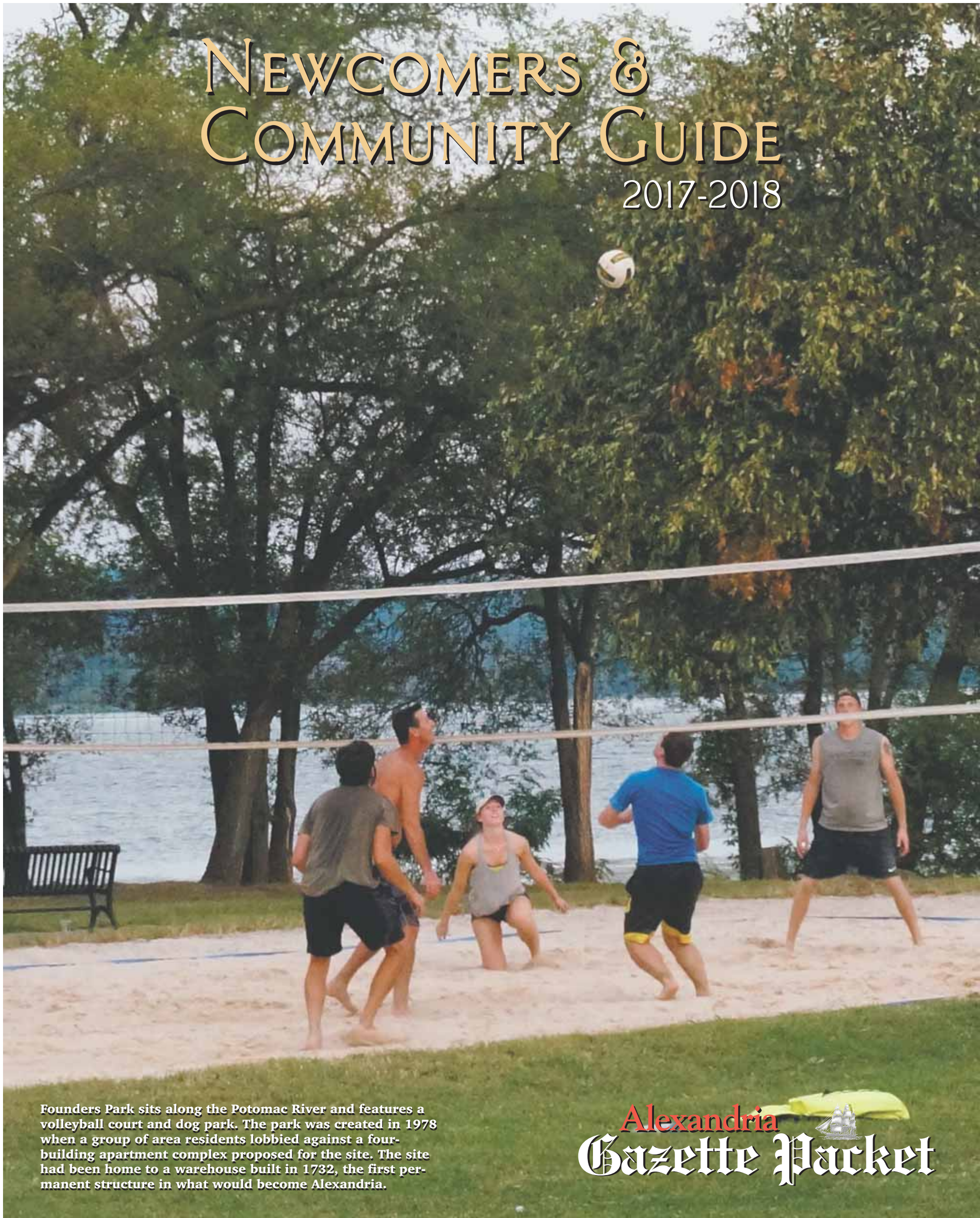


# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

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



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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



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# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

## There's No Place Like Home

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

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**T**here 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 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 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 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**



## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

# About the Gazette Packet

**A**s 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](mailto:MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

## A Mayoral Welcome to a Historic City

BY ALLISON SILBERBERG  
MAYOR, CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

**H**ope 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 76<sup>th</sup> 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 Ballyshaners' 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

**A**s 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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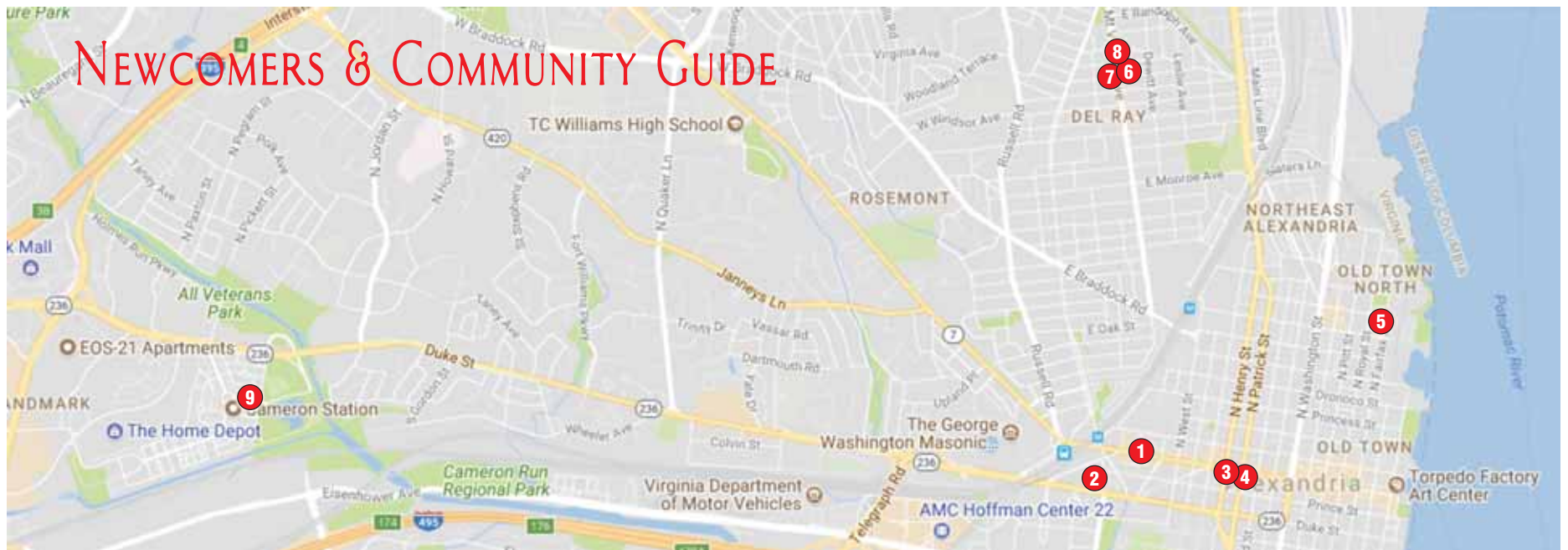
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# A Walk on the Caffeinated Side

— 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.mishascffee.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://extraperkscoffeeshopandcafe.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.stelmoscfeepub.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 Brenman 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

**T**he 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

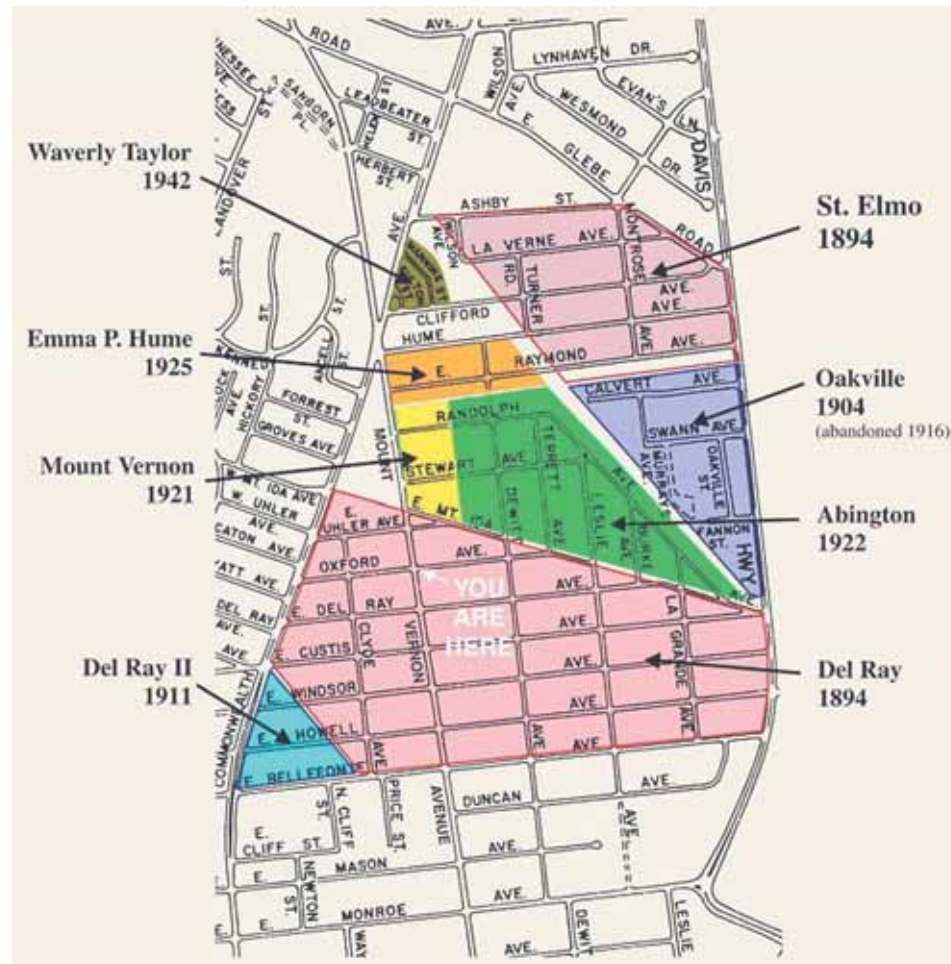


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Map of the Town of Potomac

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



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

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



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



# How Alexandria Got Its Shape

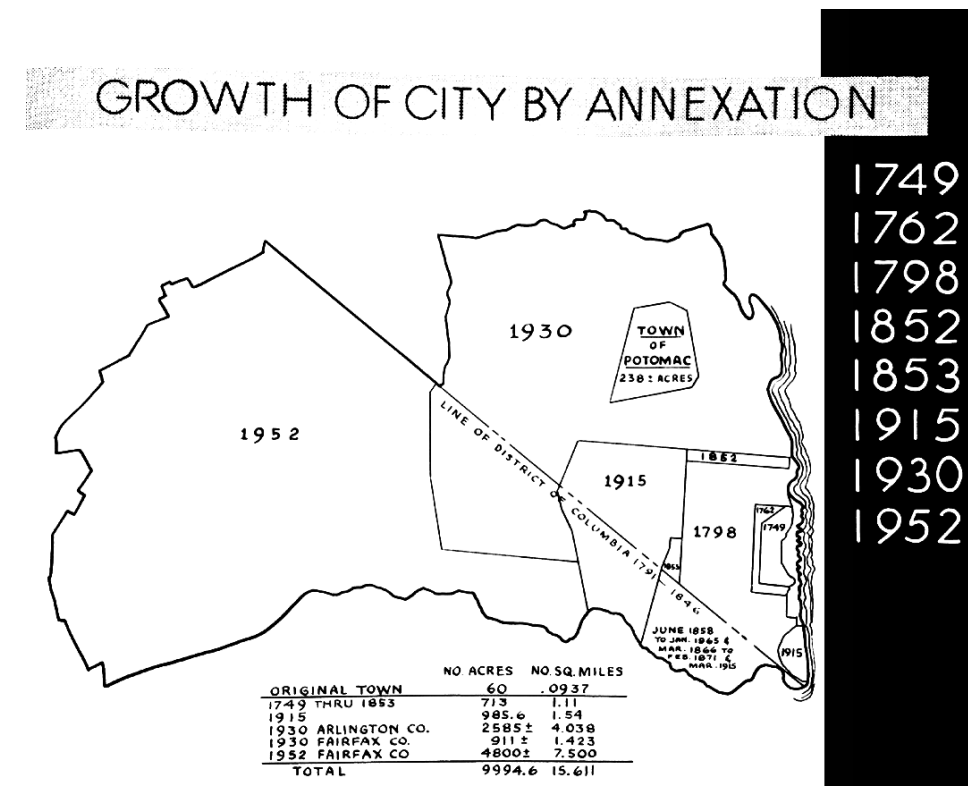
## History of boundary changes in Alexandria.

BY VERNON MILES  
GAZETTE PACKET

**W**hen 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 towns 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.



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 pernamancy 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](http://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](http://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](http://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 resturant, then weekly from January until the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Fundraisers are held in January and February. Visit [www.ballyshaners.org](http://www.ballyshaners.org).

### 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](http://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](http://www.carpentersshelter.org).

### The Campanga Center

The Campanga Center operates children's programs related to Alexandria Head Start, the Campanga 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](http://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](http://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.**



PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN

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

**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 Chinguapin Park/Forest Park**

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

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

**6 Four Mile Run Park**

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

**7 Holmes Run Scenic Easement**

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

**8 Joseph Hensley Park**

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

**9 Potomac Greens Park**

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

**10 Potomac Yard Park**

2501 Potomac Ave.

Citywide Park

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

**11 Tarleton Park**

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

**12 Witter Recreational Field**

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

**13 All Veterans Park**

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

**14 Eugene Simpson Stadium Park**

426 E. Monroe Ave.  
Citywide Park  
Size: 9.94 acres, Features: Baseball

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

**15 Armory Tot Lot**

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

**16 Fort Ward Park**

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

**17 Founders Park**

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

**18 Freedmen's Cemetery**

638 North Alfred Street  
Historical/Destination  
Size: 0.43 acres.

**19 King Street Park**

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

**20 King Street Gardens Park**

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

**21 Market Square**

300 King Street

Historical/Destination

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

**22 Old Town Pool**

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

**23 Oronoco Bay Park**

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

**24 Point Lumley**

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

**25 Roberdeau Park**

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

**26 Shipyard/Harborside Park**

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

**27 Waterfront Park**

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



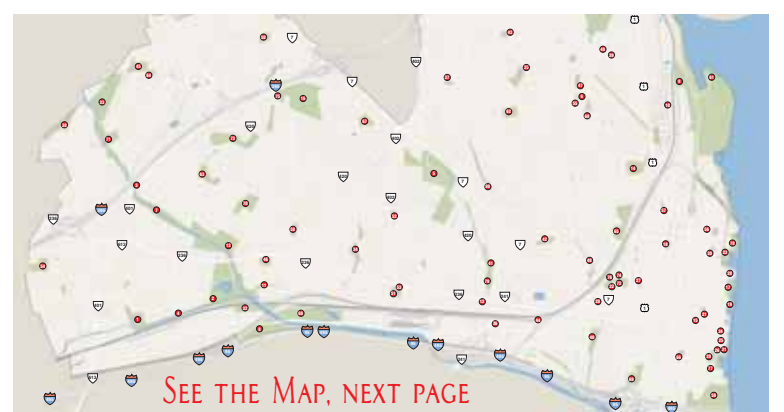
**The Charles W. Hill Park in Del Ray is named for Corporal Charles Hill, an Alexandria police officer who was killed in the line of duty March 22, 1989.**



**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**

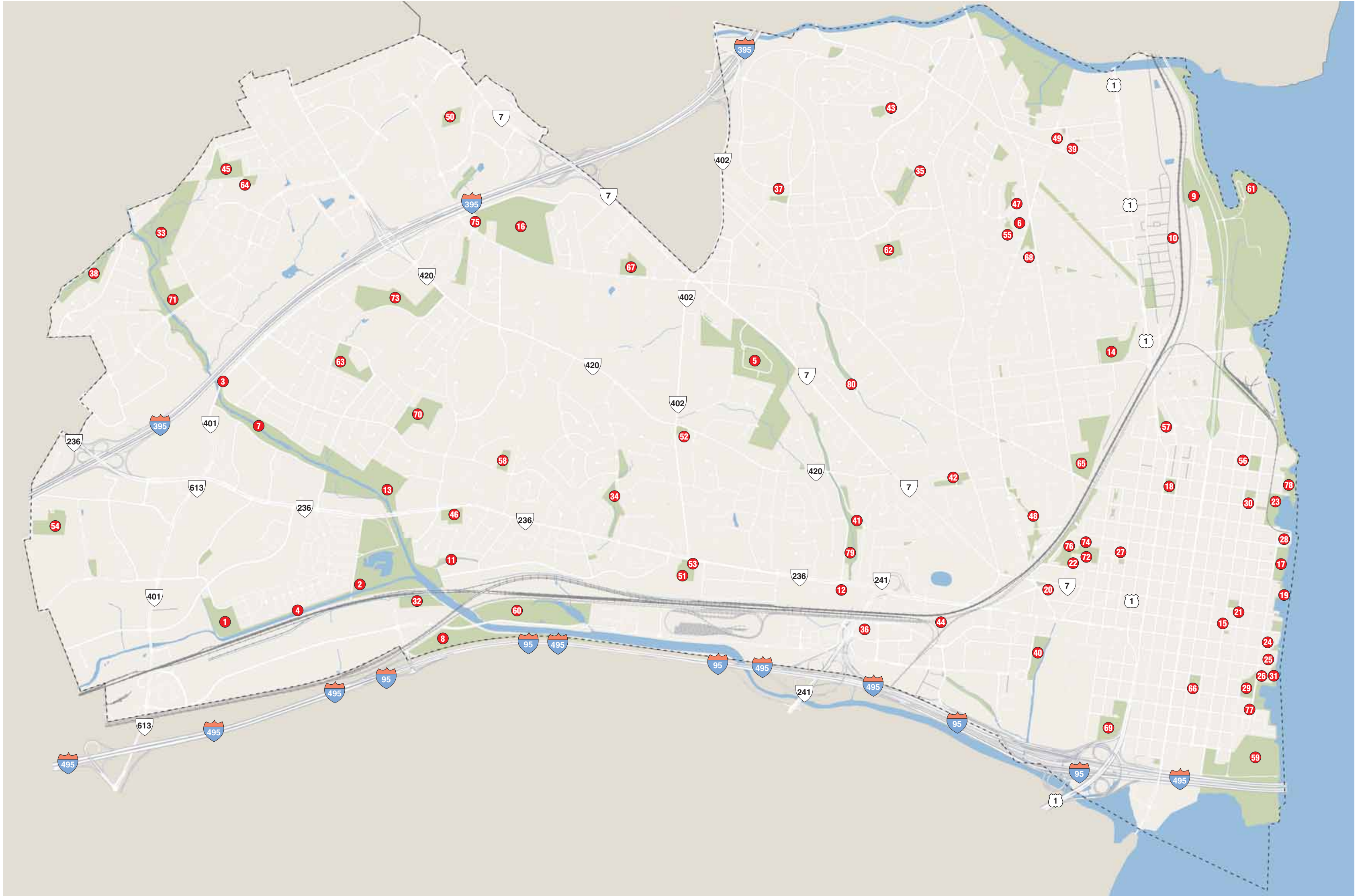
1500 North Chambliss St.  
Natural Area  
Size: 9.32 acres, Features: Heavily wooded nature area

**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 Luckett 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



PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN

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



**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](mailto:anna.leider@alexandriava.gov)  
[www.alexandriava.gov/Elections](http://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](http://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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Garage Parking

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WASHINGTON REIT

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# 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](http://www.nvfaa.org) or call 703-548-0035.

### SATURDAY/AUG. 26

**Ballyshaners 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.ballyshaners.org/festival/](http://www.ballyshaners.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](http://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.bellehavencc.com/golf/patriotday](http://www.bellehavencc.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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.leefendallhouse.org) or contact John Christiansen at 703-548-1789 or [contact@leefendallhouse.org](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.show.alexandriava.gov/events).

### TUESDAY/ NOV. 7

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

### 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.campagnacenter.org/scottishwalkweekend/parade).

### SATURDAY/DEC. 9

**Candlelight Tour.** Visit [www.leefendallhouse.org](http://www.leefendallhouse.org) or call 703-548-1789 or email [contact@leefendallhouse.org](mailto: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](http://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](http://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



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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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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/](http://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](http://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](http://www.friendshipfire.net).

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# Getting Down to Business

## Navigating the ABCs of Alexandria.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**T**he 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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

**The Holiday Boat Parade is part of the Scottish Walk Weekend of events and features decorated boats from throughout the region.**

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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## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

### High School Sports

COMPILED BY TED CRAWLEY

#### 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.




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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.

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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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.nvfs.org).

### Rebuilding Together Alexandria

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

### Senior Services of Alexandria

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


### Volunteer Alexandria

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

### Friends of Guest House

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

SEE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, PAGE 20



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## 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](http://www.acpsk12.org/news) or following us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/acpsk12](http://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

**F**irst 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](http://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](mailto:info@christianrelief.org), visit [www.christianrelief.org](http://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](mailto:ALNorthernVA@yahoo.com) or visit [www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org](http://www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org).

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