douglas has no doubts about whether it’s been worth it.

“Our office is a family, with a commonality in our mission,” said Douglas. “Never in my 30 years have I had to wonder if what I did was meaningful.”



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Remembering Patsy Ticer

BY ALLISON SILBERBERG
MAYOR OF ALEXANDRIA

The following remarks were given at the Aug. 18 funeral for former Mayor and state Sen. Patsy Ticer.

Let there be no doubt. Patsy Ticer lived a full life. And her life was a blessing. One could argue effectively that she lived the equivalence of five or more lives. Devoted daughter to her cherished parents; a great wife to her extraordinary husband Jack Ticer; a loving mother to their four children, John, Margaret, Catherine and Virginia; a doting grandmother to Park, Zack, Sandrine, Marcel, and Rand. She was devoted as well to her daughter-in-law Hayley and son-in-law Laurent and looked forward to welcoming her new granddaughter-in-law, Lindsey, to the family. On behalf of a grateful city, I thank all the Ticer family for sharing Patsy with all of us for so many years.

She was a friend to countless, a community activist, a three-term member of the Alexandria City Council from 1982 until 1990, a two-term Mayor and the first female Mayor at that, a four-term State Senator and the first female in that seat, as well as a trailblazer in regional and national organizations. Patsy served as Chair of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Board of Directors, received COG's prestigious Scull Award, and served as Chair of the Transportation Planning Board, as President of the National Association of Regional Councils, a prominent national organization, and served as Chair of the Northern Virginia Planning District Commission. For five years, she served on the board of the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust. Her contributions to the life of our city and region help make us who we are today.

And this is only a partial list of her accomplishments, which is astounding and inspiring. And on top of it all, she played boatloads of tennis!

She often said that we are a city of great neighborhoods. She believed in creating community. She cared deeply about all the people. As Mayor, she fought for the causes we hold dear: supporting programs for women and children and families, including the establishment of the city's Early



In July 2015, Patsy Ticer and Mayor Allison Silberberg enjoyed being at the City of Alexandria's Annual Birthday Celebration in Oronoco Bay Park. This celebration was initiated when Ticer was mayor.

Childhood Program for at-risk children, programs for our low-income residents, including affordable housing, historic preservation, open space, the Torpedo Factory, the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra, and helped form the city's Commission for the Arts. She stood up to Jack Kent Cooke and won. She established our city's massive annual birthday celebration along the waterfront. She also showed great leadership during the re-drafting of the Master Plan in the early 1990s. Then as State Senator, she championed similar issues, including our environment. As Mayor and then State Senator, she got things done.

Even in this last year, she was one of the most forceful and helpful voices behind our saving the Murray-Dick-Fawcett House, and she insisted on attending the official dedication event at 8 a.m. on a cold, rainy morning only a few months ago in May.

Patsy was exuberant, joyful, captivating, embracing, brilliant, and bold. I often introduced Patsy as the most beloved person in our city. She was that and so much more. People gravitated toward her and she to them. She had friendships that lasted a lifetime and some friendships like mine, were relatively new, a mere five years. She treasured her childhood friendships and those with college chums as well. She kept up with so many. She never really knew a stranger. She just had not met you yet.

In the days since her death, I have received moving tributes about Patsy from many of her colleagues and friends from here and around the country. The head of the U.S. Conference of Mayors expressed his heartfelt sympathies, as did the Council of Governments and so many leading elected leaders, past and present, as well as journalists and advocates who knew her in our city or in Richmond. Longtime female city employees expressed to me that she was a role model to many of them.

How can one person touch so many lives? Patsy lit up a room when she walked into it. She was a rock star. Everybody loved Patsy. And she loved them. Going to a restaurant with Patsy, especially at the Warehouse, meant that numerous people would stop by and give her a hug. Eating could take awhile. She was grace personified. She gave each person all of her attention.

She knew a treasure trove of information about an endless number of issues and policies. Some of the stories were hilarious, including the time that she and Vola Lawson, our beloved longtime City Manager, told me how one night, they removed all the ashtrays that hung from the back of the pews in the City Council Chambers. No discussion. They just got it done. To this day, on the back of the pews where the ashtrays had once hung, one can see tiny brass plates that thank you for not smoking.

All of us are blessed to have spent time with the unstoppable Patsy Ticer. I often sat with Patsy right over there in one of the pews, sometimes surprising her for Sunday morning services. During those times, I saw how much St. Paul's meant to her and how her strong sense of faith helped shape her mission in life to serve the public good.

She was a master at effective listening and abundant compassion. She understood. It is a gift.

At times, I would call as I was leaving City Hall to see if I could swing by her home on Prince Street. One time around 6 p.m., we sat talking in the den. She was in her big chair and I in my usual spot on the end of the couch, and I said that I needed to take a quick nap. Patsy agreed that was a good idea. So we were both fast asleep looking like the dead when Virginia came walking in from work. She gasped and wondered what had happened to us and was quite relieved when we both opened our eyes...

...Just two summers ago, she called to see

what I was going to do for July 4, and I said I was invited to a big party at a home on the Eastern Shore. I said that I was told I could bring a guest and said to Patsy, "Would you like to go?" Without hesitation, she exclaimed, "Yes!" I said, "Well, don't you want to run this by your children and ask them if you can go?" "No, I don't need to ask my children!" she responded. And so we went and had a fantastic trip.

In life, there is a covenant to which we are all bound. It is a covenant that reminds us that we cannot be with our loved ones forever, that our time is limited. It is a tough agreement.

So how do we say goodbye when there were other times yet to enjoy? How can we be grateful for a life well-lived and yet at the same time find that this covenant is so hard to accept? We do not live forever, but I believe that people live on through the memories of those who loved them and through the good they leave behind for generations to come.

I loved Patsy. I miss her terribly, and I will remember her all the days of my life. I will always be grateful for the deep bond we had. She was my touchstone, my mentor, my North Star.

Patsy will live on through the good she has left behind. Her legacy is clear, remarkable, and lasting. We can honor her life by inspiring and helping others to follow in her footsteps: those who will step up and speak out for women and children, those who will help the most vulnerable with a hand up and will do more for our elderly, those who will advocate for inclusiveness, those who will fight for our environment, those who will protect and preserve our beloved historic districts, and those who will support our arts community. She would want us to carry on and do all that we can for the causes she lived for. She was courageous, and her dedication and commitment to civility can inspire us all to come together and do good.

Slightly adjusting the words of William Shakespeare:

*When she shall die,
Take her and cut her out in little stars.
And she will make the face of heaven so fine
That all the world will be in love with night
And pay no worship to the garish sun.*

Patsy's life was a blessing to Alexandria, to the Commonwealth of Virginia, and to us all. Our gratitude is overflowing. May her memory be for a blessing.



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ENTERTAINMENT

MetroStage Presents 'Wizard of Hip'

Comic journey of Afro Jo, an "everyman," as he travels to adulthood.

BY STEVE HIBBARD

MetroStage in Alexandria is presenting "Wizard of Hip (Or When in Doubt Slam Dunk)," which runs through Sept. 17.

The story is a non-stop comic journey of Afro Jo, an African American "everyman," as he travels from adolescence to adulthood in search of the ultimate state of "hip," a place of comfort and peace in an ever-confusing and changing world. It's a fast-paced journey crossing bounds of race, class, and gender.

After touring in 30 cities across the U.S. and an off-Broadway run in the 1990s, "Wizard of Hip" returns almost 30 years later — a little grayer, older, and wiser, but still crackling with the revelatory journey that made it an audience favorite more than two decades ago. The show has help from two back-up singers, Kanysha Williams and Jasmine Eileen Coles, and original music by William Knowles on keys and Greg Holloway on drums.

Playing the title role of Afro Jo is Thomas W. Jones II, who describes his character as a kind of everyman trying to find the Great Oz and the answer to hipness. He juggles "how to negotiate that fine line between curfews and peer pressure looking for his own personal nirvana," he said. "Looking for the Great McDonald in a burger-and-fries existence."

Jones, who wrote, directed, and performs the piece, said his biggest challenge is sustaining the necessary stamina required for a show that's fast-paced and highly ener-

getic.

"Tom Jones has contributed a remarkable body of work to MetroStage since 2001 as a writer, lyricist, director, and choreographer, so we thought it was time to showcase him as the amazing actor that he is," said MetroStage's Producing Artistic Director Carolyn Griffin.

She asked him about his solo show, "Wizard of Hip," which he had performed at Studio Theatre in 1992, ending up Off-Broadway for an extended run.

"So we decided to open our season with it, but that we would add more music and give him two lovely 'hip' backup singers who we named 'the Lady Doo Wops,'" she said.

She added: "It is great to have this high-energy, movement-oriented, music-obsessed (that is only a slight exaggeration) artist performing on our stage. I think our audiences will really enjoy this coming-of-age story, which apparently is timeless."

"We have found the story he told in the '90s, when he was considerably younger, still resonates today as relevant and universal, crossing all races, ages, genders, so that we expect everyone will be smiling with recognition and appreciation for the journey he has taken in search of 'hipness.' Seriously, wouldn't we all like to be a little more hip?" she said.

Jasmine Eileen Coles said her role as a Lady Doo Wop is an energized, fun and supporting one that moves through different characters, environments, and time and space that helps explore the meaning of hip through the lens of Thomas Jones.

"Playing this role stretches me as an artist because the show moves so quickly it is



In "Wizard of Hip," Kanysha Williams, Thomas W. Jones II, and Jasmine Eileen Coles.

PHOTO BY CHRIS BANKS

important to stay present and it is also important not to take focus. Navigating such a delicate balance has been thrilling," she said.

Kanysha Williams said she too has the task of representing many different people in Afro Jo's life. "You may see me as an elderly woman, a basketball player, a school girl, etc. I am assisting the lead character in his storytelling, and in doing so, my 'character' helps to illustrate ideas and move the plot along," she said.

She said her biggest challenge is being flexible. "In this show, we have to constantly flow from one idea to the next, one character to another, and it's been an exciting challenge for me to authentically portray these different people," she said.

At MetroStage, Jones has a large resume of work, having written and directed "Harlem Rose," "Three Sistahs," "Two

Queens One Castle," "Bricktop," "Cool Papa's Party," "Pearl Bailey ... by request," "Ladies Swing the Blues," "Bessie Blues," "Shake Loose," "Uprising," and "Blackberry Daze." He also directed "The Gin Game," "Anne & Emmett," and "Gee's Bend," for which he received a Helen Hayes nomination. This is the first time he will be performing on MetroStage.

Performing on stage at MetroStage is "Wizard of Hip" on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 8 p.m.; Saturdays at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sundays at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m., through Sept. 17. Tickets are \$55-\$60 with student and active military discounts available. For ticket reservations, call the theatre at 703-548-9044 or visit www.metrostage.org. For information and group sales, call 703-548-9044. MetroStage is located at 1201 North Royal St. in North Old Town Alexandria.

CALENDAR

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.

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.

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.

Wizard of Hip. Various times through Sept. 17 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.

Alexandrians Fight The Great War. Various times through Nov. 11 at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. This exhibit shares some of the stories of Alexandrians during the war and their more active participation in the American war effort after April 1917. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Lyceum or call 703-838-4994.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.alexandriarchaeology.org.

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

ENTERTAINMENT

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.

THROUGH AUG. 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.

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

Mount Vernon Flea Market. 8 a.m.-1 p.m., at 8717 Fort Hunt Road. Features furniture, art, china, glass, porcelain, pottery, books, photographs, lighting, tools, etc. Refreshments will also be on sale. Admission is free. Visit mountvernonfleamarket.wordpress.com for more info.

Ballyshanners Irish Festival. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. at 1A Prince St. A celebration Irish history and culture in Alexandria, and a fundraiser for the Alexandria St. Patrick's Day Parade. Visit www.ballyshanners.org/festival/.

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.

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



“Life of the Universe” by Nahid Navab

Art Exhibits

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 at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 4915 East Campus Drive.

by the Potomac branch of the American Begonia Society. Free. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring.

even enjoy some of the crops in the dead of winter. Visit mgnv.org or call 703-228-6414.

TUESDAY/AUG. 29

Who's Eating your Veggies? 6-8 p.m. at the Chinquapin Park Recreation Center, 3210 King St. Learn to identify and treat the pests in your edible garden through organic and cultural practices in this hands-on program. All levels of experience are welcome. Please bring samples from your own garden. This program is free and no advance registration is required. Call the Nature Center at 703-746-5559.

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.

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.

SEPT. 7-OCT. 1

“Aqueduct: Stone Ruins in Maryland & Virginia.” Various times at The Art League 105 North Union St. Printmaker M. Alexander (Alex) Gray illuminates forgotten local history through the images in his exhibit, “Aqueduct: Stone Ruins in Maryland & Virginia.” Gray, a lifelong Virginian, wants to bring these lesser-known, historic sites back into the public eye. Call 703-683-1780 or visit www.theartleague.org.

SATURDAY/AUG. 26

Civil War Servants Lecture. 2 p.m. at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. Tour entitled “Under the Same Roof: Enslaved and Free Servants at the Lee-Fendall House.” \$10. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org.

SUNDAY/AUG. 27

Free Piano Concert. 3-5 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. The Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association presents an afternoon of music with the West Shore Piano Trio as part of their Summer Chamber Music Series. Free. Visit www.wmpamusic.org.

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.

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.

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

torpedofactory@alexandriava.gov or 703-746-4570.

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.

Using Native Plants. 7-8:30 p.m. at the Mount Vernon Recreation Center, 2701 Commonwealth Ave. Curious about tried and true garden performers? Want to attract birds to your yard? All this and more will be covered as we walk through different native plants and how to use them to create beautiful and sustainable home landscaping. Free and open to the public. Registration is requested at ALXnativeplants.eventbrite.com. Email AlexandriaBeautification@gmail.com.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 14

Gardening Excursion. 7 a.m.-7 p.m., at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Chanticleer Garden in Wayne, Pennsylvania is a blend of art and horticulture. Trip includes motor coach, entrance, guided tour, and lunch. \$124. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring or call 703-941-7987.

Meet the Artist Reception. 6:30-8 p.m. at The Art League 105 North Union St. Printmaker M. Alexander (Alex) Gray illuminates forgotten local history through the images in his exhibit, “Aqueduct: Stone Ruins in Maryland & Virginia.” Gray, a lifelong Virginian, wants to bring these lesser-known, historic sites back into the public eye. Call 703-683-1780 or visit www.theartleague.org.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 15

History By The Glass. Various times at Gadsby’s Tavern, 134 North Royal St. Enjoy drinks at the tavern, which historically served a wide variety of beverages, and learn about the history behind them. \$50 for drinks and hors d’oeuvres. Call 703-746-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

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.

Crafts at Carlyle. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. Children will be able to create their own piece of art at Carlyle House to take home. Children will get the chance to paint their own version of a floorcloth, a popular

ENTERTAINMENT

3 Spots Perfect for Football Viewing

BY HOPE NELSON

In the hot, sticky weather Alexandria has been enduring of late, the signs of impending autumn are easy to miss. But one sure signal is no further away than your television set: Pro and college football are back. From preseason NFL matchups to the university head-to-head battles that start this weekend, the games are plentiful, and finding a good place to watch them is a necessity.

Southside 815, 815 S. Washington St.

The venerable Southside 815 is one of Old Town's worst-kept secrets when it comes to sports viewing. But while you may not enjoy an intimate, solitary view of your favorite game, the more is indeed the merrier, right? And with Southside's 13 televisions, you're sure to get a glimpse of the game you're there for.

APPETITE

Whatever you decide to order for a main course, be sure to pick up a Boardinghouse Breadbasket for you and your compatriots. A blend of cornbread, biscuits, and other rolls, the breadbasket is Southern comfort food at its best. For an entrée, keep the Southern theme going with some gumbo, blackened catfish, or a vegetable plate with down-home classics like collard greens succotash.

Mason Social, 728 N. Henry St.

The bar at Mason Social just looks like it is ready for sports viewing, any time of the year. And it doesn't disappoint. While there is a proper dining room at Mason Social, your best bet for football-watching is indeed the bar, which has a plethora of cocktail and beer options — as well as its own menu — for your viewing (and eating) pleasure.

Order up some carnitas nachos to share — topped with carnitas, jalapenos, pepperjack cheese and all the fixins, they're a party pleaser. (Vegetarians will find good luck ordering these without the meat — the end result is still a hit.) Thirsty? Mason Social maintains a host of rotating craft-beer selections, along with some old standards from Port City, Flying Dog, and other local breweries. If you're looking to toast to a winning team — or to drown your sorrows — with something a little harder, you could do worse than the Parker Gray, a rye-based concoction mixed with vermouth and bitters.

Mackie's, 907 King St.

Mackie's is a lesson in duality. Walk through the bar into the dining room for a hearty dinner, and you'll find a more classic steakhouse experience. But if taking in a game is what you're after, darken the door to the foyer-style bar and stay put. The TVs will offer up a selection of games depending on the day's matchups, and the ambience (and menu) will keep you in place until long after the two-minute warning.

Order up a basket of fries — seasoned jerk-style, Cajun, or with Old Bay — and some Caprese bites to share among friends, and then turn your attention to the drink menu. All your friends are here, from Lagunitas to Founders, as well as local DuClaw and Port City. Looking for something a little heartier to go with your brew? Mackie's offers up a burger that makes sure you know you're at a steakhouse; for something off the beaten path, try the Bulgogi hoagie, a Korean-inspired ribeye sandwich.

Hope Nelson owns and operates the Kitchen Recessionista blog, located at www.kitchenrecessionista.com. Email her any time at hope@kitchenrecessionista.com.

CALENDAR

18th Century floor covering. Call 703-549-2997 or visit www.nvrpa.org.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 17

Jazz at Meade. 4 p.m. at Meade Memorial Episcopal Church, 322 N. Alfred St. Featuring The Vibe Collective: Afro-Cuban-Latin Jazz. \$20 donation. Call 267-463-7936.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 19

Researching Aviation Pioneers. 1-3 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Mary Lipsey talks about researching biographical information about aviation pioneer Dr. William Wallace Whitney Christmas of Clifton. Free. Call 703-768-4101 or visit www.mvgenalogy.org.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 23

Gardening Film Screening. 2-4 p.m., at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Karyl Evans screens her new documentary film about the career and life of 20th century landscape gardener Beatrix Farrand, who designed dozens of gardens. \$20. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring or call 703-941-7987.

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/.

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. 25 - "Beauty and the Beast"

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/SEPT. 30

Alexandria Seaport Foundation Festival. noon-6 p.m. at Waterfront Park, 1 Prince St. Community festival celebrating the mission and programs of the Alexandria Seaport Foundation featuring live music, wooden boat display, Anything that Floats race, children's activities, nautical activities, beer/wine and local food. Visit www.alexandriaseaport.org.

Mansion House Whiskey Tasting.

7-9 p.m. at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. Local historian, Rich Gillespie, will share stories of the Civil War in Virginia and guide the whiskey tasting journey. \$100. Call 703-549-2997 or visit www.nvrpa.org.

TUESDAY/OCT. 3

Yoga on the Magnolia Terrace. 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. Join yoga instructor Barbara Douglass for vinyasa flow yoga on Carlyle House's Magnolia Terrace, every Tuesday in October. Please bring water, a towel, and yoga mat. Classes are \$5 each or \$20 for 5 classes. Call 703-549-2997 or visit www.nvrpa.org.

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.

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Obituary

Minnie I. Lilly
 August 5, 1920 - August 18, 2017



Minnie passed away peacefully in Columbus, GA at Savanna Grands Hospice on Friday, August 18, 2017. Minnie was predeceased by her daughter Gloria J. Lilly and son John H. Lilly, four brothers, and two sisters.

She is survived by her daughter Doris L. Crenshaw(Carlton), beloved sister Bessie M. Shultz. Also grandchildren Michael(Selena) Crenshaw, Fran C.(Allen) McPherson, Shannon L.(Peter) Parker, Dan(Nicole) Lilly; 13 great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

Family will receive friends at Cunningham Funeral Home at 9:30 A.M. and graveside service will be held in Mount Comfort Cemetery, Alexandria, Virginia at 11 AM August 28, 2017 with Pastor Tim Bobbit officiating.

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Obituary

Richard Allen Bartl
 August 14, 2017

Richard Allen Bartl, age 82, of Blacksburg, Va. was born in Lafayette, Indiana on May 6, 1935 and passed away on August 14, 2017. He was preceded in death by his parents Keith and Delilah Bartl. He is survived by his wife Lois, daughter Lara, son-in law Greg Wilson, and grandchildren Courtney and Brendan Wilson.

Richard attended Purdue University and George Washington University Law School. As a young attorney he clerked for the court of claims in Washington D.C. Richard was a highly respected attorney who specialized in bankruptcy law. He was a founding partner of the law firm Tyler, Bartl, Ramsdell & Counts in Alexandria, Virginia and a member of the Alexandria panel of bankruptcy trustees appointed by Judge Martin V.B. Bostetter Jr. He mentored numerous attorneys throughout his career and was well known for his calm demeanor and intense practicality and ethics.

A celebration of his life was held for his friends and family at the Blacksburg Country Club, 1064 Clubhouse Drive, Blacksburg, Virginia 24060 on August 22nd at 2pm.

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FROM PAGE 1

worked with nonprofit organizations. "I got my love of the arts from my mother but for as long as I can remember Dad was all about service to the community."

Born Timothy Schuyler Elliott on Sept. 19, 1938, in New York City, Elliott moved with his family to Burke and then Oakton, where he met his wife Page on the school bus. Elliott graduated from Fairfax High School in 1956 and Brandeis University in 1960, where he was a member of the undefeated 1959 College Bowl team. He graduated from Harvard Law School in 1963.

After serving in the Army for two years, Elliott spent 10 years with IBM in its New York and Washington legal offices before joining the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Elliott's career in the Department of the Interior's solicitor's office was celebrated by two Presidential Distinguished Service awards (under Presidents George H. W. Bush and Bill Clinton); he served under 10 secretaries and served as acting Solicitor during three Presidential transitions, from President Ronald Reagan to President George W. Bush.

During Elliott's two years as chairman, the School Board created the nonprofit Scholarship Fund of Alexandria. Now in its 31st year, the fund has raised more than \$12.5 million to help send almost 4,300 T.C. Williams High School students to college.

Elliott also was one of the early 1970s soccer coaches for the Alexandria Soccer Association's Old Town teams. ASA's Old Town soccer teams were among the first on the East Coast to include girls and African American players. "At the time, every kid on the ASA teams had to play two of the four quarters no matter their skill level," said Farar Elliott. "When dad saw that some opposing teams were only playing good players, he got into quite an argument with another coach, who threatened to shove Dad's ever present cigar down his throat. The kids loved that Dad would go to the mat for them and had a t-shirt made up with the phrase "How can you coach with a cigar down your throat?" That t-shirt was one of Dad's most prized possessions."

Elliott and his wife, Page Martin Elliott, were 42-year residents of Old Town. She survives him, as do three children and six grandchildren: Farar Elliott, who lives with her spouse Ruth Trevarrow in Washington, D.C., with daughter Adelaide Elliott-Joy; Schuyler Elliott of Jacksonville, Fla., and his children Conner, Carter and Reed Elliott; and Espedito Gasparo, who first joined the Elliott family as an exchange student in 1986 and now lives in Fairfax County with his children Julian and Daniel Gasparo.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, Aug. 25 at 11 a.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 228 South Pitt St. A reception will follow. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria.

"Anyone who knew Dad knows that he could be stubborn in his pursuit of fairness," Farar Elliott said. "But he was also very good at listening and more than wanting to win, Dad was always more concerned with doing what was fair and right for the community. He truly loved Alexandria and loved serving in any way he could."

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Two, Hopefully for Won



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Being diagnosed with cancer; then having cancer/living with cancer, is like having a second job. A job that unlike many, requires and/or imposes a 'round the clock-type 24/7 adherence to protocol, policy, procedure, presumptions and principle. To live not like you're dying takes more than scoffing at a country music song that twangs an alternative vision. Believing in what routines you're following and any lifestyle changes you've made allows (I didn't say enables) a cancer survivor to thrive under the most difficult and demanding of circumstances.

Unfortunately for those reading this column looking for answers/guarantees, there aren't any other than: if you abuse the privilege of post-cancer-diagnosis survival, the ends will likely justify the means; meaning, you are responsible for your own actions and "inactions." The prognosis one is given at diagnosis is a reasonably thought out prediction. However, as grim as those words sound and seem at that moment, that prediction is not cast in stone. I'm living proof of that. The words you hear are based on the past. Your ensuing treatment is more about the present and future and what you decide to do living forward. Being open and unassuming, and by 'unassuming' I mean: not taking anything for granted, presuming facts not in evidence, considering that which has happened to somebody else – either good or bad, could happen to you and of course, asking as many questions in as many ways as necessary to get the answers you need, will help you co-exist with this terrible burden. Being diagnosed with a heretofore "terminal" disease presents one with innumerable challenges but not the slim pickin's (choices not the actor) of yesteryear.

Integrating/assimilating all of the facts, fiction and philosophy into one's daily cancer conundrum is a task often complicated by one's day job/intention to remain on that job. The thinking being, at least in my mind/experience: living as normal a life as possible and staying as true to one's usual and customary self as well as to one's wishes, desires, hopes, prayers, etc., will enable (not 'allow' this time) you potentially to live longer and prosper more and trek "where no man has gone before." For us cancer survivors/patients, where we hope to 'trek' is beyond the prognosis given to us by our oncologist.

I can boast of such an accomplishment, but I'd rather write it quietly and consistently as encouragement to others similarly diagnosed and "prognosed" than brag about it loudly. However, the changes/choices I've made might not suit another's personality. I regularly receive suggestions about additional anti-cancer pursuits. Some I embrace, some I don't. Some are conventional (Western), some are alternative (Non-Western). Many sound reasonable and "integratable" into my lifestyle. Many others don't. But given that my life is at stake, how can a suggestion's incompatibility with my personality matter? We're talking life versus premature death here; not sit-down Italian versus take-out Chinese. And though food certainly matters, it is of course to no comparison to living versus dying. Still, I don't always say "yes."

This is the yin and yang of my life and probably the lives of many other survivors of serious/terminal-type diseases. I want to feel like I'm winning. But I'm deathly afraid of losing.

Moreover, I want to live my life as normally as possible, but not if it has adverse consequence. And how would I know anyway? Symptoms can be misleading and scans are quarterly. And though I remain positive about my very negative circumstances, occasionally the reality of those circumstances interfere with that normalcy. When that happens, I usually put pen to paper and try to write myself out of it.

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

9

VIRGINIA

2017

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Lee Murphy 202-277-7477



NORTH ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA
Located on a quarter acre cul de sac lot, this 5BR, 5.5BA 2013 home offers master suites on main & upper levels; family room, bkfst area & kitchen open to level yard. Jamestown Williamsburg Yorktown. 3536 N. Utah St. \$1,874,900
Betsy Twigg 703-967-4391



ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA
Lux modern condo living on Potomac waterfront in fab Old Town! 2,100 square feet 2 bedroom, 2 bath with access to parks, shops, dining! Wheelchair accessible, 3 parking spaces & gorgeous terrace! \$1,690,000
Traudel Lange 301-765-8334



RIVER OAKS, MCLEAN, VIRGINIA
NEW LISTING! Amazing location, recently updated colonial on a quiet cul-de-sac. 6,700 square feet, 5 bedrooms, 5.55 baths & 2 car garage. Incredible features, expansive upper terrace, high ceilings, 5 fireplaces! \$1,595,000
Anne DiBenedetto 703-615-1897



NORTH ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA
NEW PRICE! Walk to Westover! Renov 4BR/4.5BA w/gar on lvl lot. Open kit/fam rm, lrg deck. Quality, style, location. Glebe, Swanson, Yorktown. 5425-20th St N. \$1,229,000
Anne Cronin 703-597-3082
Linda Murphy 703-850-0190



NORTH ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA
Complete renov 4BR/3BA w/2 car gar. New roof, windows, HVAC, high end baths & kitchen with Shrock cabinets & Bertazzoni gas range; floors, doors, screened porch, patio & more. Jamestown Williamsburg Yorktown. \$1,149,000
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ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA
Beautifully renovated three bedroom, two bath rambler with a nicely landscaped yard and large entertaining back patio. Walkable to Crystal City, Metro and more. A 10+! 615 29th Road South. \$735,000
Michelle Sagatov 703-402-9361



ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA
UNDER CONTRACT! Beautiful three bedroom, two and a half bath expanded home with a detached two car garage sited on a wonderful private cul-de-sac backing to protected parkland. 7533 Hallandale Court, Alexandria. \$729,000
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OPEN SUN 8/27, 1-4

Old Town Village \$899,000

Alexandria's WOW House of the Week! Sunny brick end unit located in a private courtyard with gorgeous, renovated kitchen, hardwood floors on all 4 levels, 2-car garage, plantation shutters, and gas fireplace. Community pool and fitness. 317 S Fayette Street
Lisa Groover 703.919.4426
www.LisaGroover.com



OPEN SUN 8/27, 2-4

Del Ray \$1,100,000

Rare opportunity to purchase a home on 1/3-acre! Only 3 blocks to restaurants and retail, and within a mile of two Metros. This two-story Prairie-style home was completely gutted in 2009 and redesigned with a modern interior. Large brick patio & room for a pool. 10 W Bellefonte Ave.
Susan Hume 202.280.5735
Ross Hunt 703.403.2959



OPEN SUN 8/27, 2-4

Alexandria \$1,825,000

Stunning home located on a quiet street in a serene and private setting among lush landscaping. Six large bedrooms, gourmet kitchen, custom built-ins and a beautiful sunroom. 415 E Timber Branch Parkway
Lauren Bishop 202.361.5079
www.LaurenBishopHomes.com



Carlyle Towers \$549,900

Enjoy the ease of one-level living in this 2-bedroom, 2-bath condo with a fantastic vista of the GW Masonic Memorial. Gated luxury community with elevator, garage parking & 24/7 concierge. Blocks to King St Metro, abundant shopping, dining, & entertainment delights all around.
Meiling Yang 703.944.8403
www.MyTopAgent.com



Braddock Heights \$1,119,000

No detail was overlooked in this thoroughly and beautifully updated Colonial. 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 3 fireplaces, open kitchen/family room spills out into a stunningly landscaped backyard. Master suite with 2 walk-in closets and luxury bath.
Jessica Richardson 703.864.3438
www.JessicaRichardson.com



Alexandria City \$615,000

Charming 3-bedroom, 2-full-bath, brick rambler in popular Park Ridge. Bright white open kitchen, sun-washed combo dining and living room with fireplace, hardwood flooring, updated baths plus finished lower level! Outdoor oasis features paver patios and professional landscaping.
Joy & Casey Sutherland 703.725.5061
www.TheSutherlandPartners.com



Old Town \$1,595,000

Historic Captain's Row! Beautifully maintained 4-bedroom, 3.5-bath brick townhouse offers high ceilings, hardwood floors, intricate woodwork, built-ins and generous natural light. Spacious living room with fireplace opens onto the peaceful garden-patio featuring mature plantings and custom lighting. Private two car parking.

Babs Beckwith 703.627.5421
www.BabsBeckwith.com



OPEN SUN 8/27, 2-4

Old Town \$1,195,000

New Price! Largest model end unit Brandt townhome in the heart of Old Town with 3 bedrooms & 2.5 baths. Only 1 block to waterfront & parks, a short distance to King Street, numerous updates throughout, enviable patio space with garden, 1-car garage and 1 mile to Braddock Road Metro. thegoodhart-group.com/411-n-lee/

Sue & Allison Goodhart 703.362.3221
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Alexandria \$700,000

Elegant home with over 3,400 SF. Master suite spans entire level with sitting room/den and 2 walk-in closets with custom built-ins. Master bath with granite split vanities, jacuzzi & separate shower and water closet. True chef's kitchen with granite counters, upgraded cabinetry & open to family room with fireplace.

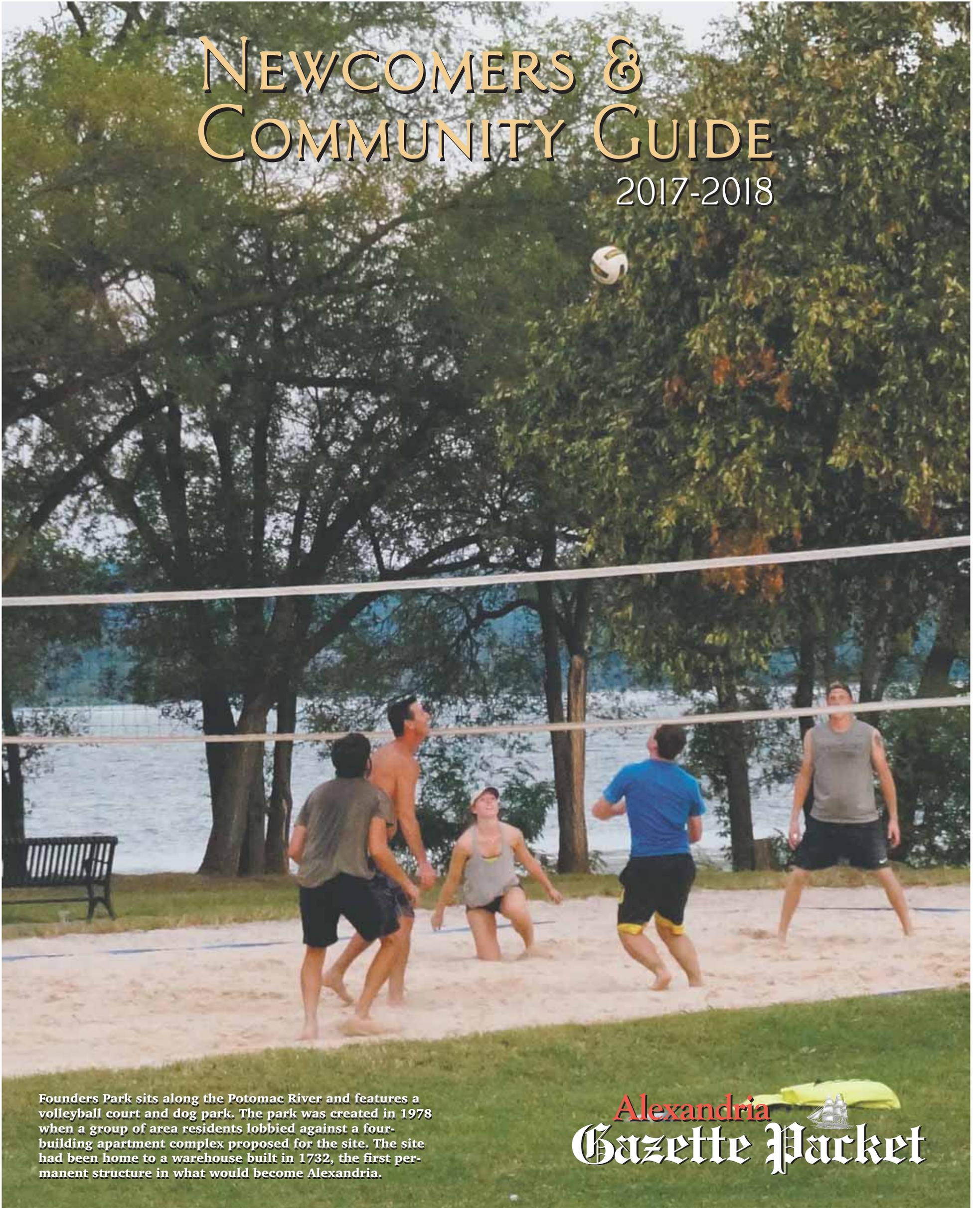
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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

2017-2018



Founders Park sits along the Potomac River and features a volleyball court and dog park. The park was created in 1978 when a group of area residents lobbied against a four-building apartment complex proposed for the site. The site had been home to a warehouse built in 1732, the first permanent structure in what would become Alexandria.

Alexandria
Gazette Packet

PHOTO BY JOHN BORDNER/GAZETTE PACKET

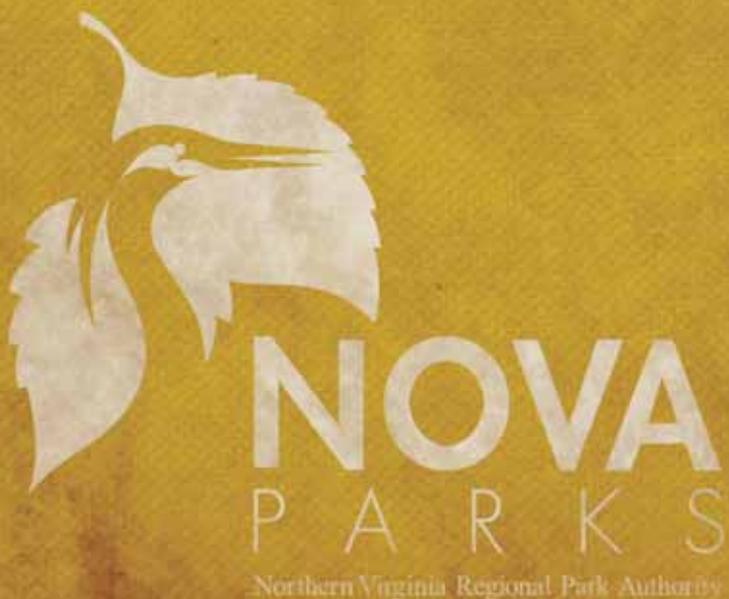
YOU ARE ONE WITH NOVA PARKS



If you are one of over 100,000 people a year to go to Great Waves Waterpark at Cameron Run Regional Park, you know the joy of a great day at the waterpark. You know how much the children love this place. Cameron Run has long been the best water parks in the region with its wave pool, various slides and features.

The joy of a day at the water park is a summertime right of passage. And with NOVA Park's 5 waterparks adventure awaits with themes that capture the imagination. So before the summer is over, take the family and spend a day at one of these wonderful places:

- Great Waves at Cameron Run Regional Park, City of Alexandria
- Ocean Dunes at Upton Hill Regional Park, Arlington County
- Pirates Cove at Pohick Bay Regional Park, Fairfax County
- Atlantis at Bull Run Regional Park, Fairfax County
- Volcano Island at Algonkian Regional Park, Loudoun County



NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

There's No Place Like Home

Alexandria: From the waterfront to the West End.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

There are no shortage of accolades for Alexandria, from being named a Top Holiday Town by USA Today to being recognized as having the best downtown of any small to mid-size city in the nation by the website Livability.com. But beneath the parades and festivals that draw visitors from around the world are the hidden gems that make the city unique.

"I don't think you can call yourself a local if you haven't eaten at Al's Steakhouse," said Nicholas Marinoff, a seventh generation Alexandrian who drove 1,000 miles from his new home in Florida to eat at the recently reopened restaurant in Del Ray. "Al's is one of the best things about this city."

At 15.4 square miles and with a population of just over 150,000, Alexandria hosts nationally recognized events such as the Scottish Walk Weekend and Del Ray's Art on the Avenue that attract more than three million visitors each year. But off the beaten paths of King Street and Mount Vernon Avenue are attractions such as the Tomb of



PHOTO BY MARK MOGLE/GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria is home to several signature events, including the George Washington Birthday Parade. This year World War II veteran Col. Kim Ching, right, waved to the crowd from Bob Geier's 1903 Curved Dash Oldsmobile as the parade made its way through the streets of Old Town.

the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier and the National Inventors Hall of Fame.

"This is a very special place," said astronaut Buzz Aldrin of the National Inventors Hall of Fame when he attended an event there last year. "No other place celebrates the history and innovation of our nation."

Another Alexandria landmark is the Captain Rocky Versace Plaza and Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Located in front of the Mount Vernon Rec-

reation Center, the plaza honors the 67 Alexandrians who lost their lives in the Vietnam War.

In the West End are the Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site and the Winkler Botanic Reserve.

One of the city's most obvious landmarks is also one of its best kept secrets. Located on 36 acres overlooking Old Town, the George Washington National Masonic Memorial was built in the 1920s as a memorial and museum highlighting the contributions of Freemasons to the United States. The structure also serves as a research center, library, community center, and performing arts center and offers one of the best panoramic views of the city.

SEE HOME, PAGE 16



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

The Dairy Godmother is a popular frozen custard shop on Mount Vernon Ave. in Del Ray. New owner Russell Gravatt took over earlier this year, serving Jude Munter-Reimann, 5, and older brother Paul, 7, some of his frozen treats.



PHOTO BY MARK MOGLE/GAZETTE PACKET

Parades, like the George Washington Birthday Parade, are popular attractions and draw thousands of visitors to Old Town. Here, riders from the United Horsemen's Association take to the streets during this year's parade.



PHOTO BY JOHN BORDNER/GAZETTE PACKET

The fireworks finale of First Night Alexandria lights up the sky over the Potomac River to ring in the New Year. The family-friendly event features live performances in Old Town and Del Ray culminating with the only New Year's Eve fireworks display in the region.



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

The Captain Rocky Versace Plaza and Vietnam Veterans Memorial honors the service and sacrifice of the 67 men from Alexandria who either died in Vietnam and the surrounding area or remain missing in action. The plaza is located in front of the Mount Vernon Recreation Center in Del Ray.



PHOTO BY MARK MOGLE/GAZETTE PACKET

The annual St. Patrick's Day Parade takes place the first Saturday in March and kicks off a month-long celebration of all things Irish. This year Madison Kennedy enjoyed the parade a top the iconic Hard Times Horse

About the Gazette Packet

As your local, weekly Connection newspaper, the Gazette Packet's mission is to deliver the local news you need, to help make sense of what is happening in your community, to advocate for community good, to provide a forum for dialogue on local concerns, and to record achievements, milestones and events in the community and people's lives.

Here in our Newcomers and Community Guide, we report on the character of your community, we include details of how to vote in the upcoming elections, information on local government, nonprofits and business organizations, plus tips and tidbits from the community.

In 2016 alone, Connection papers won dozens of awards, including the top Virginia Press award — for Integrity and Community Service, for our coverage of police reform and related issues.

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

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

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in an art show. We publish photos and notes about personal milestones and community events, including births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, awards and obituaries.

We are also interested in events at your church, mosque, synagogue, community center, pool, school, club, etc. Email us a note about the event, being sure to include when and where the photo was taken and the names of all the people who are in a photo.

We also publish notes about news and events from local businesses. Notes about openings, new employees and anniversaries



PHOTO BY ROBIN MOGLE

Local Media Connection writers and photographers won 37 Virginia Press Association awards for work in 2016, including the Virginia Press Association Award for Journalistic Integrity and Community Service. Pictured here from left: John Bordner, Mark Mogle, Mary Kimm, Shirley Ruhe, Tim Peterson, Vernon Miles, Eden Brown, Andrea Worker and Jeanne Theismann.

are welcome. It is especially important to us to let people know about events ahead of time in our calendar of events. We appreciate getting notice at least two weeks ahead of the event, and we encourage photos.

The Gazette Packet is one of 15 papers published by the independent, locally

owned Local Media Connection LLC, serving the suburbs of Metropolitan Washington in Northern Virginia and Potomac, Md.

The Gazette Packet is one of the oldest continuously publishing papers in the country, beginning publication in 1784.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

A Mayoral Welcome to a Historic City

BY ALLISON SILBERBERG
MAYOR, CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

Hope everyone is enjoying the last days of summer. Soon the air will be crisp and the leaves will be changing color. Alexandria is stunning in the fall.

For those who are newcomers to Alexandria, I would like to extend a heartfelt welcome to our beloved, historic city!

Founded in 1749, Alexandria is authen-

tic and charming. With a number of historic districts throughout our city, we are a city of great and diverse neighborhoods. Old Town Alexandria is recognized as a national gem with its restored homes and buildings of the 1700s and 1800s, gas lampposts, brick sidewalks, cobblestone streets, historic markers and ubiquitous plaques that show us where important historical figures such as George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Robert E. Lee, and the Marquis de Lafayette conducted business and dined in our taverns. Over three million people visit Alexandria each year. Historic preservation is a core value here.

A vibrant city of 150,000 residents, Alexandria still savors its small-town feel. Alexandria is an arts destination city with award-winning theater, the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra, the internationally-known Torpedo Factory, and numerous art galleries. Farmers' Markets thrive across our city. The Old Town Farmers' Market is one of the oldest, ongoing farmers' markets in the country. Known for some of the best culinary talent in the region, Alexandria is a city for foodies. And don't miss the unique shops throughout our city.

We have beautiful parks plus biking and walking trails. Many Alexandrians love gardening, and the city will sell trees at a reduced rate this fall. I ask my fellow

Alexandrians to please plant a tree for us. Let's "green up" our city and dramatically increase our tree canopy over the next decade. This is a community-wide and team effort. Please join us in this endeavor.

We are a city of kindness and compassion. The City Council and I signed a Statement of Inclusiveness last year, reaffirming our strong commitment to diversity and declaring our city to be a hate-free zone. This is a core value of our city. There is no place for intolerance here.

We have a phenomenal nonprofit sector. If you would like to volunteer, we have a nonprofit for you. We are a can-do city. Our citizens are known for seeing an issue and rolling up their sleeves to create change. Check out Volunteer Alexandria for a ton of information about volunteer opportunities.

Here are some fun highlights for the coming months. On Sept. 23, the TWIG will host its 76th Annual Historic Alexandria Homes Tour. On Oct. 7, Del Ray will host its Art on the Avenue, a multicultural arts and music festival. It is a fantastic event for the whole family and even has a homemade pie contest. Be sure not to miss the Del Ray Halloween Parade, which is one of the best days of the year in Alexandria. On Dec. 2, the Campagna Center's Scottish Christmas Walk Parade celebrates our Scottish heritage and

will thrill thousands. There is our ever-popular and family-friendly First Night Alexandria on New Year's Eve. On Feb. 19, the oldest and largest parade celebrating George Washington's birthday will march through the streets of Old Town. On March 3, the Ballyshanners' St. Patrick's Day Parade will be phenomenal. In mid-July, be sure to join us for Alexandria's annual birthday celebration in the park along the waterfront with the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra, birthday cake, and thrilling fireworks over the Potomac. These annual traditions and more create the glue that gives our city an abiding sense of community. I am deeply honored to serve as your mayor.

At City Hall, we are working hard for all our citizens. I ask you to help us make our great city even greater. Please consider volunteering with one of our many non-profit organizations or joining one of our boards or commissions. Civic engagement is critically important. One Saturday a month, the City Council holds a monthly public hearing, and citizens can speak for three minutes about any concern. I welcome your input and host a monthly coffee called "Mayor on Your Corner," where all are encouraged to come share thoughts and concerns.

Please let me know if I may ever be of any help. Together, we are making Alexandria even stronger. Welcome!

Alexandria
Gazette Packet

**NEWCOMERS
& COMMUNITY GUIDE**

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COMMUNITY GUIDE

Get Involved with ACPS

BY DR. LOIS F. BERLIN
INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT
ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

As the Alexandria City Public Schools community looks forward to the 2017-18 school year, I want to welcome both our new and returning students and their families.

The year ahead is an exciting one filled with transition, challenges and opportunities. We will be working with our staff and community to prepare to implement our new school boundaries, continue the construction and opening of the new Patrick Henry K-8 School, and finalize plans for a new school in the western part of our city.

Our schools are the heart of the community and very special places. Each one is representative of our richly diverse Alexandria community and residents. Our students hail from more than 80 different countries and speak more than 60 different languages. Our diversity literally brings the world into our classrooms and provides limitless opportunities to learn from each other.

Our school division will continue its focus on nurturing and supporting our students in every way. That is reflected in our ACPS 2020 Strategic Plan which emphasizes both student achievement and student wellness. We are striving to be a high-per-

forming school division and that can only occur through a supportive learning environment, high expectations for all students, a clear focus, a strong instructional program that is aligned with state standards, effective collaboration and communication, and ongoing staff training.

Students are at the heart of all that we do. That is why all our planning must be looked at through the lens of whether it will benefit students. We must ensure that our students are well, healthy and able to learn. One way to do that is with classrooms that have lots of natural light and enough room for our rapidly growing student population. We also know that a good teacher in every classroom is critical. That is why we strive to recruit and retain an exemplary staff.

ACPS is fortunate to have a highly active community that engages with our students, staff and schools as volunteers, advisory group members, members of parent teacher associations and booster clubs and as participants in community meetings and forums. We also partner with more than 100 community groups and organizations that help us toward our goal of success for all our students. Community engagement, from supporting children in after-school tutorial programs, volunteering as a mentor or par-

SEE ACPS, PAGE 19

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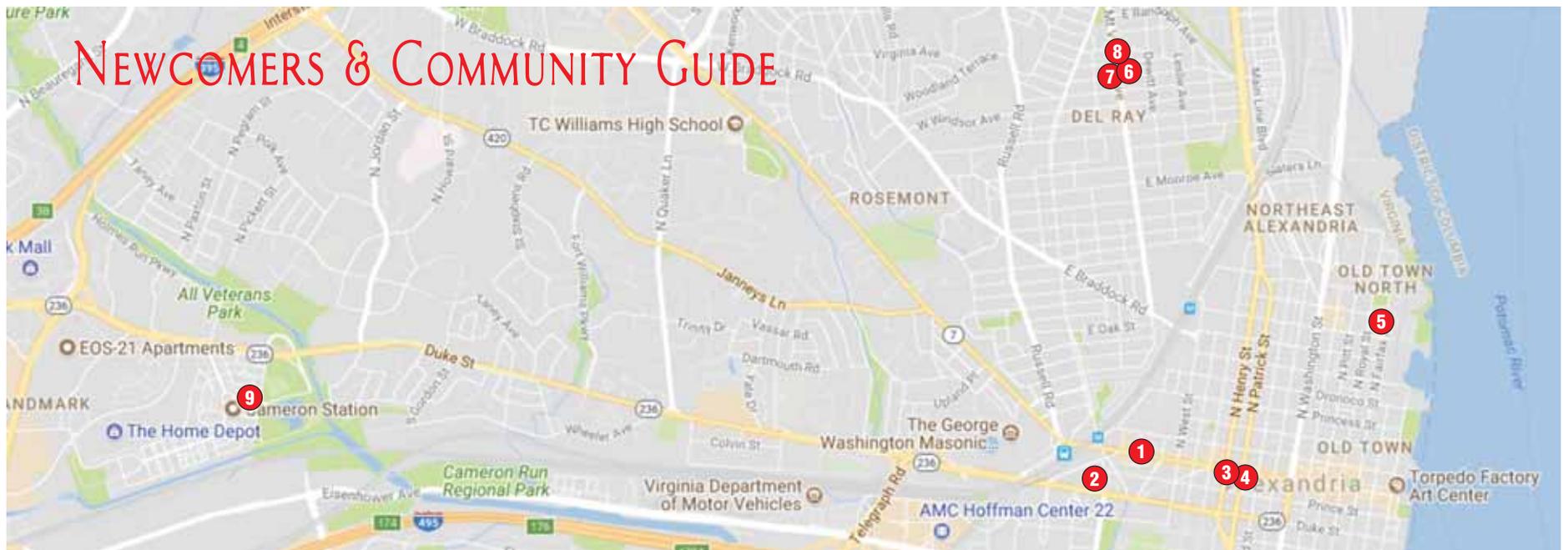
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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



A Walk on the Caffeinated Side

— COMPILED BY
ANTONELLA NICHOLAS

1 UPTOWNER CAFE

1609 King St, Alexandria, VA 22314
An Old Town favorite, Uptowner Cafe offers coffee, pastries, and a variety of sandwiches in a laid-back ambiance.

2 JUNE COFFEE

225 Reinekers Ln, Alexandria, VA 22314
Located across from the King Street Metro Station, June Coffee offers a cheerful vibe and a warm cup of coffee to commuters and residents alike.

3 KILLER ESP

1012 King St, Alexandria, VA 22314
Brick walls and whimsical paintings fill this central Old Town cafe which offers espresso, sorbet, and slices of pie. <http://killeresp.com>

4 MISHA'S

102 S Patrick St, Alexandria, VA 22314
At this local Old Town haunt, enjoy daily roasted artisanal coffee, pastries, and pure jazz on the stereo. <http://www.mishascoffee.com>

5 EXTRA PERKS COFFEE SHOP

822 N Fairfax St, Alexandria, VA 22314
Order a cup of coffee, a traditional British plate, or stick with an American-style meal at this friendly cafe in North Old Town. <http://extraperkscoffeeandcafe.com>

6 STOMPING GROUND

2309 Mt Vernon Ave, Alexandria, VA 22301
At this rustic, easy-going cafe in the heart of Del Ray, customers can opt

for coffee, biscuits, and seasonal pastries, or a homey meal. <https://www.stompdelray.com>

7 ST. ELMO'S COFFEE PUB

2300 Mt Vernon Ave, Alexandria, VA 22301
Grab a bite to eat, drink a cup of coffee, and listen to live music in "Del Ray's living room." <https://www.stelmoscoffeeandpub.com>

8 CABOOSE CAFE

2419 Mt Vernon Ave, Alexandria, VA 22301
Cruising through Del Ray you get to Caboose Cafe, which offers coffee, Ethiopian cuisine, and American snacks.

9 CAMERON CAFE

4911 Ben Brannen Park Dr, Alexandria, VA 22304
Located in Cameron Station, Cameron Cafe offers a cozy atmosphere with a children's play area, coffee, and other beverages.

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The Forgotten Town The saga of short-lived Potomac, Va.

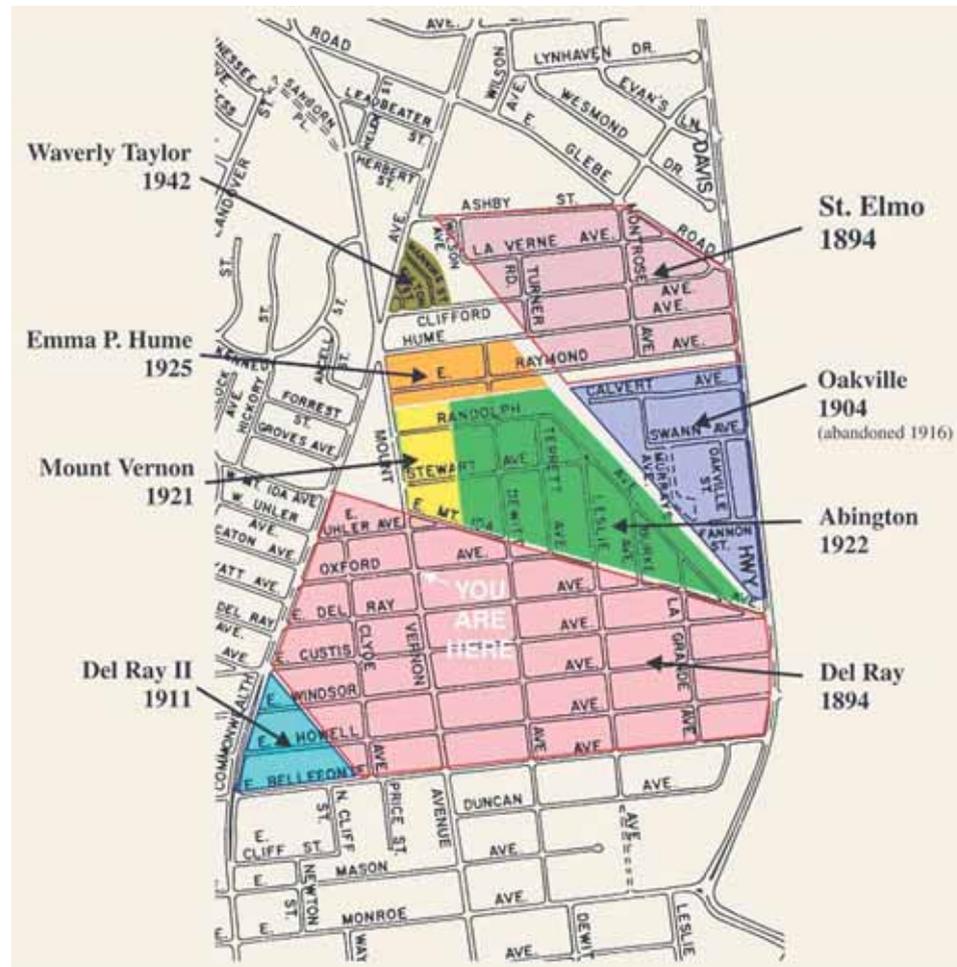
BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

The City of Alexandria. The County of Arlington. The Town of Potomac.

Once, between the County of Arlington and the City of Alexandria, there was another town. Potomac, incorporated in 1908, was a hub of federal government workers residing in the area west of today's Route 1. According to the statement of significance in the National Register of Historic Places, the story of Potomac illustrates the power of civic reform movements at the end of the 19th and early 20th century, and serves as an illustration of trends in government. Then it disappeared.

The town was annexed by Alexandria and eventually swallowed up into what is now Del Ray, but glimpses of the town's influence are still visible. A fire station in Del Ray still bears the name "Potomac Fire Department." The Town of Potomac was added to the the National Register of Historic Places in 1992. Interest in the history of this forgotten town has seen a revival as the Del Ray Citizens Association begins a push for greater architectural protections. Local historians have begun to reexamine the history, and legacy, of Potomac.

Much of the town was built on top of the St. Asaph's Race Track and Gambling House, a site so popular a special spur of the railroad was built to bring patrons from D.C. The gambling operation employed 37 people, reported to be more than every house standing in Del Ray. Records say the gambling attracted violent people who attacked farmers and school children traveling through the area until in the 1890s the "Good Citizens League" was founded to put an end to the nuisance. One of the leading crusaders against the gambling operation was Joseph Supplee, who moved to Del Ray



Map of the Town of Potomac

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

in 1895 and later became the first mayor of the Town of Potomac. The track eventually closed in 1904.

But by the early 1900s, residents of what was then called Alexandria County outside of the City of Alexandria were facing bigger issues than moral degradation. In 1900, local residents did not yet have access to electricity, water, or Alexandria City's state of the art combined sewer system. On top of the former notorious racetrack, two de-

velopers from Ohio came together to incorporate a town to be able to better provide municipal services to the growing number of residents. The town's incorporation was approved by the state legislature in 1908.

One third of the town worked as clerks in the federal government, another third worked in railroad-related jobs connected to the newly opened Potomac Yards railway yard. The last third provided local services, like grocers and bankers.

Much of the local culture was influenced by the same late 19th century crusade against "loose morals" that had formed the foundation of the town. It was a town that prided itself on a strict code, with slaugh-

terhouses and drinking saloons expressly forbidden.

But this code went even further than banning libations. The town charter restricted ownership of property to "persons of the Caucasian Race" and advertisements for the town in the 1924 City Directory proudly claimed that it was the only municipality in the United States that did not have residents "of African Descent." Until the riots in the 1960s, the town reportedly had a very active branch of the KKK.

As the Town of Potomac began to prosper, there were repeated efforts by the City of Alexandria to annex it. According to Dan Lee, research historian for the Office of Historic Alexandria, the town was bringing in considerable tax revenue. By 1928, the population had swelled to 2,355 residents. But local citizens resisted these efforts vigorously. One reason cited in the National Register of Historic Places was local residents' indignation at the 57 bars that existed in the City of Alexandria. Annexation efforts were rebuffed in 1915, but eventually succeeded in 1929 when the City of Alexandria acquired the Town of Potomac and the Potomac Yards railway to the east.

Following its incorporation into Alexandria, the Town of Potomac morphed into the area known now as Del Ray. Melissa Butler, a historic researcher, was hired by the Del Ray Citizens Association to examine the history of the town after its annexation into Alexandria.

"Even though officially incorporated into Alexandria by 1930, there was still a strong sense of being something separate," said Butler.

When the town was added to the National Register of Historic Places, a study was done to find all the buildings that qualified as historic properties. But that was 25 years ago, and Butler's mission now is to find buildings that have since become eligible for listing in the National Register. These are the buildings constructed between 1941 and 1967, after the annexation, but when the town was still very independent. The main influence during that period, according to Butler, was the influx of workers related to supporting the Second World War. With things like the opening of the Torpedo Factory, new housing areas were required for laborers in the City of Alexandria. As a result, many of them were housed in brick duplexes very representative of mid-20th century styles and help tell the story of Alexandria during wartime.

"A lot of those duplexes are eligible [for listing]," said Butler. "Del Ray is known for its late Victorian, early 20th century styles. A lot of bungalows that people might consider aesthetically pleasing rather than brick duplexes, but this is no less important to historic register."

In the years after the post-war era Butler is studying, Lee says efforts were undertaken by the City of Alexandria to revitalize Del Ray. Businesses were declining along



The Potomac Fire Station, erected in 1926, which also served as a town hall.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



PHOTO BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE-PACKET
The Potomac Fire Station today.

How Alexandria Got Its Shape

History of boundary changes in Alexandria.

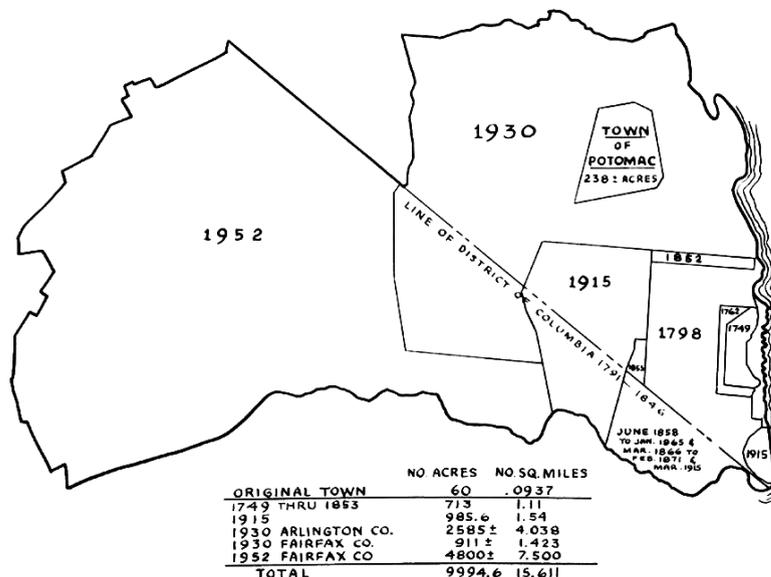
BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

When the city started, it was a couple blocks along the waterfront of 700 acres. Two hundred years later, it would grow to nearly 10,000 acres. How did Alexandria gain this much land over time? It took it. Over its 200-year expansion, the story of Alexandria is one of steady growth pushing the city to annex more and more of its neighbors in every direction.

The original boundaries of the city were established in 1749 when a charter was issued to establish a town covering the lands on the south side of the Potomac River. The 84 lots that made up the town were 60 acres in total. Much of what we know as Old Town today came from this original parcel. Though it would later be incorporated into the District of Columbia for a few years, Alexandria was originally incorporated as a town in Virginia.

The first expansion was in 1762, which added another few blocks around that original boundary. By 1796, records at the time show that Alexandria was continuing to steadily grow and had undergone another westward expansion. That year, Alexandria was also incorporated into the District of Columbia. This lasted until 1846, when Alexandria became part of Alexandria County Va., then was chartered as a city in 1852.

GROWTH OF CITY BY ANNEXATION



Map of Alexandria's expansion.

Throughout the 1850s, the city continue to swallow small parcels south and west of the city limits, including parts the Hooff's Run and Hunting Creek areas of Fairfax. In 1865, the city tried to withdraw jurisdiction from these swampy parcels that had been added as part of the 1858 charter but by 1871, the dividing line between Fairfax County and Alexandria was established as Hooff's Run to the west and where it runs into the

Potomac in the south, today known as Cameron Run and still the boundary between Fairfax and Alexandria.

These boundaries stayed fairly consistent until 1915, when Alexandria annexed 866 acres from Alexandria County and 450 acres from Fairfax County. This was mostly a northwest expansion of Old Town, but also included the acquisition of Jones Point. Then in 1930, the city nearly doubled in

size when it annexed large portions of Arlington County to the north, bringing the city boundaries from Cameron Run in the south to Four Mile Run in the north. According to court records from the time, the land was given to Alexandria for use in the city's future development and because the city was in a position to improve the land. This brought Del Ray, Potomac, and Potomac Yards into Alexandria.

The final major expansion occurred in 1951: when Alexandria took the West End. After the 1930 acquisition, the westernly dividing line was Quaker Lane, but the city had its sights on the growing developments further west. The Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals upheld Alexandria's decision to annex what was part of Fairfax, and the city more than doubled as a result; bringing in 7.25 square miles and adding 11,000 new residents to the city.

"The historic City of Alexandria lies in the most thriving and rapidly growing urban community in Virginia," read the annexation ordinance. "The City's proximity to the Nation's Capitol is believed to assure the perannity of this phenomenal growth ... The tripling of its population in 20 years [since the last expansion] has resulted in a density that is far too great. The corporate line is extremely and unduly contracted. The City for all practical purposes is completely built up. Sufficient land desirable for residential and business expansion is not available to accommodate the needs and desires of the City's present population or of the new population of which the City of Alexandria is the center. If the City is to grow it is imperative that its corporate line be extended."

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

ACT for Alexandria

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

ALIVE!

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

Animal Welfare League of Alexandria (AWLA)

AWLA provides pet adoptions, spay and neuter assistance, education and

community service and outreach. AWLA is located at 4101 Eisenhower Ave. Call 703-746-4774 or visit www.alexandriaanimals.org.

Ballyshaners

Join the Ballyshaners (Gaelic for "Old Towners") to organize and host Alexandria's St. Patrick's Day Parade, and the Annual Irish Festival each August. There are monthly fundraising event to help cover the costs associated with the parade to preserve and promote Irish heritage. Meets once a month from April through December at a local restaurant, then weekly from January until the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Fundraisers are held in January and February. Visit www.ballyshaners.org.

At Home Alexandria

Part of a national "village movement" of small nonprofit groups forming in communities all across the country, At Home Alexandria's (AHA) mission is to help residents ages 55+ in Alexandria live independently and in their homes for as long as they can. AHA provides an array of services like transportation, light home

maintenance, errand running, gardening, technical support, snow shoveling, and light housekeeping. It also organizes a variety of social and educational events. The offices are located at 3139 Mount Vernon Ave. Call 703-231-0824 or visit www.athomeinalexandria.org.

Carpenter's Shelter

Carpenter's Shelter serves nearly 750 homeless individuals and families and formerly homeless children and adults each year. It offers continuous services that assist shelter residents to independent living. Volunteer opportunities available. 930 North Henry Street. Call 703-548-7500 or visit www.carpentersshelter.org.

The Campagna Center

The Campagna Center operates children's programs related to Alexandria Head Start, the Campagna Early Learning Center, Afternoon Adventures, before- and after- school tutoring/child care, tutoring and mentoring with Building Better Futures and education programs for immigrants and refugee families with the New Neighbors program. 418 South

Washington Street. Call 703-549-0111 or visit www.campagnacenter.org.

Center for Alexandria's Children

The Center for Alexandria's Children (CAC) is a public-private partnership based on the Children's Advocacy Center Model, which has been shown to improve outcomes for families and victims of abuse. The center provides services for victims and their families and coordinates the response between victims and nonprofits aiming to serve them. The Center is located at 1900 North Beauregard St. Call 703-746-6008 or visit www.centerforalexandriaschildren.org.

Child and Family Network Centers

This nonprofit provides free and fully accredited preschool education for children living in poverty in Northern Virginia, including free family support, literacy, job training, and health programs to the parents of students. Currently, Child and Family Network

SEE COMMUNITY, PAGE 19

PARKS

A SAMPLING OF ALEXANDRIA PARKS

PHOTOS BY JOHN BORDNER & JEANNE THEISMANN
MAP BY LAURENCE FOONG; DESIGN BY JEAN CARD



Richard and Elle Tauber of Scotia, N.Y., visit the lighthouse at Jones Point Park.



The pond at Ben Brenman Park in the city's West End.

PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN

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

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

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

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

5 Chinquapin Park/Forest Park
3210 King St.
Citywide Park
Size: 52.89 acres (Chinquapin: 32.08 acres; Forest Park: 20.81), Athletic fields, basketball courts, garden plots, picnic area with grill, parking, playground, tennis courts,

recreation center with an indoor swimming pool, and wooded area.

6 Four Mile Run Park
3700 Commonwealth Ave. and 4131 Mount Vernon Ave.
Citywide Park
Size: 46.75 acres (an additional 1.47 acres has recently been acquired and a planning process is currently underway for the additional land), Features: Athletic fields, basketball, biking/jogging/walking trail, bird and river watching, fishing, playground, picnic benches, and seating.

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

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

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

10 Potomac Yard Park
2501 Potomac Ave.

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

11 Tarleton Park
4420A Vermont Ave.
Citywide Park
Size: 6.14 acres, Features: Dog exercise area, nature area with trails, open play area, playground, walking/biking trails, and sitting area.

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

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

14 Eugene Simpson Stadium Park
426 E. Monroe Ave.
Citywide Park
Size: 9.94 acres, Features: Baseball

fields, basketball court, dog exercise area, garden, playground and tennis.

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

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

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

18 Freedmen's Cemetary
638 North Alfred Street
Historical/Destination
Size: 0.43 acres.

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

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

21 Market Square
300 King Street

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



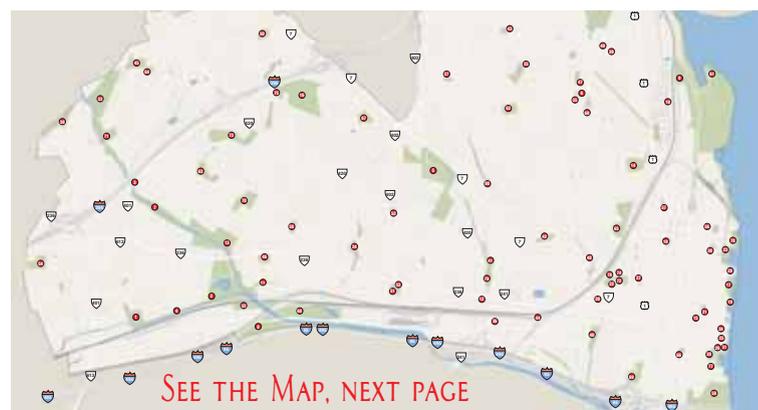
The Charles W. Hill Park in Del Ray is named for Corporal Charles Hill, an Alexandria police officer who was killed in the line of duty March 22, 1989.



A Native Plant Conservation zone near Charles W. Hill Park in Del Ray.



The Lenny Harris Memorial Fields at Braddock Park near the Braddock Metro Station.



SEE THE MAP, NEXT PAGE

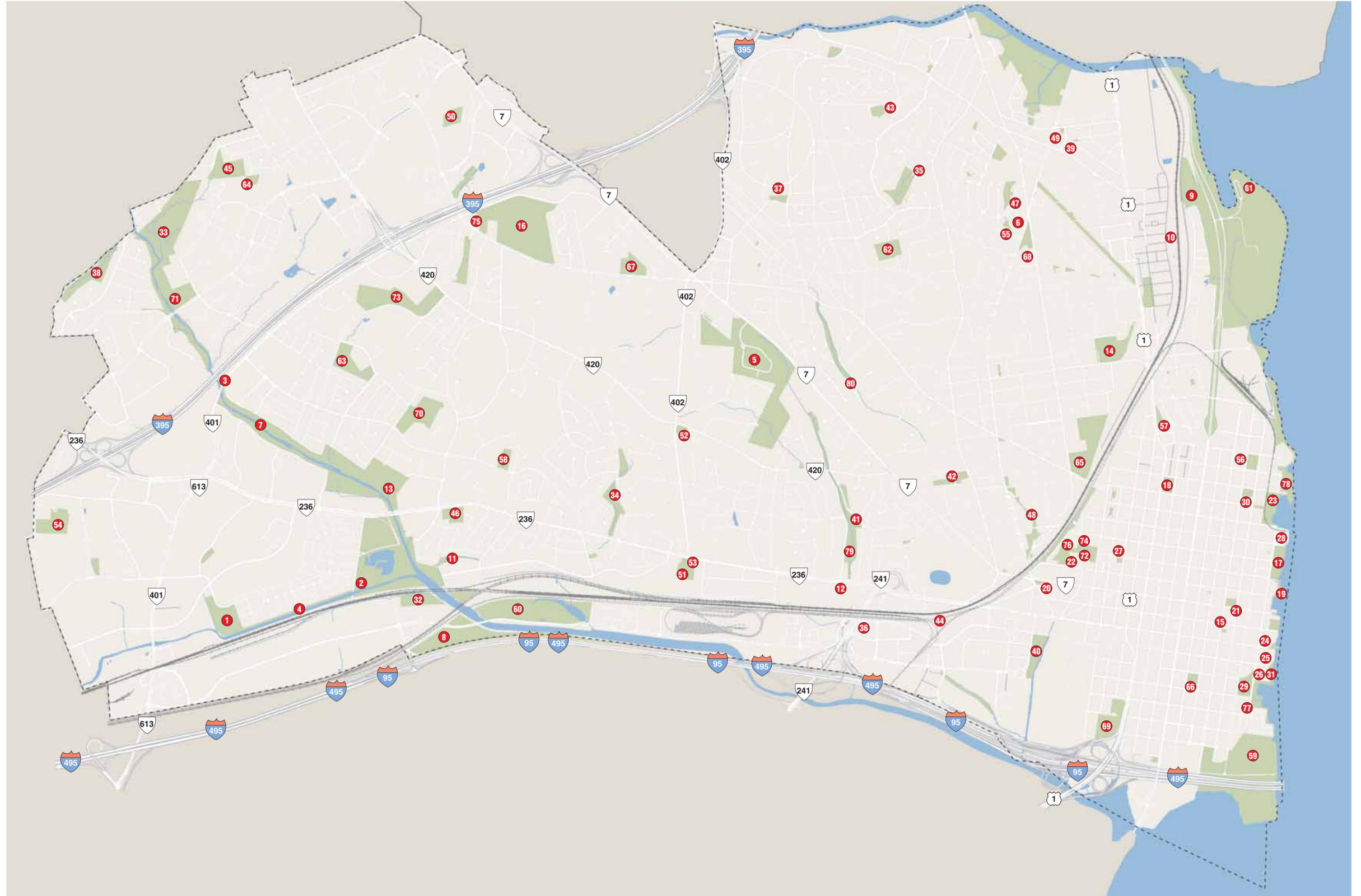
PARKS



PHOTO BY JOHN BORDNER

Jones Point Park overlooks the Potomac River and National Harbor.

- 28 West's Point Park**
1 Oronoco St.
Historical/Destination
Size: 0.07 acres, Features: Riverfront sitting area and observation deck
- 29 Windmill Hill Park**
501 South Union St.
Historical/Destination
Size: 3.43 acres, Features: Basketball court, playground, riverfront seating, and sand volleyball
- 30 Wythe Street Plaza**
705 North Fairfax St.
Historical/Destination
Size: 0.44 acres, Features: Seating area and flower beds
- 31 Harborside/Shipyard Park**
1 Wilkes St.
Historical/Destination
Size: 1.52 acres, Features: Trail and riverside seating
- 32 Clermont Natural Park**
4551 Eisenhower Ave.
Natural Area
Size: 5.95 acres, Features: Wooded area
- 33 Dora Kelley Nature Park**
5750 Sanger Ave.
Natural Area
Size: 46.61 acres, Features: Environmental programs, sitting areas, walking/biking trail, Nature Center, and wooded natural area.
- 34 Fort Williams Park**
501 Fort Williams Parkway
Natural Area
Size: 8.3 acres, Features: Wooded nature area with a walking path.
- 35 Monticello Park**
320 Beverley Drive
Natural Area
Size: 6.24 acres, Features: Bird watching, dog area, stream, walking trail
- 36 Old Cameron Run Channel Park**
2551 Mill Road
Natural Area
Size: 2.83 acres, Features: A nature area with stream
- 37 Robert Leider Park**
3002 Valley Drive
Natural Area
Size: 1.3 acres, Features: Nature area with trail
- 38 Rynex Nature Park**
1500 North Chambliss St.
Natural Area
Size: 9.32 acres, Features: Heavily wooded nature area
- 39 3550 Commonwealth Avenue**
3550 Commonwealth Ave.
Neighborhood Park
Size: 0.53 acres, Features: Adopt-a-Garden
- 40 African American Heritage Memorial Park**
500 Holland Lane
Neighborhood Park
Features: One-acre 19th century African American Cemetery, memorial sculptures, park design includes part of the original landscape of the cemetery and a wetland.



PARKS

41 Angel Park

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

42 Beach Park

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

43 Beverley Park

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

44 Carlyle Dog Park and Tennis Courts

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

45 Chambliss Park

2505 N. Chambliss St.
Neighborhood Park
Size: 8.16 acres, Features: Parking, tennis courts, wooded nature area with a walking trail

46 Ewald Park

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

47 Goat Hill Park

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

48 Hooffs Run Park and Greenway

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

49 Hume Springs Park

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

50 James Mulligan Park

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

51 Lockett Field

3540 Wheeler Ave.
Neighborhood Park
Size: 3.31 acres, Features: athletic fields

52 President Gerald R. Ford Park

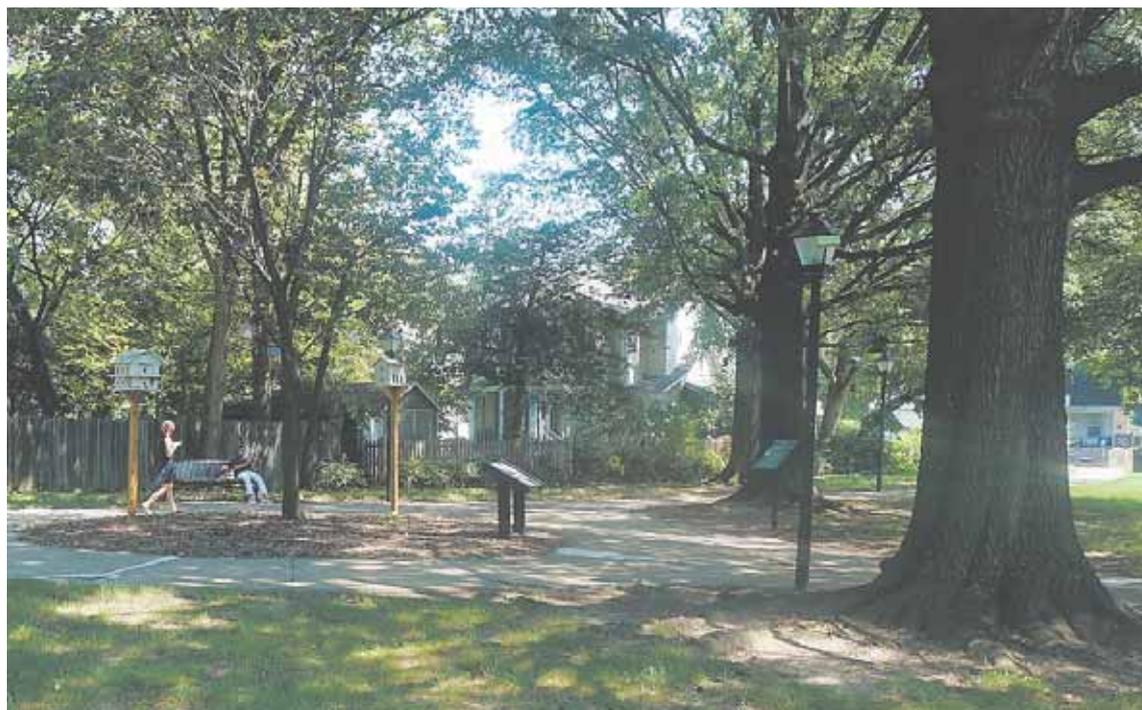
1426 and 1422 Janneys Lane
Neighborhood Park
Size: 1.13 acres, Features: open lawn and seating areas

53 Schuyler Hamilton Jones Skateboard Park

3540 Wheeler Ave.
Neighborhood Park
Size: 0.99 acres, Features: skateboard ramps

54 Stevenson Park

300 Stultz Road



Charles W. Hill Park features shaded sitting areas, a walking path and open turf for passive play.

PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN



Eugene Simpson Stadium Park features basketball courts, baseball diamonds and soccer fields.

Neighborhood Park
Size: 8.49 acres, Features: Athletic fields, basketball court, park shelter with grill, playground, and seating

55 Timberland Park

66A Kennedy St.
Neighborhood Park
Size: 0.53 acres, Features: Passive park area

56 Montgomery Park

901 N. Royal St.
Neighborhood Park
Size: 2.01 Acres, Features: Fenced dog run, tennis courts, tennis practice board, picnic tables, playground, shelter, and water fountain

57 Powhatan Park

1010 Douglas St.
Neighborhood Park
Size: 1.47 acres, Features: Basketball court, playground, and tennis court

58 Taney Avenue Park

4149 Taney Ave.
Neighborhood Park
Size: 2.57 acres, Features: Open play

area, sitting areas, picnic area, and wooded nature area.

59 Jones Point Park

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

60 Cameron Run Regional Park

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

61 Daingerfield Island

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

62 George Mason Park

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

playground, and sitting area

63 James K. Polk Field

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

64 John Adams Park

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

65 Lenny Harris Memorial Fields at Braddock Park

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

66 Lyles-Crouch School

530 S. Saint Asaph St.
Shared Use
Size: 1.39 acres, features small ballfield and playground

67 Minnie Howard Field

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

68 Mount Vernon Field & Recreation Center

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

69 Nannie J. Lee Center

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

70 Patrick Henry Field

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

71 William Ramsay Field

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

72 Jefferson Houston Elementary School Park

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

73 Hammond Upper and Lower Fields

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

74 Buchanan Park

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

75 Fort Ward Athletic Facility

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

76 Metro Linear Park

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

77 Pomander Park

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

78 Rivergate City Park

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

79 Taylor Run Park

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

80 Timberbranch Parkway

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

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

How to Vote

Every year is election year in Virginia; mechanics and details of voting require attention to detail.

Virginia Voter ID

Virginia has a stringent voter identification requirement, plan to bring photo identification with you to vote, whether that is absentee or on Election Day.

Among accepted ID: valid Virginia Driver's License or Identification Card; valid Virginia DMV issued Veteran's ID card; valid U.S. Passport; other government-issued photo identification cards issued by the U.S. Government, the Commonwealth of Virginia, or a political subdivision of the Commonwealth; valid college or university student photo identification card from an institution of higher education located in Virginia; valid student ID issued by a public school or private school in Virginia displaying a photo; employee identification card containing a photograph of the voter and issued by an employer of the voter in the ordinary course of the employer's business.

Any registered voter who does not have one of the required forms of identification can apply for a free Virginia Voter Photo Identification from any general registrar's office in the Commonwealth. Voters applying for the Virginia Voter Photo ID complete the Virginia Voter Photo Identification Card Application, have their picture taken, and sign the digital signature pad. Once the application is processed, the card will be mailed directly to the voter.

A voter who does not bring an acceptable photo ID to the polls will be offered a provisional ballot.

Provisional Ballot Process for Voters Who Arrive Without Identification

If you arrive at your polling place on Election Day without an acceptable form of photo identification, don't panic or give up. You will be given the opportunity to vote a provisional ballot. After completing the provisional ballot, the individual voting will be given written instructions from the election officials on how to submit a copy of his/her identifica-

Nov. 7 General Election

The Nov. 7 ballot in Alexandria will include contests for:

Governor

Ralph S. Northam (D)
Edward W. "Ed" Gillespie (R)
Clifford D. Hyra (L)

Lieutenant Governor

Justin E. Fairfax (D)
Jill H. Vogel (R)

Attorney General

Mark R. Herring (D)*
John D. Adams (R)

House of Delegates, 45th District

Mark H. Levine (D)* unopposed

House of Delegates, 47th District

Patrick A. Hope (D)* unopposed

Sheriff

Dana Lawhorne (D)* unopposed

Commonwealth's Attorney

Bryan Porter (D)* unopposed

Sample ballots will be available in early September.

All regular polling places will be open for voting from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day.

Contact
Call the Alexandria Voter Registration Office at 703-746-4050
Email anna.leider@alexandriava.gov
www.alexandriava.gov/Elections

Work as an Election Officer

Alexandria will need up to 500 election officers to cover the 200 polling places. These officers are needed to maintain a high level of service throughout Election Day. For more information call 703-746-4050 or visit 132 North Royal St.

Apply Online survey.alexandriava.gov/s3/ElectionOfficerApplication

tion so that his/her vote can be counted.

A voter will have until noon on the Friday following the election to deliver a copy of the identification to the local electoral board or to appear in person to apply for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card. Voters may submit a copy of their ID via fax, email, in-person submission, or through USPS or commercial delivery service. Please note that the copy of the ID must be delivered to the electoral board by noon on Friday, or the provisional ballot cannot be counted.

Also by noon on Friday following the election, the voter may appear in-person in the office of the general registrar, in the locality in which the provisional ballot was cast, and apply for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card. At the completion of the application process, the voter may request a Temporary Identification Document. This document may be provided to the electoral board to suffice the identification requirement.

The Forgotten Town

FROM PAGE 7

Mount Vernon Avenue. In the 1970s, a \$2 million program was implemented to provide loans and assistance to local businesses, with another \$2.5 million allocated to undergrounding the utilities and modernizing the area.

Without a Board of Architectural Review, Butler says the area has faced major architectural changes inside an area that is still officially a historic district. Butler says the

Citizen's Association has expressed an interest in having a Board of Architectural Review formed, and having an updated idea of what are the historic properties within that district will be useful in that regard.

"There's a misconception that having a historic district automatically protects things," said Butler. "People might not think of historic districts needing to be updated, but it's always good to consider reevaluating what's in a district and what context it exists in. History is not stagnant."

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WASHINGTON REIT CUSHMAN & WAKEFIELD

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

August 2017

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

Ballyshanners Irish Festival. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. at 1A Prince St. A celebration Irish history and culture in Alexandria, and a fundraiser for the Alexandria St. Patrick's Day Parade. Visit www.ballyshanners.org/festival/.

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.

September 2017

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.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/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. 30

Alexandria Seaport Foundation Festival. noon-6 p.m. at Waterfront Park, 1 Prince St. Community festival celebrating the mission and programs of the Alexandria Seaport Foundation featuring live music, wooden boat display, Anything that Floats race,

children's activities, nautical activities, beer/wine and local food. Visit www.alexandriaseaport.org.

October 2017

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.

SATURDAY/OCT. 7

Arts on the Avenue. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Mount Vernon Ave., Del Ray. Art on the Avenue is a multi-cultural arts festival in the Del Ray neighborhood in Alexandria, Virginia. This festival is held on the first Saturday in October, rain or shine.

SATURDAY/OCT. 28

Halloween Pumpkin Hunt. 11:30 a.m.; 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. at Lee-Fendall House Museum, 614 Oronoco St. Elementary school-aged children and younger may participate in the hunt and will receive a toy pumpkin. The event will also feature Halloween crafts, food and drink, ghost stories and a costume parade. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$12 for children participating in the hunt. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org or contact John Christiansen at 703-548-1789 or contact@leefendallhouse.org.

SUNDAY/OCT. 29

Del Ray Halloween Parade. 2-4 p.m. at Mount Vernon Ave. All are welcome to march in the parade. Parade ends in a party at the Mt. Vernon Recreation Center fields featuring live music, free refreshments, games, best costume awards, and more. Free. Visit www.visitdelray.com/halloween.

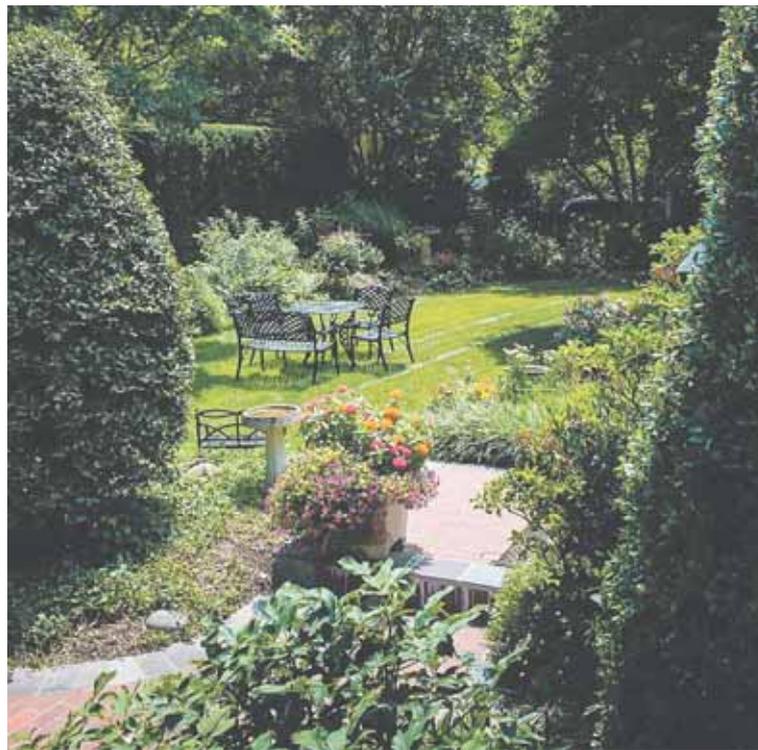
TUESDAY/OCT. 31

Halloween Trick-Or-Treating. 5-7 p.m. at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. Free. Visit www.novaparks.com to register.

November 2017

FRIDAY/NOV. 3

Art on Tap 2017. 7-10 p.m. at the Art League Gallery, 105 N. Union St. Craft beers from local breweries have been artfully paired with a work of art from an Art League instructor. Local restaurants have chosen a brew/artwork coupling to serve as



FILE PHOTO BY DONNA MOULTON

Venues from previous Virginia Garden weeks.

Virginia Garden Week

This weeklong statewide event, April 21-28, 2018, provides visitors an opportunity to see gardens, as well as houses with more than 2,000 flower arrangements created by Garden Club of Virginia members. Visit www.vagardenweek.org.

their muse to create the perfect complimentary appetizer. Enjoy the brew, bite, and artwork trifectas, then vote for a winner. Tickets are \$35-45 plus a service fee. Visit www.theartleague.org.

The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. In partnership with the Alexandria-Caen Sister Cities Committee, the Lyceum offers a cider tasting as part of Virginia Cider Week. Tickets are \$50-75. Visit www.show.alexandriava.gov/events.

TUESDAY/NOV. 7

Election Day. General election. Visit www.sbe.virginia.gov/ and www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm.

SATURDAY/NOV. 11

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

NOV. 10-19

Virginia Cider Week. 7-9:30 p.m. at

FRIDAY/DEC. 1

Tree Lighting Ceremony. 6-8 p.m. at Market Square, 301 King St. Attend the ceremony in which the City Tree is lit and visited by Santa, the Town Crier, and other city officials. Free. Visit www.alexandriava.gov.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 1-3, 8-10, 15-17

Fine Art & Fine Craft Holiday Market. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, 6-9 p.m. Friday, Colasanto Park, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. The market offers handmade fine arts and fine crafts from local artists (including pottery/ceramics, photography, jewelry, cloth, paper crafts, and glass). Find different artists each weekend. Free. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org.

SATURDAY/DEC. 2

47th Annual Campagna Center Scottish Walk Parade. 11 a.m. Old Town Alexandria, the parade begins at St. Asaph and Wolfe Streets. More than 100 Scottish Clans, pipe and drum bands, Scottish dancers, re-enactment groups, Scottie dogs, dignitaries and, of course, Santa Claus will march through the streets of Old Town. Visit www.campagnacenter.org/scottishwalkweekend/parade.

SATURDAY/DEC. 9

Candlelight Tour. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org or call 703-548-1789 or email contact@leefendallhouse.org.

SUNDAY/DEC. 31

First Night Alexandria. Events take place throughout the day at numerous venues around the City of Alexandria. Visit www.firstnightalexandria.org.

February 2018

Community Tax Assistance Day. Fairfax SkillSource Center, 7611 Little River Turnpike, Suite 300 West, Annandale. The IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program offers free assistance with 2017 Federal and state tax returns for households with a total income of \$52,000 or less. Visit www.volunteerfairfax.org/individuals/vita.php.

March 2018

TUESDAY/MARCH 20

Persian New Year Celebration. The Nowruz Festival celebrating the Persian New Year will include

The Alexandria Harmonizers and Howard Gospel Choir of Howard University Present



Rock My Soul - Celebrating Barbershop's Gospel Roots
Featuring Grammy Award Winners "The Fairfield Four"



October 13th 2017, 8:00PM 1st Congregational United Church of Christ, 945 G St NW, Washington DC, and
October 14th 2017, 2:00 PM Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 4915 East Campus Dr. Alexandria, VA
Tickets on sale beginning September 1st, 2017 at www.harmonizers.org

Are you interested in joining the East Coast's best and most exciting A Cappella male chorus?
Visit us on Tuesday nights from 7-10 PM at the Durant Arts Center
1605 Cameron St. Alexandria, VA 22314 or email info@harmonizers.org

The Alexandria Harmonizers, Inc. gratefully acknowledges the operational support it receives from the Commission for the Arts of Alexandria, Virginia. Partial funding for Rock My Soul is provided by the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts, and by the Barbershop Harmony Society, underwritten in part by Harmony Foundation International and its generous donors.



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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

entertainment from musicians, dancers, artists, costumed characters, and traditional players. About 55 street vendors will be offering traditional and exotic foods, as well as jewelry, crafts, and other traditional Persian products. Visit www.nowruzfestival.org.

April 2018

APRIL - JUNE

Relay for Life. Fundraisers participate in all-night-long events to help those affected by cancer through the American Cancer Society. Visit www.relayforlife.org for specific events and details.

APRIL 21-28

Historic Garden Week. This weeklong statewide event provides visitors an opportunity to see gardens, as well as houses with more than 2,000 flower arrangements created by Garden Club of Virginia members. Visit www.vagardenweek.org.

LATE APRIL

Art on the Rocks. 7-10 p.m. at The Art League, 105 N. Union St. Mixologists are paired with a piece of artwork to use as inspiration to create the most artistic cocktail and appetizer pairing and then compete for the title of Art on the Rocks champion. Ticket holders sample all of the delicious pairings and vote for their favorite at the event. A panel of experts will crown the winner of the most creative cocktail, appetizer, and artwork pairing. Visit www.theartleague.org.

May 2018

MONDAY/MAY 28

Memorial Day Jazz Concert. 1-6 p.m. at Waterfront Park, Alexandria. A variety of jazz performances take place throughout the concert. Waterfront Park features lawn seating and the attendees may bring lawn chairs and blankets. Food, such as barbeque, fried chicken, hot dogs, hamburgers, snow cones and funnel cakes are available for purchase, but everyone is welcome to pack a picnic lunch. Pets should be left at home. Admission is free. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation.

June 2018

Taste of Del Ray. 1-3 p.m. at the intersection of Mount Vernon and Oxford avenues. Top neighborhood restaurants participate in this competition. Visit www.visitdelray.com.

Vine on the Waterfront Festival.

Late June, 12-6 p.m. at Oronoco Park, 100 Madison St. Formerly known as the Alexandria Food & Wine Festival, the festival will expand to include both restaurants within Alexandria and other eateries throughout the region. The event is free to attend, but tickets are \$15 per area (food or wine), \$20 after June 18. Visit www.vineonthewaterfront.com.

July 2018

FIRST TWO WEEKS OF JULY

Grown Ups Art Camp. Various times at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount



Happy Birthday Alexandria

Teddy Burstein, 8, waves an American flag as he watches the fireworks display July 8 at Oronoco Bay Park.

PHOTO BY JOHN BORDNER GAZETTE PACKET

Vernon Ave. Del Ray Artisans is offering more than 30 workshops and sessions to choose from. Prices vary. Visit www.delrayartisans.org.

Indoor Arts Supplies Yard Sale.

Various times at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Art supplies will be for sale a half-hour before and immediately after each Grown Ups Art Camp workshop. Free to attend. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/GUAC.

SECOND SATURDAY IN JULY

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

August 2018

Summer Restaurant Week. August in neighborhoods throughout Alexandria, including Old Town, Del Ray, Carlyle and West End. Menu options vary by location. Visit www.AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com or call 703-746-3301.

Ice Cream Making. Saturdays in August. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at 3200 Mt. Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. Cool down with 18th century ice cream making demonstrations. Visit www.mountvernon.org/.

Youth Arts Festival. Early August, 1-5 p.m. at Mount Vernon Recreation Center, 2701 Commonwealth Ave. This festival will showcase the talents of youth around the city and serve as a forum of expression for both visual and performing arts. Free. Call 703-549-7115 ext. 370.

Jane Austen Ball. Mid-August, 8-11 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. The evening will feature a variety of English country dances in the historic ballroom, live music, and "iced refreshments."

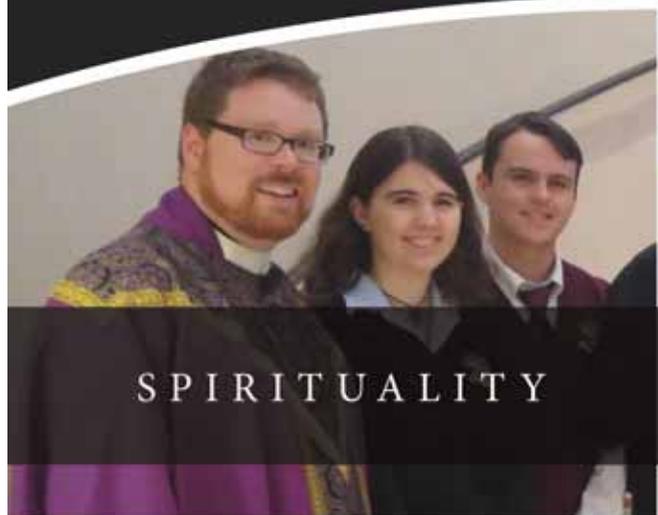
Period costume optional; "after-five" attire encouraged. Visit shop.AlexandriaVA.gov/Events.aspx.

Friendship Firehouse Festival. Mid-August, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 S. Alfred St. Held at the historic Friendship Firehouse, the festival celebrates the special role firefighters have played throughout history, especially those of Friendship. Features a collection of antique fire equipment and a display of modern fire trucks and apparatus. The Alexandria Red Cross and the Community Emergency Response Team will also be on hand. Other attractions include craft booths, food vendors and free birthday cake. Free. Visit www.friendshipfire.net.

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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Getting Down to Business

Navigating the ABCs of Alexandria.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

The acronyms run from AEDP to WEBA and represent citywide organizations and various business associations that span every corner of the City of Alexandria.

Some, like the Chamber of Commerce, have been around for over a century, while others, like the Capitol Post, represent the needs of the city's shifting demographic.

"Capitol Post offers military veterans and spouses in the Washington, D.C. region personalized guidance through mentoring, business counseling and access to key resources, programs, mentors, and co-working space," said Capitol Post executive director and West Point graduate Emily McMahan. "Our mission is to establish and cultivate the top community for veterans to start a business, grow a business, explore a new career and get involved locally."

In addition to hosting workshops and events, Capitol Post offers co-working, conference and training space and is the host of business incubator Bunker Labs DC. Bunker Labs DC integrates military veteran entrepreneurs into the greater business ecosystem through connections to potential customers, employees, advisors and investors.

The Capitol Post is located at 625 N. Washington St., Suite 425. 703-652-5377 or www.thecapitolpost.com.

Visit Alexandria

Visit Alexandria is the city's tourism marketing agency and attracts visitors to the city through sales and marketing programs. The Visitor's Center is located at 221 King St. with administrative offices at 625 N. Washington St., Suite 400. VisitAlexandriaVA.com

Alexandria Economic Development Partnership - AEDP

Founded in 1992, the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership actively



PHOTO BY WAYNE HUELEHAN

Sponsored by the Del Ray Business Association, the Alexandria Turkey Trot takes place Thanksgiving morning. The 5-mile race has been attracting elite runners for 42 years.



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Emily McMahan, right, is executive director of Alexandria's Capitol Post. The organization is a business resource center for military and veterans. She is shown with Ray Crowell of The Bunker Labs D.C., and Mary Lafelice at a Veterans Day celebration at Port City Brewery.

positions and promotes commercial spaces and economic opportunities in the City of Alexandria as the city's primary engine for economic development. AEDP serves as the

leading resource for economic data, customized reports, development maps, real estate insights and information on tax and financial incentives for businesses and commercial real estate professionals. 625 N. Washington St., suite 400. 703-739-3820 or www.AlexEcon.org

Alexandria Chamber of Commerce

Alexandria is home to one of the largest chambers in the Greater Washington region, with 850 professional business members and partners employing more than 49,000 people region-wide. Founded in 1906, it serves as the voice of the business community in the City of Alexandria through aggressive lobbying efforts at the local, state and federal levels. 2834 Duke St. 703-549-1000 or www.alexchamber.com

The Del Ray Business Association - DRBA

The Del Ray Business Association is run by volunteers who are themselves business owners. Started almost 45

years ago, DRBA now has over 200 members and sponsors several events in the Del Ray community each year. www.visitdelray.com.

Old Town Business and Professional Association - OTBPA

Open to businesses of any type, OTBPA is the result of a merger of two organizations – Old Town Business (OTB) and King Street Metro Enterprise Team (KSMET). OTBPA's most visible project is the annual Alexandria Retail Coupon Book. www.otbpa.com

Alexandria Small Business Development Center - SBDC

The Alexandria Small Business Development Center is Alexandria's economic development program that focuses on small businesses, which comprise the largest segment of Alexandria's economy. SBDC offers individual and confidential assistance without cost to City of Alexandria businesses and Alexandria residents with businesses elsewhere. 625 N. Washington St., Suite 400. 703-778-1291 or www.alexandriasbdc.org

West End Business Association - WEBA

The West End Business Association is comprised of West End Businesses and those that do business on the West End of Alexandria. WEBA provides members with networking opportunities, education and growth opportunities and representation before the City and economic development officials on matters important to the West End of Alexandria. www.alexandriaweba.com

Eisenhower Partnership

The Eisenhower Partnership is a group of commercial and residential property owners and occupiers along the Eisenhower Avenue Valley corridor. The Valley is anchored in the East by the Patent and Trademark Campus and in the West by the Victory Center development/Van Dorn Metro Station. www.eisenhowerpartnership.org

No Place Like Home

FROM PAGE 3

It doesn't take long for even a newcomer to realize that Alexandria is a city that loves its festivals and parades, starting with the largest George Washington birthday celebration in the country followed closely by the nation's first St. Patrick's Day Parade on the first Saturday in March.

"St. Patrick's Day isn't until the middle of the month," said Pat Troy, who founded the parade more than 30 years ago. "This way we turn the entire month of March into an Irish celebration."

Alexandria celebrates its birthday in

July with a concert by the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra and fireworks display complete with cannon fire and Tchaikovsky's "1812 Overture."

Thanksgiving brings the Del Ray Turkey Trot, followed closely by the Scottish Walk Weekend and the Holiday Boat Parade of Lights on the Potomac River.

The year both ends and begins with First Night Alexandria, a day-long celebration with live entertainment that culminates with a fireworks finale over the Potomac River.

When it comes to entertainment, locals head to a performance by the Alexandria Harmonizers or Alexandria Singers or take



PHOTO BY
MARK MOGLE
GAZETTE PACKET

in a show at MetroStage or the Little Theatre of Alexandria.

But what many consider to be Alexandria's finest attraction is its sense of community and service. Organizations like

the Rotary Club, Senior Services of Alexandria or Volunteer Alexandria provide an opportunity to get involved or lend a helping hand to some of the city's most vulnerable citizens.

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Area Interstates Have Toll Lane Options

Latest addition, 395 Express Lanes, are scheduled to be opened in 2019.

BY MIKE SALMON
GAZETTE PACKET

The introduction of the “express lanes,” on area highways have made tolls commonplace for anyone driving in the Northern Virginia area. These lanes on I-95, I-495, and I-395 are outfitted with overhead sensors instead of booths, and everything is done with the E-Z Pass or the E-Z Pass Flex which has a feature for high occupancy vehicles (HOV) to avoid the tolls by carpooling. The variable toll amount is calculated by traffic levels at that time, and this price is reflected on the overhead digital signs.

On I-495, commonly known as the Capital Beltway, the 495 Express Lanes stretch 11 miles from Springfield in the south to a point just past the Dulles Toll Road in the McLean area. These are two lanes in each direction that are in operation 24-hours a day.

The 95 Express Lanes stretch 29 miles from Alexandria inside the beltway, south to Route 610 in Stafford County. These lanes are “reversible,” meaning they are heading northbound in the morning, and southbound in the afternoon and evenings during the week, and almost entirely southbound on the weekend.

The 395 Express Lanes are a continuation of these

lanes inside the beltway, ending at the Potomac River. This project is just getting underway, and are scheduled to be opened in 2019. For now, the northern stretch of HOV lanes is still operating under the old rules, that requires a minimum of three passengers during rush hours, and open to anyone during non-rush hours.

In December this year, I-66 inside the beltway, from Arlington to Falls Church, will be a tolled facility but only on the eastbound lanes in the morning and westbound lanes in the afternoons. It will be toll-free for vehicles with at least two passengers for now, but that HOV requirement will change to HOV-3 in a few years when the I-66 express lanes outside the beltway open in 2022. In addition, the Virginia Department of Transportation is adding an additional lane on the eastbound side only, from the Dulles Access Road to Fairfax Drive, a distance of four miles.

On I-66 outside the beltway, officials are building one lane in each direction for 22 miles from Vienna to Gainesville, and there will be two express lanes on each side, similar to I-495. This project, priced at \$2.3 billion, is expected to be done in 2022.

The Dulles Access Road and the Dulles Greenway are toll facilities also but the access road still takes change as well as the E-Z Pass, and neither road has an HOV exception.

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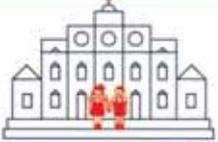


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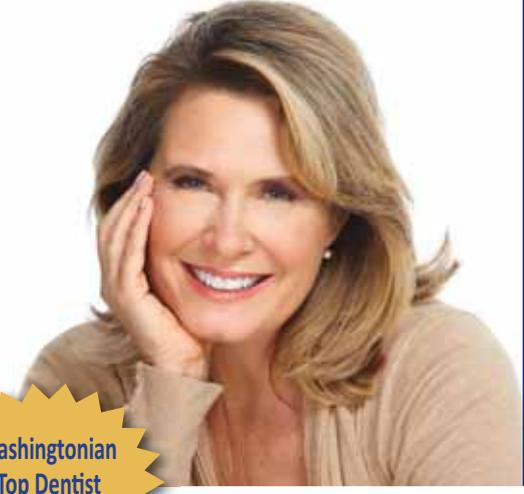
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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

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T.C. Williams High School

Mascot: Titans
School Colors: Red, White, and Blue
Athletic Director: Mark Eisenhower
Football Coach: Jimmy Longerbeam
Girls' Soccer Coach: N/A
Boys' Soccer Coach: N/A
Girls' Basketball Coach: Kesha Walton
Boys' Basketball Coach: N/A
Girls' Lacrosse Coach: Allie Mullen
Boys' Lacrosse Coach: Michael Wilcox
Baseball Coach: Christian Metz
Softball Coach: Katie Frawley
Rival Schools: West Potomac

What happened last year: The Girls' basketball team won the conference 7 tournament, defeating West Springfield HS in double overtime 69-66. Coming into the game with only 8 healthy players, the team would finish with only 5 remain, 3 being kept on the bench due to fouling. The Boys' soccer team would fall short of another run at the state championship, but would emerge victorious, winning their conference.

Bishop Ireton

Mascot: Cardinals
School Colors: Red and Yellow
Athletic Director: William Simmons
Football Coach: N/A
Girls' Soccer Coach: Gino Leon
Boys' Soccer Coach: Joe Norem
Girls' Basketball Coach: Jason Harris
Boys' Basketball Coach: Neil Berkman
Girls' Lacrosse Coach: Richard Sofield
Boys' Lacrosse Coach: Brandon Rose
Baseball Coach: Mike Olerta
Softball Coach: Ann Krebs
Rival Schools: Paul VI

What happened last year: The Girls' lacrosse team won 11-0 last season and is ranked #1 in the WCAC (Washington Catholic Athletic Conference). Beating Good Counsel 12-4 in the WCAC championship finals. The Cardinals would win their third state title in four years defeating local rival St. Stephen's & St. Agnes 9-8 in overtime.

St. Stephen's & St Agnes

Mascot: Saints
School Colors: Green, Red, White
Athletic Director: Jeff Walrich and Stephanie Koroma
Football Coach: Bernard Joseph
Girls' Soccer Coach: Chris Arnold
Boys' Soccer Coach: Bo Amato
Girls' Basketball Coach: Calvin Crenshaw
Boys' Basketball Coach: Ronald Ginyard
Girls' Lacrosse Coach: Kathleen Jenkins
Boys' Lacrosse Coach: Tim Dodds
Baseball Coach: James Supple
Softball Coach: Stephanie Koroma
Rival Schools: Bishop Ireton & Episcopal

What happened last year: The Saints class of 2017 will be sending off 31 seniors to play their respective sports at a college or university. The Boys' lacrosse team won their 6th VISAA title in eight years after defeating the Norfolk Academy Bulldogs 7-6 in the state championship.

"We've made a lot of good friends since moving to Hermitage"

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Meet Carol and MJ. Carol and MJ are great buddies. They are also next door neighbors. Carol is 88 years old and MJ is 79. Carol moved to Hermitage Northern Virginia from Arlington about a year before MJ, who came from Montgomery County, Maryland. After moving, the two friends discovered a shared love of outdoor walks on the grounds of the community and around the quiet neighborhood streets. Carol focuses on her balance with a functional fitness class 4x a week and MJ enjoys reading in the library. Carol likes the many interesting people and MJ enjoys the many excursions and the reading club. It feels like a family here at Hermitage Northern Virginia.

For more information, call 703-797-3814

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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Community Organizations

FROM PAGE 8

Centers serve nearly 200 children and their families each year at six program sites throughout Alexandria and Arlington. The home office is located at 3700 Wheeler Ave. Call 703-836-0214 or visit www.cfnc-online.org.

Community Lodgings, Inc.

Community Lodgings' mission is to lift families from homelessness and instability to independence and self-sufficiency through transitional-in-place housing, affordable housing and youth education programs. Volunteers needed. The main office is located at 3912 Elbert Ave., Suite 108. Call 703-549-4407 or visit www.communitylodgings.org.

Computer C.O.R.E.

This organization helps low-income adults acquire the technological and life skills they need to pursue their career aspirations; tuition is free, and accordingly, donations are needed. The main office is located at 5881 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Call 703-931-7346 or visit www.computercore.org.

Hopkins House

The mission of Hopkins House is to provide quality educational programs and opportunities to children, youths and their families, regardless of income, to help them achieve their full intellectual, economic and social potential. The central office is located at 5904 Richmond Highway, Suite 525. Call 571-480-4282 or visit www.hopkinshouse.org.

Literacy Council of Northern Virginia

This organization teaches adults the basic skills of reading, writing, speaking and understanding English. Offers one-to-one tutoring programs for adult learners as well as beginning-level ESOL and Family Learning adult programs. Offices are located at 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. Call 703-237-0866 or visit www.lcnv.org.

Northern Virginia Family Services

This nonprofit offers employments and job training, health care, housing, mental health, foster care and home visitations to new parents. Northern Virginia Family Services is headquartered at 1455 White Granite Drive, Suite 100 in Oakton with centers and thrift shops throughout the region. Call 571-748-2500 or visit www.nvfs.org.

Rebuilding Together Alexandria

Offers home repair and maintenance for vulnerable veterans, elderly, disabled and families with children. Rebuilding Together's office is located at 700 Princess St., Suite 206. Call 703-836-1021 or Visit www.RebuildingTogetherAlex.org.

Senior Services of Alexandria

Provides support services for elders, helping them to age with dignity. SSA operates the Meals on Wheels delivery program and DOT transportation reservations for the city, and presents educational programs through monthly events, a speaker series and a monthly cable show called Senior Living in Alexandria. SSA also operates the AniMeals on Wheels program with the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, which provides food for pets for low-income seniors. www.seniorservicesalex.org or call 703-836-4414.

Stop Child Abuse Now (SCAN) of Northern Virginia

SCAN provides programs related to parent education, public education-re: child abuse and court advocacy for abused and neglected children. Visit the SCAN offices at 205 South Whiting St., Suite 205. Call 703-820-9001 or visit www.scanva.org.

Volunteer Alexandria

Aims to offer comprehensive human services to the entire Alexandria community; services include volunteer recruitment and placement, court-referred community service placement, community awareness events and volunteer management training. Visit the main office at 123 North Alfred St. Call 703-836-2176 or visit www.volunteeralexandria.org.

Friends of Guest House

Offers structure, supervision, support and assistance to female ex-offenders who sincerely want to improve their lives and break the cycle of incarceration. Friends of Guest House offers the only program for women of its kind in Northern Virginia, and receives countless inquiries every year. The Guest House is located at 1 East Luray Ave. Clients may call 703-549-8072 24/7 for support, otherwise visit www.friendsofguesthouse.org.

SEE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS. PAGE 20

Get Involved with ACPS

FROM PAGE 5

Participating in any of our many volunteer and partnership opportunities, is essential to our schools. Whether you have children in our schools or not, I encourage you to get involved. Your involvement is an investment in the future of our children.

I am so honored to be the interim superintendent while the School Board carries out its search for the next superintendent. The majority of my 40-year career as an educator was spent in Alexandria City Public Schools as a teacher, assistant

principal, principal and associate superintendent for curriculum and instruction. I've worked with students, families and organizations throughout Alexandria and I'm delighted to return for this opportunity.

I invite you to stay up to date on our exciting year by signing up to receive our weekly e-mail newsletter via ACPS Express at www.acpsk12.org/news or following us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/acpsk12 or on Twitter @ACPSk12. We look forward to partnering with you to ensure that every student succeeds!



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Celebrate the 23rd anniversary of First Night Alexandria on Dec. 31, 2017.

Celebrate First Night

First Night Alexandria is a celebration of the new year through the performing arts with fireworks at midnight. Local shops, restaurants and buildings in Old Town turn into performance venues to showcase local talent. It's fun, affordable, safe and family friendly.

Alexandria is celebrating the 23rd anniversary of First Night on Dec. 31, 2017. It starts in the afternoon with activities for the whole family at 14 locations throughout Old Town. At 7 p.m. 22 indoor venues with multiple stages will open featuring performances until 11:30 p.m. The finale will begin at 10 p.m. in the first block of King Street (closest to the water) followed by fireworks on the Potomac River at midnight.

Everything takes place within four Old Town "Spotlight" areas and one in Del Ray. Attendees can take the Metro, King Street Trolley, buses or drive and park, walking to their favorite venues and award-winning restaurants. Links with details will be available in October at www.FirstNightAlexandria.org and #ALXFirstNight.

Start the afternoon with the Ninth Annual First Night Alexandria Fun Hunt, a scavenger hunt throughout Old Town that combines geography, history and knowledge of local businesses. Complete the Hunt and turn in the answers by 5:30 p.m. at



Volunteers at last year's First Night Alexandria.

the Durant Arts Center where prizes will be awarded to six lucky entrants. Details are posted at <https://www.firstnightalexandria.org/events/fun-hunt>.

Admission badges can be purchased online starting in September for \$15. The price goes to \$20 in November.

Want to come for free? Volunteer for three hours during the evening and get free admission for one, a souvenir apron and box dinner. Sign up on the web site; do it early to choose venue and time.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

FROM PAGE 19

Christian Relief Services

Incorporated in 1985, in Virginia, through partnership with 14 agencies, Christian Relief Services (CRS) offers up to 24 months of transitional housing, case management and supportive services for homeless people. Around the country CRS operates affordable housing units. Contact info@christianrelief.org, visit www.christianrelief.org, or call 703-317-9086.

Assistance League of Northern Virginia

An all-volunteer organization that clothes, feeds, educates and nurtures those in need. Working through six elementary schools and Inova Fairfax Hospital, Assistance League touches the lives of some of the most needy in Northern Virginia. The schools involved include Dogwood Elementary in Reston, Lynbrook Elementary and Garfield Elementary in Springfield, Cora Kelly Elementary in Alexandria and Pine Spring Elementary in Falls Church. Volunteers and donors are always needed. Contact ALNorthernVA@yahoo.com or visit www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org.

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