



Three-time Olympic champion Amanda Weir leads a class at Chinquapin Park Recreation Center and Aquatics Facility.

Different Strokes

Olympian and national champions teach swim class at Chinquapin.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

In the water, everyone is equal. Last weekend at the Chinquapin Park Recreation Center and Aquatics Facility, two swimming champions

hosted three age-based swim practices. Much of the weekend was spent honing young swimmers' techniques, like streamlining bodies in the water and perfecting turns. Subtle changes in each turn and each stroke can shave crucial seconds off of a swimmer's time. But beyond that, Amanda Weir and Austin Surhoff said the weekend was about teaching youths not to be intimidated by more experienced or more lauded swimmers.

Weir is a three-time Olympic champion with four Olympic medals to her name. She is a world cham

SEE OLYMPIAN AND NATIONAL, PAGE 6

The Last Piece

Final southern waterfront development approved.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

More often than not, development along the Waterfront has been a bitter struggle. Developers with grand ideas for landmark buildings with modern architecture and amenities clash with local neighbors fighting to preserve the small town, brick and mortar feel that has made Old Town what it is today. But as the final piece of the southern waterfront plan puzzle was fitted into place at the Feb. 6 Planning Commission meeting, it was approved with little controversy.

The development special use permit (DSUP) calls for the demolition of existing buildings at 203, 204 and 211 The Strand to be re-

placed with new penthouses and small-scale retail at the ground level.

Contrary to the hours of testimony from projects like Hotel Indigo and Robinson Terminal South, the public comment at the Planning Commission was a mix of praise and a few continuing concerns about the impact of new development on parking. The project averted the controversy courted by other local projects by agreeing with city staff not to pursue on-street parking permits for residents of the new development. But some of the residents speaking at the meeting still had concerns that the ground-floor retail would add a burden to on-street parking the neighborhood can ill afford.

"If you had a driveway, and
SEE FINAL, PAGE 18

Come Together

Department of Community and Human Services shifts services towards the West End.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

Currently, if you need to visit the Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS), you'll need to figure out which building your particular case would be managed in. Choose carefully, because there are eight locations scattered across the city. But starting in 2019, DCHS will be consolidating into one central location. What's more, while much of the city's departments operate out of Old Town,

one of the goals of the search for a new facility is to relocate to an area of the city with the greatest need.

According to Jennifer Cohen-Cordero, communications manager for DCHS, research by the department has shown the highest concentrations of need are located along the Eisenhower corridor and in the West End. The idea behind a consolidated building is to create a "one-stop shop" for clients. Not only will clients be able to move seamlessly between dif

SEE SHIFTING, PAGE 8

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Money Mishmash

Advisory group considers financing and policy tools for public housing.

BY DAN BRENDL
GAZETTE PACKET

At its second meeting, held Jan. 31, the Resolution 830 Working Group considered funding mechanisms available to maintain the city's stock of publicly assisted housing in light of dwindling federal resources.

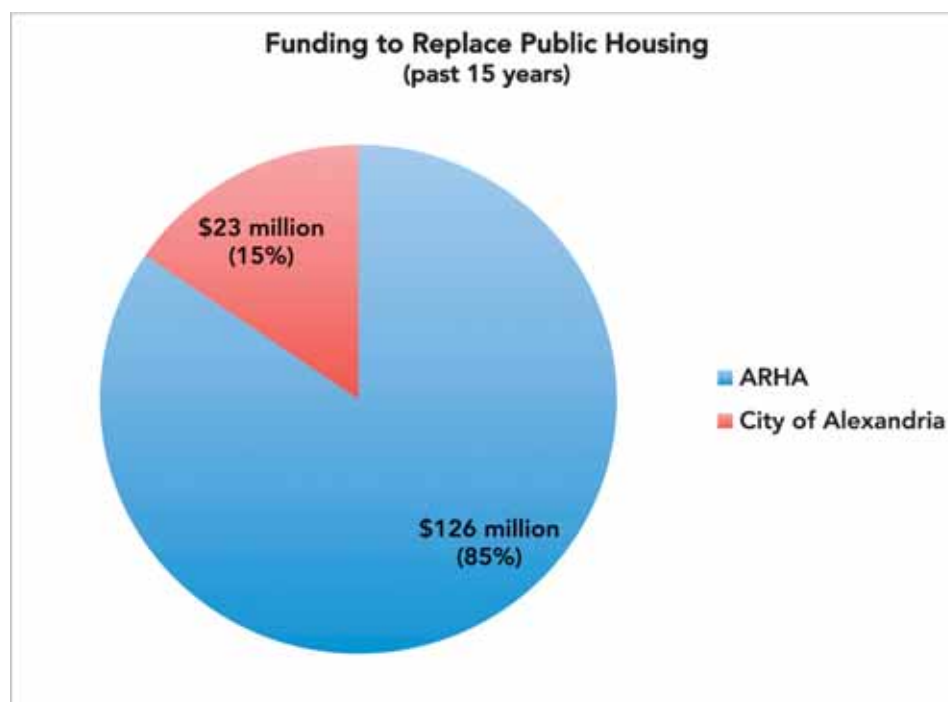
Resolution 830 is a 1981 agreement between the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority (ARHA), which administers federal housing programs like public housing and "Section 8" vouchers locally, and City Council. It requires the two bodies to ensure that redevelopment doesn't diminish ARHA's stock of 1,150 housing units. But high construction costs and shrinking government subsidies make it increasingly hard for ARHA to comply. ARHA has \$47 million in capital needs for its traditional public housing over the next 19 years; but, over the past decade, it's received on average only \$1.1 million per year in capital funds. And the new federal tax bill may negatively impact the market for Low Income Housing Tax Credits — an incentive program for private investors to reduce their tax liability.

"The [financial] picture here continues to be bleak; it's not getting any better," said Rhae Parkes, the working group's facilitator.

The working group will recommend to City Council and ARHA's board of commissioners how to modernize Resolution 830, taking into account local financing and policy tools and partnership opportunities at those bodies' disposal. Local measures may help to fill the funding gap; though what's available to the city doesn't amount to "gobs of money," said Parkes.

Last week's meeting focused on financing redevelopment from both capital and operating perspectives.

"Those two things are intricately linked, because you're not going to get out the door with a construction deal — nobody's going to invest in you — if you can't demonstrate that the project, once completed, is going to operate sustainably," said Parkes.



"Since Chatham Square was redeveloped in 2002-03, ARHA has utilized more than \$126 million in tax credits and agency loans to fund replacement housing over multiple projects. The City has provided more than \$23 million so far, and set aside a reserve fund for potential future projects (current balance around \$4M)," according to the city's FAQ regarding the modernization of Resolution 830, a local ordinance. "The City is not permitted to subsidize [public] units [directly]. [Public housing] is a rental subsidy project provided by HUD. The City, however, provides real estate exemptions to most ARHA developments (estimated to be approximately \$2,000/unit/year) to assist ARHA in providing deeply subsidized units. The City's rental pilot subsidy program is proposed to be used to potentially create housing affordability at the 20, 30 and 40% AMI levels" — less than \$44,000 for a family of four in 2016.

Sustainability "means ... generating positive cash flow to such an extent that you can repay the debt that you might carry on the property, ... invest in the property itself, ... save for a rainy day, ... make sure that ongoing maintenance is taken care of."

While housing authorities don't have much money, they have land, said Parkes. Value extracted from land can combine with various financing mechanisms — e.g., tax credits, low-interest loans from the city, housing authority bonds, federal grants and vouchers. Together, these enable "mixed-income development," a public-private partnership model.

"Nobody is building straight-up public housing, just because those deals don't work; no cash flow gets generated," said Parkes. ARHA's long-term strategy already

includes the mixed-income model as a central pillar.

A housing authority can sell or lease land to a market-rate developer to generate capital. In Alexandria, as Resolution 830 includes no geographical constraints, this usually results in replacement units displaced elsewhere in the city. Since the 2000s, through redevelopment of two Old Town properties, ARHA scattered 108 (37 percent) of 294 units offsite, mostly into the West End and Arlandria. And by increasing cash flow with higher-rent replacement units, the mixed-income model enables "cross-subsidization" within a housing authority's portfolio, according to the presentation.

For example, ARHA plans to sell part of its Andrew Adkins site for the private de-

velopment of more than 500 upscale market-rate units. The proceeds potentially will leverage tax credit equity to redevelop Adkins' 90 subsidized units — 76 on site, adjacent to the market-rate building, and 14 offsite. And a spread of higher-rent replacement ARHA units will generate operational revenue. Currently, 86 percent of Adkins' households earn \$40,000 or less — about 35 percent of the area median income (AMI) for a family of four. But ARHA's new development can't sustain the same proportion, according to a December cash flow analysis. A scenario in which one-third of the new ARHA units are priced at 20-30 percent of AMI and two-thirds at 40-50 percent of AMI would yield an estimated \$52,000-\$97,000 in negative cash flow in the first year. A scenario with units priced higher, all at 40-60 percent of AMI, would yield \$272,000-\$318,000 in positive cash flow.

Last week's presentation also put a positive spin on the mixed-income model's potential social benefits for low-income residents. The presentation said, citing a recent study: "Moving families from higher-poverty areas to lower-poverty neighborhoods may reduce intergenerational poverty and generate positive returns for taxpayers." And, citing another study: "properties with the most diverse income mixes have higher investments in resident support services and higher impacts for residents."

Those documents, however, may indicate more ambiguity. The former draws its conclusions from an experiment whereby residents moved out of census tracts with poverty rates of 40 percent or higher. No Alexandria tract meets that criterion, and no ARHA site takes up a whole tract. The tracts where ARHA's slated redevelopment sites are located have 4-12 percent poverty rates — already close to or below the experiment's target of 10 percent. And while the positive impact for younger children is "substantial," the study also says: "the same moves have, if anything, negative long-term impacts on children who are more than 13 years old when their families move, perhaps because of the disruption effects of moving to a very different environment."

The latter study adds: "Simply moving to a mixed-income environment is proving to not be sufficient to counteract the intergenerational poverty, marginalization and deprivation endured by many public housing residents. ... Extensive social support and services are required to help low-income households to stabilize and to establish a path toward self-sufficiency." Resolution 830 makes no explicit provision guaranteeing social support and services.

The working group will meet again Feb. 21 and March 14. Visit the city's web site for meeting materials, including recordings. Submit questions and comments to Brandi Collins: 703-746-4990, brandi.collins@alexandriava.gov.

The author represents the Alexandria Housing Affordability Advisory Committee on the working group.

Ashes to Go Feb. 14

Several local churches will offer early morning Ashes to Go for busy morning commuters on Wednesday, Feb. 14, the first day of Lent. Historical Christ Church will be at King Street Metro from 6:30-9:30 a.m. The Rev. Heather VanDeventer wearing traditional cassock and surplice will be available at the Metro to offer each person a prayer followed by the making of a cross with ashes on the forehead.

She says this is the sixth year that Christ Church has participated, and, "I love to see the steady stream of people coming into and out of the Metro stop; they seem to appreciate our presence and some remember us from year to year." Van Deventer said, "Ash Wednesday is a day of repentance for Christians. Christians from any denomination or tradition are welcome to receive ashes."

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church will offer Ashes to Go from



Matthew Welsch, director of Children's Ministries, and the Rev. Heather VanDeventer, associate rector, Historic Christ Church at Ashes to Go in 2017.

6:30-8:30 a.m. at the Braddock Street Metro, and Church of the Resurrection will offer the traditional blessing at the bus stops in front of The Graham or Southern Towers on Seminary Road from 6:30-7:30 a.m. Ashes to Go began several years ago in St. Louis as an ecumenical effort. Since then many Episcopal churches across the country have joined in to offer Ashes to Go,

SEE ASHES TO GO, PAGE 4



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NEWS



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Car accident spotted by an Alexandria Detention Center inmate.

Inmate Spots Runaway Car

An inmate at Alexandria's Truesdale Adult Detention Center was staring out his window at the parking lot along Eisenhower Avenue when something unusual happened. A white car in the lot suddenly slid over the embankment and down into a ravine that separates the detention center from the shopping center.

According to Alexandria Sheriff's Department Public Information Officer Amy Bertsch, the inmate immediately went to

notify a deputy, who in turn went to notify others. The deputies working at the front gate were informed, as were other deputies on nearby assignments, and they rushed to the scene. They were able to reach the car and Deputy Lisa James was able to go down to help the driver exit without serious injuries.

The inmate who first spotted the car is a federal inmate and his name is being withheld.

— VERNON MILES

Police Seek Assault Suspect

Alexandria Police detectives have identified the suspect in the sexual assault that occurred in the 5800 block of Quantrell Avenue on Jan. 27. There are outstanding warrants for the suspect, and the Police Department will update the community when the suspect has been apprehended.

CRIME REPORT

The following incidents were reported by the Alexandria Police Department.

FEB. 3

The Alexandria Police Department is investigating a "shots fired" call at S. Henry Street and Wilkes Street. No injuries have been reported.

JAN. 28

The Alexandria Police Department is investigating a robbery in the 800 block of W. Glebe Road. Four suspects stole items from a cab driver. There were no injuries.

JAN. 18

The Alexandria Police Department is investigating a threat to Francis C Hammond Middle School, 4646 Seminary Road. The students have been evacuated.

JAN. 17

The Alexandria Police Department is investigating a commercial robbery in the 200 block of W. Glebe Road.

A man brandished a firearm and stole cash from a business. There were no injuries.

Ashes to Go Available Feb. 14

FROM PAGE 3

particularly at key commuter lines.

"Ashes to Go is a chance to show that God is at work in the world, that forgiveness is always available and that God's love is ever present," Van Deventer said.

Traditionally Ash Wednesday marks the 40 days of Lent leading up to Easter. To commemorate the day, clergy all over the world burn palms from the previous year's Palm Sunday services to create ash.

— SHIRLEY RUHE



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Olympian and National Champions Teach Young Swimmers

FROM PAGE 1

pion and former world record holder. Surhoff is a national champion. But when they get in the water with the youths, they're just people. "In the pool, everyone is on an equal playing field," said Weir. "We all [practice] and I look at this as an extension of that. What we do is not that different than what they do."

Surhoff said meeting with young swimmers and sharing stories about some of the personal challenges on their path to success can help them relate and understand that champion status isn't predestined or unachievable.

"Things like this make the path more digestible for them," said Surhoff. "I don't ever want them to be intimidated by someone like [Weir] or me when they come up against us in a race."

Many of the students walking out of the ages 13 and up class on Feb. 4 said they were particularly thrilled to find specific aspects of the class they were able to take away and apply to their own training.

"It was fun and informative," said Erin Althouse, who learned about the program through her swim team, the Potomac Marlins. "I learned to streamline my kicks. I liked learning to do the butterfly stroke, which was what I really needed to work on. It was very cool."

"It was really fun," said Katie Vastola, "It was a great experience. The Q&A was my favorite part; we got to talk with someone who has been to the Olympics. And we learned new skills and some new tips that will really help me."

Weir and Surhoff both said their favorite



Amanda Weir leads a class at Chinquapin Park Recreation Center and Aquatics Facility.

moments in these practices is being able to visibly see the students improve and gain confidence over the span of just one training session.

"I love seeing the lightbulb moment for

these kids," said Weir. "When it connects, and then they nail it, you can already see them improving."

"My favorite part is really being able to impact these kids," said Surhoff. "Swimming

practice is generally a slog, but here we got to help sharpen up the details [of their technique]. That's not usually something that's the focus of a lot of swimming practice at their age, which is a shame."



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Chapman Addresses SSSAS Students

How can young people get involved with decision making in local governments? City Councilman and St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School (SSSAS) alumnus John Taylor Chapman '99 visited the SSSAS Upper School on Jan. 19 to answer that question, and share his own story on how he found his way serving and leading in local politics.

"Three big things I took away from my experience as SSSAS was the duty to serve one another, being empathetic to each other, and the concept of finding your passion," said Chapman. "I challenge you to find your passion and what you can contribute back into your community. Once you find those things, you'll live a much easier life because you'll have a drive, a goal, and a path to follow. It's been a blast for me to serve the community I've grown up in."

Chapman was elected to the City Council



John Taylor Chapman

in November 2012. As a member of City Council, he serves on the following local and regional boards: the Local Emergency Planning Committee, Eisenhower Partnership Board of Directors, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Public Safety and Human Services Committee, Eisenhower Partnership Board of Directors, Eco-City Alexandria Environmental Action Plan Steering Committee, Alexandria Campaign on Adolescent Pregnancy, Sister Cities Committee, Gang Prevention Task Force, and the Children, Youth and Families Collaborative Commission.

MILITARY NOTE

Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Photos are welcome.

U.S. Air Force Airman **Gunjan S. Silwal** graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas. Silwal is the son of Jyoti S. and Dhruva S. Silwal of Chantilly, and brother of Sukriti S. Silwal of Alexandria. He is a 2016 graduate of T.C. Williams High School.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Raising \$6,000 for Neighborhood Health

Del Ray Business Association (DRBA) President Sue Kovalsky and Wellness Chair Lauren Fisher present a \$6,000 check to Neighborhood Health executive director Basim Khan, MD. DRBA hosted a Candy Cane Bar Crawl in December to raise money for the local clinic, which provides medical, dental and behavioral health care to over 17,000 children and adults across the region, regardless of a patient's ability to pay. DRBA places a focus on giving back to the community through its events; in 2017, the organization, which represents small businesses in the Del Ray neighborhood of Alexandria, raised over \$20,000 for Alexandria-based non-profits.



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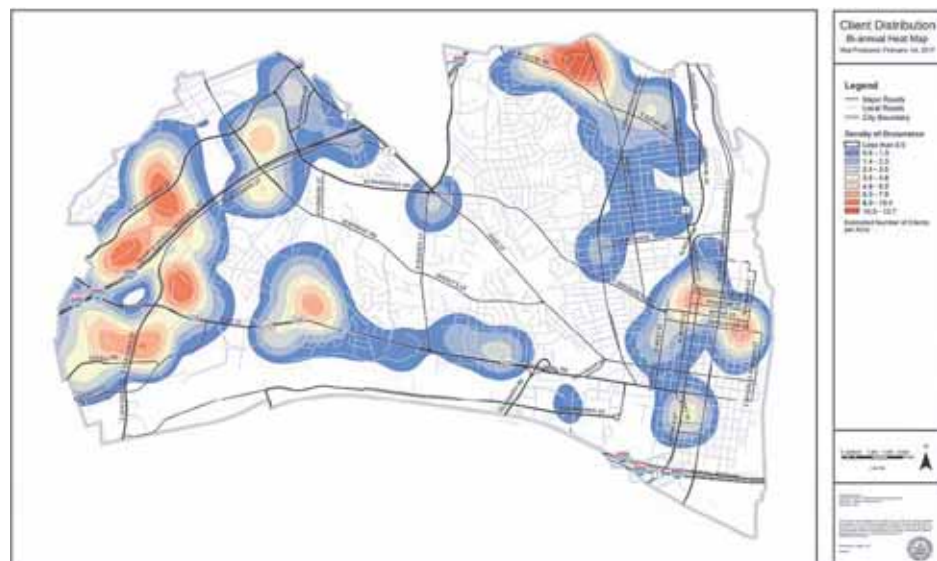
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Heat map of DCHS client distribution.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Shifting Human Services

FROM PAGE 1

ferent services within the department, but staff will be able to collaborate and access partner agencies.

An FAQ about the move said the department will continue to ensure confidentiality of clients by increasing access to private service spaces in a new facility and records being secured on a “need to know basis.”

Kate Garvey, director of DCHS, said the consolidation and move for the department isn’t connected to broader discussions in city government about moving and consolidating city services. But moving city services outside of Old Town has been a recurring, and occasionally controversial, discussion in City Hall.

“My overall thought on any movement of city services is that they need to move to areas where they can reach the most amount of citizens,” said City Councilman John Chapman, one of the voices on the City Council advocating for moving city services to the West End and other locations in need. “Historically, that hasn’t really been the case. Our demographics have shifted.”

Discussion of moving services out of Old Town came up in 2015 when the city was staring down the barrel of a \$53 million price tag for heating, ventilation and air conditioning overhauls to City Hall. Much of the existing air conditioning infrastructure had been in place since the 1940s. Then Mayor William Euille suggested that the city could begin looking at consolidating services at a new, more modern facility while looking into a public-private partnership to redevelop City Hall. The City Council was divided on the issue at the time, with then Vice-Mayor Allison Silberberg saying City Hall was a defining historic feature of the city and Euille’s plans would essentially sell the building.

The discussion of moving city services to the West End, or consolidating them in one building, has largely died down since then. But with leases coming up for city department buildings, Chapman says it might be time to start looking into it again.

“It’s something we need to be ready for at the end of leases,” said Chapman. “The lease for human services is up, that’s why they’re looking for it. But we need to take a

look at things prior to leases being up. It would have been great for city and schools to talk about where the school’s next central office location is prior to their lease being up. There could have been more coordination on that level. I think it would be a great opportunity to have all the city services in one place, and that be a place connected to transit with the most opportunities for Alexandrians to maximize [services]. We need forward-thinking folks interested in placing stuff where it is most accessible to our current community.”

Chapman says the time to start planning for relocations is now rather than waiting for potential buildings to open up.

“Need to be progressive with how things are handled,” said Chapman. “I don’t think we have to be aggressive about doing it, but we have to be aggressive about planning it so when the opportunity presents itself. If the opportunity presents itself, we need to be ready to go.”

Chapman says there are several city departments whose clientele has moved since the ‘80s while the city services have not. While Chapman said the Health Department being consolidated in North Old Town was once sufficient for broader access, the needs moved to other parts of the city. Chapman says the same is true for departments dealing with businesses.

“For any business owner, it would be great for anything dealing with business like Planning and Zoning as well as Alexandria Economic Development Partnership and the Small Business Administration to have those all near each other. While [some of those] aren’t city departments, it’s helpful for any city-related department being included in that.”

But while DCHS is moving to the West End, Mayor Allison Silberberg noted that it’s a special circumstance and it’s not a situation necessarily applicable to other city departments like Planning and Zoning.

“As for other services, we can keep this [more in mind], but... I can’t imagine not having Planning and Zoning in City Hall,” said Silberberg. “I don’t think [the DCHS] move is necessarily a one off, but I think it’s wonderful that I can walk down the hall

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Shifting Human Services

FROM PAGE 8

and speak to someone at Planning and Zoning... I don't think it's connected, because DCHS has never been in City Hall. It does make sense that they need to be in one spot together ... I can't think of another

[city department] that's in that discussion. I believe firmly that our seat of government must remain where it is."

Currently, Garvey said it's too early to estimate the costs of consolidation.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

ALIVE! offers numerous programs that aid low-income families in Alexandria that rely on volunteers: monthly food distributions, furniture, houseware and emergency food deliveries, and community food drives. Individuals, families and groups are encouraged to participate. Students can earn community service hours by participating. Visit www.alive-inc.org/volunteer.htm or contact the Volunteer Coordinator at volunteers@alive-inc.org.

WINTER SHELTER OPEN

The Alexandria Winter Shelter, located at 930 N. Henry St., is available for anyone experiencing homelessness or needing a warm, safe place to go. The shelter is open daily with regular hours from 7 p.m. to 7:30 a.m., through March 31. For more information about the Winter Shelter, call 703-548-7500. To learn

more about the City's housing assistance and homeless services, and to download a list of community resources for the homeless and other persons in need, visit the City's Homeless Services page at www.alexandriava.gov/dchs.

THROUGH APRIL 14

Tax Assistance. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-noon; Wednesdays, 6:30-8 p.m. at Department of Community & Human Services, 2525 Mt. Vernon Ave., (Mt. Ida side door). Eligible: individuals with income up to \$35,000 and families with income up to \$54,000. Free financial counseling and accessing credit reports may be available to interested persons from the Virginia Cooperative Extension. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/DCHS for eligibility and required documents.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/FEB. 9-10

Ramsey Homes Open House and Tours. 2-4 p.m., check-in at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Join an Open House and exploratory deconstruction tour as the City and ARHA staff explore

this innovative construction technology prior to demolition of these buildings and learn more about the history of these resources. Visit arha.us/events/ramsey-homes-open-house.

SATURDAY/FEB. 10

National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. 8 a.m.-noon at the Alleyne AME Zion Church, 1419 King St. The City of Alexandria will host a National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day Symposium. The event will examine the role the community can play in preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS and reducing its stigma among African Americans. There will be free HIV testing, courtesy of Nova Salud, Inc. The Symposium is free and open to the public, but attendees are asked to register online at <https://www.alexandriava.gov/Health>.

SUNDAY/FEB. 11

Campaign Kickoff. 3-5 p.m. at Los Tios, 2615 Mount Vernon Ave., Del Ray. Join Mayor Allison Silberberg's re-election campaign kickoff. All are

SEE BULLETIN BOARD. PAGE 18



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Ferdinand T. Day: A Champion of Champions

BY CHAR MCCARGO BAH

Many people in Alexandria knew Mr. Ferdinand Day and how he spent his whole life trying to make his beloved city a better place for everyone. In his lifetime, he experienced the impacts of many segregation laws, the Civil Rights Movement and the signing of the Civil Rights Act. He also participated in the March on Washington in 1963.

There have been many stories written about Mr. Day and his numerous awards, and the countless recognition he received for his work. However, many people do not know what made Mr. Day become the champion in his community.

Ferdinand's parents had very little money when he was growing up, but his parents had great family values that they imparted to their children. Mr. Day fondly talked about his loving mother and the values about life she gave each child. He had strong religious beliefs that shaped him into the person he later became. He loved his fellowship at Saint Joseph's Catholic Church. He often quoted Biblical passages when he was making reference to his community work. Mr. Day was also influenced by his father and the elders in his neighborhood. Their struggle in life impacted him to a point that he wanted in turn to help his community. He witnessed grown men called boys and women called girls by individuals half their age. They were treated disrespectfully. Those men and women were his idols. As skilled workers, they held important positions in their community as preachers, deacons, advisers and community leaders. Unfortunately, many of them were uneducated in an academic sense,



Ferdinand T. Day and his daughter, Gwen Day-Fuller, in 2014.

PHOTO COURTESY OF STEVEN MAUREN/HALPERSON/TSARA PHOTOGRAPHY

but they were full of wisdom.

Mr. Day had a burning desire to have a good education. His older brother, Robert, who was accepted at Armstrong Technical High School in Washington, D.C., at the same time Mr. Day applied, gave up his seat in school, so Mr. Day could attend classes. There were many relatives and white people who helped him through the difficult years in school. All of those people played a vital role in shaping Ferdinand into the man he became. He used to say that he succeeded in life because he stood on the shoulders of those men and women who were domestic workers. He felt

that his parents, brother, the church and the community enabled him to identify his goals early on in life.

After completing his education, he immediately went on to serve his community by becoming a community activist on issues related to education and housing.

He became the first African American appointed to the Alexandria School Board and then as its chairman. During his tenure, he helped to integrate the school system. He served as vice chairman of both the Northern Virginia and Virginia State Boards of Community Colleges. He worked with politicians to secure city government funding to help with community projects in Alexandria. He was an advisor to community leaders and he became a leader of the Boy Scouts. He also held a full-time job in the Federal government while participating in many of his community activities.

He worked hard to promote the values of education to young children. Even in his early 90s, Mr. Day still wanted to help young people. His daughter, Gwen Day-Fuller, would take him to the elementary schools to talk to the children about the civil rights movement, and the value of education, until his health started failing.

Mr. Ferdinand T. Day was born on Aug. 7, 1918, to Robert and Victorine Johnson Day in Alexandria. He was the fourth child in his family. On Jan. 2, 2015, Mr. Ferdinand T. Day died. He was a champion of champions who really cared about the people of his beloved City of Alexandria.

Char McCargo Bah is a freelance writer, independent historian, genealogist and a Living Legend of Alexandria. Visit her blog at www.theotheralexandria.com for more about "The Other Alexandria."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Short Bridge Cooperation

To the Editor:

Last week's article in the Alexandria Gazette Packet and Arlington Connection ("Short Bridge, Big Compatibility Issues") may lead readers to believe cooperation between Alexandria and Arlington has been lacking in the planning of our border at Four Mile Run between Route 1 and Potomac Avenue. This is simply not the case.

Since the early 2000s, residents and staff from both localities have worked to develop and implement the Four Mile Run Restoration Plan. Completion of the Four Mile Run Park Tidal Wetlands and Living Shoreline is evidence of the two jurisdictions collaborating through a complicated and rewarding project to improve ecology and recreational opportunities. Alexandria has also coordinated the removal of one of the former industrial bridges over

Four Mile Run, and has acquired new public park land along both banks within the city.

Alexandria is approaching the Short Bridge Park project with the same fervor and engagement as these previous joint projects, and fully recognizes the impact the transformation of this site will have on both communities. Alexandria staff have been fully involved in the Short Bridge Park planning process and understand the enormous benefits the park and bridge will bring to residents seeking outdoor experiences in one of the area's most urban settings.

Funding for capital projects in both jurisdictions comes from a variety of sources. While funds for the trail connection in Phase 1 of the Short Bridge plan were secured from a transportation grant, future Alexandria funding is dependent on contributions from continued development in Potomac Yard.

Alexandria staff have participated in Arlington's public meet-

ings on Short Bridge Park and have shared the conditions called for by the Potomac Yard North Coordinated Development District. These include the developer designing and constructing a new 2.3-acre Crescent Park at the southern end of the bridge over Four Mile Run (approximately at the current location of the Shoppers Food Warehouse), and either providing Four Mile Run Park improvements or contributing \$10 million to the city to do so. Enhancements would include the Urban Deck at Short Bridge Park, promenade and bank improvements, and near-term trail connections.

Until the development contributions are available and the bridge can be fully designed and transformed from a heavy industrial use to a park, Alexandria is committed to keeping the site safe and maintaining access to the adjacent trail. These are merely different mechanisms for achieving the same goal of creating a vibrant, park site along Four Mile Run for residents of both jurisdictions to

relax, recreate, and enjoy nature within an urban environment.

Mark Jinks
Alexandria City Manager

Might Have Saved Trees

To the Editor:

When did Alexandria officials first learn of West End deforestation?

There's a rumor going around that Alexandria officials were alerted to the fact that Morgan properties was beginning to cut down a large number of mature tree in the in the former Winkler properties as early as late October 2017. Despite the warning, the city took no action to stop the cutting and didn't acknowledge what the public already knew about this deforestation until early December.

A recent FOIA request asked the

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NEWS DEPARTMENT:
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Steven Mauren
Editor, 703-778-9415
smauren@connectionnewspapers.com

Jean Card
Production Editor
jcard@connectionnewspapers.com

Vernon Miles
Reporter, 757-472-3435
vmiles@connectionnewspapers.com

Jeanne Theismann
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
@TheismannMedia

John Bordner, Mark Mogle
Contributing Photographers
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Eden Brown, Shirley Ruhe, Dan Brendel
Contributing Writers
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

ADVERTISING:
For advertising information
sales@connectionnewspapers.com
703-778-9431

Debbie Funk
Display Advertising/National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

Julie Ferrill
Display Advertising, 703-927-1364
jferrill@connectionnewspapers.com

Tara Lloyd
Display Advertising, 703-740-7128
tlloyd@connectionnewspapers.com

David Griffin
Marketing Assistant
703-778-9431
dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

Classified & Employment Advertising
703-778-9431

Publisher
Jerry Vernon
703-549-0004
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
@MaryKimm

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren
Art/Design:
Laurence Poong, John Heinly, Ali Khaligh
Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

Editor Emeritus:
Mary Anne Weber

CIRCULATION
Circulation Manager:
Ann Oliver
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

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OPINION

About Jenny's Journey

BY JANE HESS COLLINS
COMMUNITY LODGINGS
COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTANT

"I'm not good enough to wash a dog." An odd thing to say during a job interview, but Jenny McDaniel, a former Community Lodgings affordable housing resident, said and felt that when she applied as a dog washer at Your Dog's Best Friends in Alexandria 10 years ago.

Look at Jenny's history and her statement makes sense. She was pulled out of school in third grade to avoid embarrassing her teacher, a married father of two, who molested her. Unable to read or write, she dreamed of sipping coffee and reading newspapers like people at outdoor cafes.

COMMUNITY LODGINGS

Another molester in his early 30s gave her heroin when she was 13 years old, and Jenny was addicted immediately. Finally, she had respite from her short life of abuse, pain, neglect and molestation. For the next 27 years she stole and lied — anything for a heroin fix and its numbing escape.

She was 18 when she was first sent to jail for stealing a box of crayons for her young son, and spent the next 22 years in and out of jail, unsuccessfully trying to stay clean. Finally, she kicked her addiction at age 40, earned her GED, trained as a dog groomer, and left Baltimore and her 27-year heroin habit for good.

Paul Haire, the owner of Your Dog's Best Friends,



Jenny McDaniel shared her story at Community Lodgings' "Open Doors to Independence" breakfast in October 2015.

hired her after she called to thank him for the interview. When Jenny's first client, a Community Lodgings staff member, tipped her \$40, she gained the confidence to know she could succeed in a life without drugs.

But, Jenny's prison background made it hard for her to find housing. Haire recommended Community Lodgings, and Jenny was ecstatic when the non-profit accepted her. She moved into her a one-bedroom unit, saved her money, and in 2011 she bought a three-bedroom brick home in Alexandria. Today her home has gleaming new floors, new appliances, and a new kitchen.

Today Jenny is a manager at Your Dog's Best Friends and speaks about ex-offender rights. She credits Community Lodgings with helping her live independently, and will receive their Chris McMurray Award, an honor given to outstanding former clients, during their 30 Year Anniversary Pearl Gala on Saturday, Feb. 17, at the Belle Haven Country Club.

For more information about Community Lodgings and their upcoming gala, visit communitylodgings.org.

What To Do After Retiring?

BY MARY LEE ANDERSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SENIOR SERVICES OF ALEXANDRIA



Retirement can be a wonderful time of life. There are so many opportunities to try new things, visit exciting destinations, and spend more time with family and friends. It might even be a time to find a new career or volunteer with a cause that is meaningful. Often, it can be hard to decide which thing to do first, or where to find out what options are available in our community. Luckily, Senior Services of Alexandria's February Speaker Series will help you discover some

SENIOR SERVICES OF ALEXANDRIA

A great place to start is with Volunteer Alexandria. They will be discussing how to use their resources to easily find a variety of volunteer opportunities, including many geared toward seniors. You will also hear from the city's Office of Historic Alexandria about all the fun and interesting volunteer jobs they offer, including museum docents and research projects related to the many local museums in our town. If you enjoy the outdoors, the Virginia Co-operative Extension might be a perfect fit. They will share information about their Master Gardner and Naturalists programs as well as how you can help other seniors make their homes more

energy efficient.

Volunteering can give new meaning to your life, and make a huge difference to non-profit organizations and the

people they serve. It is a win-win for everyone. We are fortunate to live in Alexandria, a city that is rich with volunteering opportunities.

We'll also be talking about ways to discover new employment options for older adults. AARP will share information about opportunities for seniors who may want to work longer, or perhaps are interested in part-time employment in an area that is meaningful to the community. There will be a demonstration of AARP's online database of employment opportunities. A terrific local resource, Alexandria's Workforce Development Center, will be on hand to share details about the many workshops they offer that are geared to the more experienced worker, including resume writing, and how to ace the interview. WDC serves as a matchmaker for local businesses and job seekers, and can offer personal support and online resources.

Be sure to register today for this exciting event, which will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 21, 9:30 a.m.-noon at the Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke Street in Alexandria. It is a free event with light refreshments. To register go to seniorservicesalex.org or call 703-836-4414, ext. 110.

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

city to provide any correspondence on this issue dating from Oct. 1 through Nov. 25, 2017. The City Attorney's office said they could find no such correspondence. In effect, it appears that the city is trying to cover up the fact that senior staff knew about the tree massacre early on and are hiding that fact from the public.

This may not be Watergate but it stinks if true and suggests that city officials have covered up when they first learned about this carnage and then did little or nothing to prevent the loss of some 500 trees in the West End.

Andrew Macdonald
Alexandria

Human Services And Privacy

To the Editor:

I am writing concerning the consolidation of the offices of the Alexandria Department of Community and Human Services into one public facility. Given the personal nature of the work done by the department, the city has a responsibility to assure the public that personal information of Alexandria citizens is held confidential in the new workplace setting.

For example, the staff will need work stations that provide complete privacy so that sensitive staff conversations about such things as child sexual abuse, prosecutions,

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OPINION

'Mod'ification Squad Volunteers Help All Year Long

BY BREANNE DRISCOLL
REBUILDING TOGETHER ALEXANDRIA

As National Rebuilding Day 2018 approaches, on Saturday, April 28, Rebuilding Together Alexandria staff are busily prepping 40 teams for a city-wide day of volunteerism, a day in which thousands of volunteers across the country join in. Volunteer teams are paired with low-income residents that have critical health and safety issues inside their homes that they are unable to physically or financially correct. Our teams remedy the issues free of charge for the homeowners.

REBUILDING TOGETHER ALEXANDRIA Over the last several months, staff has been preparing for National Rebuilding Day by sending out plumbing, heating, and electrical contractors to accomplish repair emergency issues, such as furnace replacements and active water leaks. Year-round, volunteers also complete critical safety tasks and smaller handyman jobs.

Our year-round "Mod"ification Squad volunteers have taken on 50 projects already this year for homeowners. They manage projects independently, set their own schedule, and work on tasks that are of interest to their skill set. From installing grab bars to provide stability for our older



Before and after photos. Arthur, a volunteer for Rebuilding Together Alexandria, was building a safety handrail for an in-need homeowner.

homeowners, to fixing small plumbing leaks, they handle it all. Many have been volunteering their time and expertise with us for years, supervising teams of volunteers

on National Rebuilding Day or assisting us with special projects year-round.

One Mod Squad member, Arthur, started working with us this past October and has

taken on eight independent and two group projects already. He also "spreads the good word" of our Safe & Healthy Homes program, by encouraging in-need neighbors to apply. His precision as a retired doctor has followed through to his volunteer work.

In Arthur's own words: "Since my teens I have enjoyed the challenge of fixing broken objects and working on home improvements. Now that I am retired I like keeping busy. Helping older or handicapped people to make their home safer or more accessible so they can continue independent living is good for them and rewarding to me. Rebuilding Together Alexandria provides the opportunity to do that and when the task is more than I can handle, I can always count on help from their staff."

So to echo Martin Luther King Jr.'s remark "Life's most persistent and urgent question is: What are you doing for others?" Whether you become part of our volunteer task force or create a group and volunteer on National Rebuilding Day, we will be thrilled you want to join our team and be the reason why a low-income neighbor can focus on paying for food, medicine, and other necessities. We encourage you to sponsor a team, get your hands dirty, and get involved. For more information call 703-836-1021, email info@RebuildingTogetherAlex.org, or visit www.RebuildingTogetherAlex.org.



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OPINION

Making Election Process More Accessible

BY ADAM P. EBBIN
STATE SENATOR (D-30)



The Privileges and Elections Committee is the oldest in the nearly 400-year-old General Assembly. It's hard to believe that I have the honor to serve on the same committee that George Washington served on in his first year in the House of Burgesses. Voting forges an essential connection between citizens and their representatives; the integrity of elections grants government legitimacy and is central to democracy. As the 2018 session nears its midpoint, here are highlights of election laws that we have considered.

COMMENTARY

In coordination with voter registrars, electoral boards, and former Gov. Terry McAuliffe's administration, I introduced eight pieces of legislation to make our election process more accessible and efficient. An interim joint committee will be established to consider a large volume of legislation regarding election reform in the wake of several incidents arising in the 2017 election and to consider the implemen-

tation of no-excuse absentee voting. Five of the bills I have introduced were referred to this interim committee, including SB602, which I introduced at the request of former Governor McAuliffe, and would make it easier for voters to cast an absentee ballot. Currently, a voter must present one of 20 valid excuses to vote with an in-person or mail-in

absentee ballot. My bill would eliminate the need for an excuse, allowing all eligible voters to use this option. Sen. Jill Vogel (R-Fauquier), the chair of the Senate Privileges and Elections Committee, has asked me to serve on the committee. It will meet after the conclusion of our current session and before we convene in 2019. I look forward to an in-depth review of more than a dozen bills and seeking potential solutions to the 2017 irregularities in House District 28. During that election, around 650 voters, more than the margin of victory, were given the wrong ballot in a precinct split among legislative districts; 55 additional mail-in absentee ballots were left uncounted because of a disputed point of law. Voters were unquestionably denied the right to vote.

I co-sponsored legislation introduced by Sen. George Barker (D-Fairfax) to remedy the issue of "split precincts." Our bill has been rolled into SB 983, introduced by Mark Obenshain (R-Rockingham), and with bipartisan support hopefully we can remedy the errors that disenfranchised so many in HD 28. We need to correct inefficiencies for our poll workers, safeguard the integrity of our elections, and facilitate and encourage the participation of more citizens in the democratic process.

As we adjourned last week, Majority Leader Tommy Norment (R-James City County) praised the pace at which the Senate has been able to consider legislation over the first four weeks. I have presented all but four of 29 bills to the relevant committees. In the Senate General Laws and Technology Committee we have completed our docket of legislation, and we have only five bills left to consider in the Privileges and Elections Committee.

Please consider following me on Twitter @AdamEbbin, liking my facebook page at facebook.com/ebbincampaign, emailing your views to me at district30@senate.virginia.gov, and taking my survey at www.AdamEbbin.com/Survey.

It is my continued honor to serve the people of the 30th District.

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 12

and HIPPA-protected information are not overhead by others who do not have an official need to know.

I hope the city will follow their commitment to public engagement by sharing information on the new facility design with the citizens and accept public comment before finalizing the plan.

Joan Dreyer
Alexandria

Consider Taxpayers

To the Editor:

Residents of Alexandria who pay property taxes should pay close attention to the primary election on June 12. The two candidates for mayor, Mayor Allison Silberberg and her challenger, Vice Mayor Justin Wilson, have very different approaches to taxation.

Mr. Wilson was responsible last year for adding three cents per hundred dollars of valuation on top of increases requested by the city manager. Unusually, his additional tax had no specific purpose but was to be recommended by a "Blue Ribbon Committee" of citizens, assisted by \$100,000 in consultants. That increase will cost many homeowners several hun-

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Powering to a Solution

BY CHARNIELE HERRING
STATE DELEGATE (D-46)



Electric utility regulation for my district typically means dealing with Dominion Power. A large for-profit utility is something that we as residents of the Commonwealth always give extra scrutiny to because we want to ensure the best service for the least amount of money, and while an organization is making a profit we have to look closely to make sure every part of any deal is fundamentally fair.

We have a responsibility to provide Virginians with a stable rate at which to acquire their electricity. And in our community we have pushed time and again to include more solar and wind power — more renewable energy into the mix of sources from which we get our power in order to make a more sustainable future a reality.

That means each and every vote that I take regarding electric power in Virginia is something that is given full consideration. I have taken votes in the past that I thought were the best way forward with compromises on all sides, and now I am faced with one of those choices once again. At the time of writing this update from Richmond, negotiations are ongoing for legislation that will end the Dominion rate freeze that began with a bill passed in 2013. The initial draft of the legislation had several issues that I felt needed to be addressed. However, I am also an advocate for all sides working together on a compromise. While negotiations are still ongoing, environmental organizations have sat down at the table with Dominion Energy and business leaders as well as Governor Northam's administration to work on a compromise bill that will end the rate freeze and put money back in the pockets of customers.

Some of the major issues I felt needed to be addressed before I could support such legislation included an end to the rate freeze, refunds to over-charged customers, restoration of State Corporation Commission oversight, and the inclusion of more renewable energy in any future framework. While I have not yet seen any official language as of yet, the reports I have received from stakeholder and administrative sources leave me heartened by what I am hearing on several fronts. Current negotiations include restoration of SCC's review power, customer refunds, and a tenfold increase in solar/wind mega-wattage in the public interest.

One of the other important components of the new language, and in the intent of the original bill, is to upgrade Virginia's energy grid into a smart-grid. This means wireless alerts to power outages instead of waiting for a neighbor to call in an outage, ability to reroute power around downed lines, and more energy efficiency. It also means a more secure power grid resistant to attack.

We are still waiting on the final negotiated language and some entities — government and non-profit to weigh in on the proposal. My vote will not be decided until I see final language and what is included, but it must be fair to consumers, increase renewable energy output, and work toward a secure energy grid designed to keep Virginia moving into the future. If this is an issue that interests you or if you pay an electric bill, I encourage you to keep track of the changes as they are negotiated. The bills can be found on lis.virginia.gov and are numbered SB 966 and HB 1558. I look forward to hearing from my constituents as to their feelings on this pending legislation.

Charniele Herring represents Alexandria City's 46th District in the Virginia General Assembly where she serves as House Minority Caucus Chair and on the Courts of Justice, Counties, Cities, & Towns, and Agriculture, Chesapeake & Natural Resources Committees. See www.charnieleherring.com.



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Open House Sunday 2-4pm • Hollindale

1705 Courtland Rd. Alexandria VA PRICE IMPROVEMENT on this wonderful 4BR 2.5BA home overlooking a large park-like backyard. Located on a quiet street in area of sought after schools. Large open kitchen with updated stainless-steel appliances. New carpet in family room. \$712,000 Shelly Lynch (571) 336-6280 <http://bit.ly/2s1swbH>



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23121 Ingersoll Way. Ashburn VA CLASSIC COLONIAL WITH FRONT PORCH + REAR EXTENSION GIVES OVER 4200 SQ FT FINISHED, 9 FT CEILING ON ALL LEVELS, TWO STORY FAM ROOM+ MODEL HOME CONDITION \$699,950 Steve Deleyiannis (703) 966.6062 <http://bit.ly/2rmVqmr>



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Old Town

115 N. Lee St. #BH211. Alexandria VA New private exclusive! Great opportunity to own this stunning one bedroom, 1 bath, 2 level updated condo in The Torpedo Factory. Steps to everywhere, Potomac River, shops, restaurants and more. Condo has soaring ceilings, wood burning fireplace, stainless appliances, granite, wood floors, updated bathroom, loft style bedroom w/2 walk in closets. Even includes a garage space! Call for appointment or questions. \$463,000 Bonnie Rivkin (703) 598-7788 <http://bit.ly/2s323L8>



Saintsbury Plaza

2903 Saintsbury Plaza #106. Fairfax VA Gorgeous unit in a community for 55+. Enjoy the ease of this complex directly across from Vienna Metro. Cherry hrd floors throughout, cherry cabinets, and granite in kitchen. Tiled well maintained baths, large windows allowing natural light to flood in unit. Ceiling fans, stacked laundry, individual storage unit #58 in basement, electric fireplace in LR to convey, lots of storage in unit also. \$425,000 Jane King (703) 498-1034 <http://bit.ly/2mVIMWK>



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MONTEBELLO 5901 Mount Eagle Drive #215, Alexandria VA This very well maintained and lovely large "G" Model 2 bedroom condo in top Montebello building. This unit has close access to the Huntington Metro Station. Enjoy the terrific restaurant/bar, indoor and outdoor pools, tennis courts and walking/ jogging trails! \$279,000 Ellis Duncan (703) 307-4295 <http://bit.ly/2yfhjjo>

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*comScore, Jan.-Dec. 2015. The property information herein is derived from various sources that may include, but not be limited to, county records and the Multiple Listing Service and it may include approximations. Although the information is believed to be accurate, it is not warranted and you should not rely upon it without personal verification. Real estate agents affiliated with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage are independent contractor agents and are not employees of the Company. ©2016 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC fully supports the principles of the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Opportunity Act. Operated by a subsidiary of NRT LLC. Coldwell Banker, the Coldwell Banker logo, Coldwell Banker Global Luxury International and the Global Luxury logo are registered and unregistered service marks owned by Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. 10713MA_A6/16

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ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE PACKET ❖ FEBRUARY 8-14, 2018 ❖ 15

Rev. Lee Massey, Pastor and Friend of George Washington

BY REV. TOM COSTA
HISTORIC POHICK CHURCH DOCENT GUILD

Lee Massey was born in 1732 in King George County in the Northern Neck area of Virginia. His mother was a member of the prominent Alexander family, after which the City of Alexandria was named. He began his professional life as a lawyer, reading law with George Johnston, a distinguished lawyer residing at Alexandria, and eventually married his daughter, Mary Johnston, in 1756.

Massey handled legal work in the courts for criminal trials and offenses, as well as legal papers, contracts, and wills. In that capacity he often handled legal affairs for the Mason, Washington, and Fairfax families. But his legal practice began to weigh heavily on his mind and soul. Massey found it a bitter moral issue to have to defend those guilty of crimes and to perform his

duty to see them proved innocent, even when he knew they were guilty and deserving of punishment.

The death of the Rev. Charles Green of Truro Parish at the close of 1765 created the need for the selection of a new minister, and Massey submitted his case to George Washington for his advice on whether he should pursue ordination to take the late Rev. Green's place. Washington heartily agreed, and so Churchwarden George Washington and the vestrymen of Truro Parish signed letters to the Governor of Virginia and the Bishop of London to recommend Lee Massey entering holy orders in order to become the rector for Truro Parish.

Lee Massey sailed off to London to read for ordination with the Bishop of London in 1766. On returning to Virginia about 10 months later, his letters of ordination being accepted by the governor and the Vestry, the Rev. Lee Massey was made rector of the two churches of Truro Parish. He began

divine services and preaching twice a month at the old Pohick Church near Colchester and twice again at Payne's Church (destroyed during the Civil War) about 10 miles to the west in what is now Fairfax Station.

In 1767, the same year that he was made rector, the Vestry decided to build a new Pohick Church of brick and stone (the old wooden church being well out of repair) at the corner of what is now Telegraph/Old Colchester Road and Route 1 in Lorton, a spot personally chosen and surveyed by George Washington. The new church was completed in 1774 and is the current Historic Pohick Episcopal Church.

During the colonial period most marriages, baptisms and funerals were performed not in church but in private homes. George Washington asked Rev. Massey to read the burial service for his stepdaughter Martha "Patsy" Custis when she died suddenly in 1773.

The Rev. Lee Massey, along with George Washington, George Mason, John Carlyle,

and 21 others, also signed the Fairfax Resolves on July 18, 1774.

The Revolutionary War brought financial hardship to the area as well as to most of the colonial Anglican churches. Many of the country churches like Pohick began holding only occasional services. In late 1777 Lee Massey stepped down as full-time rector for public church duties. He then studied medicine as a means of relieving the poor of the parish, but even after his retirement, Washington always referred to his friend as the "incumbent of Pohick Church."

Lee Massey continued to live at Bradley, his plantation a few miles away from Gunston Hall, until his death in 1814 at the age of 86. His tombstone can be seen today under the pulpit in Pohick Church, when it was moved from Bradley in 1908.

The author will portray Rev. Massey at the Wreath-Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the American Revolution at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House on the morning of Feb. 19 before the parade starts.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 14

dred dollars over their 2017 taxes. Moreover, the 2018 property tax amount would be added to the new rainwater fee that can add up to another \$233 for homeowners. Last year Mr. Wilson also was behind taxing Old Town commercial properties an additional 10 cents of valuation for a proposed "Business Investment District" or BID.

Mayor Silberberg opposed the Wilson's tax increase believing that the city manager's budget was adequate to meet Alexandria's needs. Council passed it over her objections. She opposed the BID unless a survey of merchants and property owners showed that a majority approved it. The proposal subsequently was withdrawn.

In his recent newsletters Mr. Wilson has claimed that the city has \$500 million of needed but unfunded capital investment — in addition to the \$2 billion of investment in the city manager's proposed Capital Improvement Program for the next decade. If Mr. Wilson is elected mayor we can expect him quickly to push for raising that \$500 million. How? With the city's bonding authority already stretched, he would be

obliged to propose yet another hefty increase to property taxes for 2019 and beyond.

Mayor Silberberg, while seemingly understanding their importance, has taken the approach that infrastructure needs must be carefully scrutinized and prioritized. She has expressed the concern that wholesale hiking of property taxes will force low and middle income residents, many of them elderly on fixed incomes, out of their homes or from rental units as owners pass along tax increases.

Retired as I am and pensioned, her concern is mine, as it should be for many Alexandria residents. Taxes should be a key topic of discussion in approaching the June primary.

Jack Sullivan
Alexandria

Historical Marker For Douglass

To the Editor:

Feb. 14, 2018, marks the 200th anniversary

of the birth of Frederick Douglass. The fiery orator gave hundreds of speeches during a lifetime as a fugitive slave turned abolitionist, author, and publisher.

On Sept. 24, 1894, just five months before taking his last breath at his Cedar Hill home in Washington, D.C., Douglass gave one of his last speeches at Lannon's Opera House in Alexandria.

The occasion was the city's Emancipation Day celebration. In some cities and towns, these annual jubilees had a long and continuous history. In Alexandria, Emancipation Day celebrations began in 1889 and lasted for over a decade before dying out in the early part of the 20th-century.

Both floors of Lannon's Opera House, whose site is the southwest corner of King and Pitt streets, were packed for Douglass's speech. None of the newspapers printed the entirety of his speech, but some pointed out his message centered on "the Negro problem."

The elder statesman expressed his dislike of that term, noting it was prejudicial against black Americans. A year earlier the "Lion of Anacostia" had spoken at the World Columbian Exposition in Chicago. He said,

"There is no Negro problem. The problem is whether the American people have loyalty enough, honor enough, patriotism enough, to live up to their own Constitution."

2018 will see many commemorative events for the bicentennial of the birth of Frederick Douglass. Here in Alexandria, we should erect a historical marker commemorating the man and his speech. Any day this year would be appropriate, while Sept. 24 would be the most fitting. That's when the "Lion of Anacostia" gave one of his last roars.

Jay Roberts
Alexandria

Impact On Density

To the Editor:

It is apparent that the Alexandria city planners do not consider aggregate density in conjunction with proposed develop

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 26

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Feeding the Flu

What to eat when fighting the flu.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Flu season is in full swing and, according to the latest statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, it's packing a powerful punch. According to the most recent CDC report, the flu is widespread in most states, and healthcare providers report an uptick in influenza-related hospitalizations and deaths.

“One of the best sources for protein when you have the flu is real, bone-based soup.”

— Sara Ducey, Professor of Nutrition and Food, Montgomery College

While the thought of eating might be unappealing to someone who is battling the flu, nutritionists and health care providers say certain nutrients are essential for keeping up one's strength. Soothing and healing ingredients are key allies when fighting this season's virus.



COURTESY OF SARA DUCEY

Turmeric, powdered ginger, honey and almond or coconut milk can create a soothing and healing drink for those who are battling the flu, says nutritionist Sara Ducey.



PHOTOS BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Fresh ginger can be a soothing ingredient for those who have the flu.



Garlic is credited with having antibacterial properties.

sources for protein when you have the flu is real, bone-based soup, not ramen noodles that have chicken flavoring.”

Bone broths, like those made from chicken or beef, offer hydration, protein and amino acids, added Ducey. Broth can be sipped or used as the base for a soup. “It’s a natural healing and restorative food,” she said. “At this point, everyone can assume that they’re going to get the flu and prepare some bone-based broth ahead of time and keep it on hand in the freezer. You can also buy boxes of it.”

Fresh ginger can work as an anti-inflammatory, soothe an upset stomach and boost one's immune system, says nutritionist

Debbie Hynes of Practical Ayurveda. “Warm water with grated ginger and honey can soothe a sore throat or upset stomach,” she said.

Foods that are high in Vitamin C like orange juice, particularly a variety that contains pulp, can boost your immune system, says Ducey. “It’s a powerful antioxidant which is important for keeping your muscles strong especially when you’re sick.”

Garlic is another ingredient that Hynes likes to include in flu-fighting recipes. “It has antibacterial properties, especially when it’s raw,” she said. “I add it to chicken broth along with chili flakes to sip when someone in my family has a stuffy head. The combination can clear the sinuses. And if you can stand to eat it, raw garlic has the strongest antibacterial properties.”

Turmeric works as an anti-inflammatory and antioxidant, says Hynes. “It’s been known for those properties in Chinese medicine for centuries,” she said.

Ducey uses the spice in a creamy drink she creates called Golden Milk. “I take a cup of milk, a teaspoon or two of honey and a little black pepper and put it in the microwave to warm it,” she said. “You can use almond or coconut milk if you can’t tolerate dairy. Turmeric is very poorly absorbed by the body, so adding a little black pepper helps absorb it. It sounds bizarre, but it’s strangely comforting.”

lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way. 2. not appreciated or understood. 3. no longer owned or known

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Map of the 211 The Strand development.



Concept renderings for 211 The Strand

Final Southern Waterfront Development Approved

FROM PAGE 1

someone came and parked in your driveway, I guess you'd think it was OK to have to park around the corner," said Phillip Mattis. "That's what residents do on the two to three blocks around King Street. That needs to be corrected."

But these concerns didn't seem to carry much weight on the Planning Commission, who said the location of the ground floor restaurants and cafes so close to the core of Old Town meant many of the visitors would likely already be in the area either to shop and explore or could take one of several other transportation methods to get to the site.

The Planning Commission expressed universal support for the project. Commissioner Nathan Macek said he was initially con-

cerned about plans for The Strand including retail, saying the development of residential properties around Founders Park had made the southern end of the waterfront largely inaccessible, but was impressed with the public accessibility and how the project had evolved.

"This project has come a long way," said Macek. "We're seeing a different reaction to this [compared to] Hotel Indigo. We've seen public support. [The developer] authentically reached out and engaged people in project."

Macek also noted that this project may wind up being the last development approval for the south end of the core waterfront. Like Macek, Commissioner Melissa McMahon said she was impressed with the pedestrian improvements that helped make

the site more permeable, but noted that while she was grateful for the developer's \$233,695 affordable housing contribution, she wished an affordable unit could have been located on the site to assist in the city's efforts to spread the stock of affordable housing across the city. Others, however, said hoping for an affordable unit in the luxury apartments wasn't feasible or a good use of affordable housing when compared to the dollar amount of a contribution.

"I'm supportive usually of having units on site, but having a really prime location in a very expensive part of the city, it's just not the right place for an actual unit," said Commissioner Maria Wazowski. "We can get a better benefit from the contribution which can be used to purchase a unit or provide a loan for a unit in an area where there is

other affordable housing and more accessible transportation. Someone in affordable housing doesn't need all the expensive amenities available here." Planning Commission Chair Mary Lyman agreed, saying the dollars would be put to better use in a less expensive part of the city.

The only other concern raised from the commission was by Commissioner David Brown, who noted that the applicant had played with some of the numbers for the project by including the Chadwicks building in the site, which is owned by the same developer but not actually scheduled for changes, purely to be able to count the empty space in the building as part of the whole for the project.

The Planning Commission approved the DSUP unanimously.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 9

welcome. There is no charge to attend.

MONDAY/FEB. 12

The Eisenhower West/Landmark Van Dorn Ad Hoc Implementation Advisory Group. 7 p.m. in the Cameron Station Great Room, 200 Cameron Station Blvd. The Eisenhower West/Landmark Van Dorn Ad Hoc Implementation Advisory Group will hold its fifth meeting. Meeting will include an overview of projects and studies within the Eisenhower West and Landmark/Van Dorn Corridor planning areas. Advisory Group meetings are open to the public and

members of the community are encouraged to attend and participate. Visit alexandriava.gov/90965.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 14

Historic Christ Church will be offering Ashes to Go to morning commuters, 6:30-9:30 a.m. at King Street Metro. Clergy members will be available for a simple prayer of confession, followed by the imposition of ashes with the traditional words, and ending with a bidding of peace. **Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**, will offer Ashes to Go 6:30-8:30 a.m. at the Braddock

SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 23

Carlyle's Pho 33 Closes

Pho 33, a ready alternative to the sandwich-heavy fare rampant in the Carlyle neighborhood, has closed its doors for good. The Vietnamese café was in service as recently as last week, but over the past few days, would-be customers were greeted with only a sign saying the restaurant was closed permanently. The restaurant, which opened in spring of 2014, served as a welcome respite from the delicatessens and cof-

fee shops that permeate the neighborhood, particularly for the hundreds of employees of the Patent and Trade Office and its neighbors in the area. Open for dinner as well, Pho 33 also catered to the residential set after the 9-to-5ers commuted home for the day.

Calls and emails to Pho 33's management have gone unanswered as of press time.

— HOPE NELSON

ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

“POUR.” Various times through Feb. 19 at Torpedo Factory Art Center, TAG Gallery, 105 N Union St. #311. Featuring Jennifer Brewer Stone and Whitney Staiger. Brewer will be showing mixed media pieces with resin, texture paste, various paints and gold leaf. Staiger is a jeweler and will be showcasing how to cast into cuttlefish bones, one of the oldest ways of casting metal. Visit torpedofactory.org.

“Form and Void.” Various times through Feb. 25 at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Ellyn Weiss's work is guided by a commitment to environmental sustainability and scientific truth, and her sheer delight in working with materials to make art. Using tar, wire, liquid plastic, printing on acrylic, and large-scale drawing, Weiss's creations are a reflection on survival and regeneration. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

“Winter Respite.” Through Feb. 25, Wednesday-Sunday, noon-4:30 p.m. at Green Spring Historic House, 4603 Green Spring Road. NOVA Plein Air Artists debuts its exhibit “Winter Respite.” NOVA Plein Air Artists is a group of Northern Virginia artists who regularly paint together in outdoor settings; in local public and private gardens, parks, farms, wineries, and at other local sites. This show features their recent oil paintings showcasing floral still lifes, landscapes and florals, painted en plein air. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/green-spring.

Poster Exhibit. Through Feb. 28, artwork from the winners of the 2018 Martin Luther King, Jr. Poster Contest will be on exhibit at City Hall, 301 King St. The annual contest, sponsored by the Alexandria Black History Museum and the Alexandria Society for the Preservation of Black Heritage, is for Alexandria City Public School students in grades 2-5. This year's contest theme is “Serving the People, Serving America, Serving Alexandria.” Visit alexandriava.gov/BlackHistory or call 703-746-4356.

New Project Studio. Through Feb. 28, various times at the Torpedo Factory, 105 North Union St., Studio 8. Over the course of three months, Korean painter and sculptor Suh Yongsun will transform the New Project Studio into a workshop and community space for discussions and creativity. He will explore public, social, and political issues in present-day Korea while developing a visual discourse of his time creating in Alexandria. Visit torpedofactory.org.

1939 Library Sit-In Display. Through Feb. 28, at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Beatley Central Library will host the 16-panel display on the 1939 Library Sit-In – one of America's first civil rights sit-ins that took place on Aug. 21, 1939. Stop by any library location and get a free commemorative Library Sit-In pin. February Tours of the Freedom House Museum. Visit alexlibraryva.org.

“Passages.” Through March 4, various times at Target Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 North Union St., Studio 2. Target Gallery's next exhibition, Passages, explores the lasting effects migration has on cultural identity from the perspective of immigrants and immigrant families from across the global diaspora. The juror for this exhibition was Adriana Ospina, curator of the Permanent Collection and Education



Concert by The Harmony Heritage Singers will benefit “Alice’s Kids.”

Concert to Benefit “Alice’s Kids”

The Harmony Heritage Singers, a men's barbershop chorus, will perform to benefit the charity Alice's Kids. Ron Fitzsimmons, founder of Alice's Kids, is a member of the chorus. Free and open to the public; an offering will be taken for Alice's Kids, the organization that arranges payment for small things children need but can't afford. Sunday, Feb. 18, 3 p.m. at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane. Email gronbrandt@gmail.com or call 703-765-4779.

at the Art Museum of Americas. Visit torpedofactory.org/partners/target-gallery.

Art Exhibit. Through, March 10, various times at The Gallery @ Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. The All City High School Art Exhibition hosted by the Convergence Arts Initiative returns for its third and most exciting year so far. This year's expanded event features over 90 Alexandria high school students and will welcome two additional schools to its juried exhibition; Commonwealth Academy and The Howard Gardner School. Visit www.ourconvergence.org.

THURSDAY/FEB. 8

Local Author Thursday. 5-7 p.m. at The Old Town Shop, 105 South Union St. Book signing by Paula Whitacre, “A Civil Life in an Uncivil Time: Julia Wilbur's Struggle for Purpose.” Light refreshments. Call 703-684-4682 or visit www.TheOldTownShop.com.

Artists Reception: 6-8:30 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Art Center, TAG Gallery, 105 N Union St. #311. With a demonstration by Jennifer Brewer Stone and Whitney Staiger. Brewer will be showing mixed media pieces with resin, texture paste, various paints and gold leaf. Staiger is a jeweler and will be showcasing how to cast into cuttlefish bones, one of the oldest ways of casting metal. RSVP on Facebook at <http://jennifersartgallery.cmail19.com/t/r-l-jrdhjtdt-jytjiuthly-m/>.

Artist Reception: Passages. 6-8 p.m. Various times at at Torpedo Factory Art Center, Target Gallery, 105 N Union St. The newest exhibition in Target Gallery, the contemporary exhibition space for the Torpedo Factory Art Center, explores the lasting effects migration has on cultural identity. Passages gives an intimate look in to artists' individual experiences and how they shaped who they are today. Visit torpedofactory.org.

Author Talk. 7 p.m. at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Join for an author talk with M.J. O'Brien and Joan (Trumpauer) Mulholland. They

will be discussing the book, “We Shall Not Be Moved: The Jackson Woolworth's Sit-In and the Movement It Inspired.” Visit alexlibraryva.org.

Birthnight Ball Dance Classes. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. In preparation for the Birthnight Ball on the 17th, learn 18th century English country dancing from expert dance instructors. \$12 per class or \$30 for the series. Reservations are recommended: online at alexandriava.gov/Shop or by calling 703-746-4242

FRIDAY/FEB. 9

Concert. 7:30 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, 1427 W. Braddock Road. Director of Music John McCrary will conduct the Blessed Sacrament Festival Chorus and Orchestra with soprano Michelle Kunz, alto Sally Monson, tenor Phil Pickens, bass Joshua Hong in a concert of works including Bach's Ascension Oratorio and the Litaniae de venerabili altaris sacramento, KV143. Donations are encouraged. Email jmccrary@blessedsacramentcc.org or call 703-998-6100, ext. 103.

Chamber Concert Series. 7:30 p.m. at the Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. The Symphony Orchestra of Northern Virginia offers a Friday Evening Chamber Concert Series full of music by some of the great masters, as well as lesser known gems of the chamber music world. \$15, children 5 years and under are free. To purchase tickets online visit tinyurl.com/y847t63e Tickets are also available at the door.

SATURDAY/FEB. 10

Symbolic Meaning of Flowers. 9:30-11 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Just in time for Valentine's Day, explore the sentimental Victorian era in which every flower held a symbolic meaning. Create a fashionable flower arrangement in this romantic style with the help of designer Chuck Mason. \$38 per

person, plus a \$25 supply fee. Register for both. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring/.

Dignity and Defiance – Mary Church Terrell. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Raised in privilege but degraded by persistent racial prejudice, Mary Church Terrell fought for the basic human right to be treated equally. Learn more about this fascinating woman by screening the new documentary with Robin Hamilton, an Emmy-award winning journalist, television host, moderator and writer. Call 703-746-4356.

Fancy Nancy Author Visit. 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Hooray for Books!, 1555 King St. Visitors should dress in their fanciest ensemble (that's fancy for “outfit”) as Hooray for Books! welcome back Jane O'Connor. She will present and sign her final Fancy Nancy picture book, Oodles of Kittens. To secure a spot in the signing line, stop in, call 703-548-4092, or email order@hooray4books.com to purchase a copy of Oodles of Kittens. Recommended for children ages 3 and up. Free admission. Visit www.hooray4books.com.

Seed Swap Day. 12:30-4 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, , 4603 Green Spring Road. Washington Gardener magazine is hosting the 13th annual Washington Gardener Seed Exchange at Green Spring Gardens. These seed swaps are in-person and face-to-face. Bring extra seeds and swap them with other gardeners. Participants can learn, network and prepare for next year's seed collecting. Registration is strongly recommended as space is limited. Register online at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3210698.

Locals' Alley Saturdays. 12:30-2:30 p.m. at The Old Town Shop, 105 South Union St. Meet the makers of local goods, featuring Luxe Sugar Mama bath product sampling. Call 703-684-4682 or visit www.TheOldTownShop.com.

Freedom House Museum Tours. 1-5 p.m. at Freedom House Museum,

1315 Duke St. The Freedom House Museum was once the headquarters and holding pen for the largest domestic slave trading firm in the United States, Franklin and Armfield. The building is currently owned by the Northern Virginia Urban League and together with the Office of Historic Alexandria, the public is invited to visit the museum in this historic reminder of slavery. Admission is \$5 per person. Space is limited and reservations are recommended. Tickets can be purchased online, or by cash or check at the door. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com/listings/freedom-house/4676/.

Champagne and Chocolates

Fundraiser. 4-7 p.m. at Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Lorton. Champagne, small plate hors d'oeuvres, desserts, mansion tours by costumed historical interpreters, raffle and live auction to benefit educational programs for George Mason's Gunston Hall. Music by Robinson High School String Quartet. Cocktail attire. \$50 per person. RSVP by Feb. 3 at bit.ly/champagneandchocolates2018. Call 703-550-9220.

Family Owl Outing. 5:15 to 6:45 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park is located at 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Discover the secret world of owls on an outing designed for families. Learn what makes owls excellent night predators and go on a hike to try to hear or see one of Huntley's resident owls. For family members age 6-adult. \$7 per person. Children must be accompanied by an adult registered for the program. Call 703-768-2525 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows.

Salon at the Statehouse III. 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Ashley and George Wilson will welcome 50 guests to their recently renovated, historical home, where dinner will be served. \$100. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

ASO Presents: Debussy & Sibelius. 8-10 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center, 4815 E Campus Drive. Join the ASO and Maestro José-Luis Novo for a concert with nationalist themes. The ASO presents Debussy's Petite Suite, the Overture to Verdi's epic Nabucco and Lutoslawski's MaBa Suita. Written on the heels of her acclaimed Finlandia, the concert ends with Sibelius' Symphony No. 2. \$20-\$80 adult, \$5 youth, \$10 student. Call 703-548-0885 or visit www.alexssym.org

SUNDAY/FEB. 11

Art of the Book - Paper. noon-1 p.m. at Historic Huntley, 6918 Harrison Lane. Historic Huntley is offering three classes this winter that delve into different aspects of book making. Register for any of the series. Call 703-768-2525 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/historic-huntley.

Chocolate and Wine Tasting. 1-3 p.m. at The Italian Place, 621 Wythe St. Join The Italian Place of Old Town for a complimentary wine and chocolate tasting before Valentine's day. Meet local chocolatier, Sarah Dwyer from Chouquette in Maryland who will offer a variety of chocolate samples. Free. Call 571-777-8981 or visit www.theitalianplaceofoldtown.com.

Walk with Washington Tour. 2 p.m. at the Alexandria Visitor Center (Ramsay House), 221 King St. Focuses on some of the most important Old Towne sites associated with George Washington. 60-90 min. Free. Recommended for ages 10 and older. Call 703-746-3301.

Alexandria Symphony Orchestra. 3 p.m. at George Washington Masonic

ENTERTAINMENT

Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Enjoy a world tour exploring themes of nationalism, led by Maestro José-Luis Novo. A delicate collection of French dances originally written for two pianos, the ASO presents Debussy's *Petite Suite*. Dropping by Italy for a little opera, Maestro Novo will conduct the Overture to Verdi's epic *Nabucco*. Commissioned by Polish radio and complete with a polka movement, the program continues with LutosBawski's *MaBa Suite*. Admittedly a "confession of the soul" and written on the heels of his acclaimed *Finlandia*, the concert ends with Sibelius' Symphony No. 2, proclaiming the grandeur of his homeland and the struggle for Finland's independence. \$5-\$80. Visit www.alexsym.org.

The History & Mystery of Saints, Sinners, and Presidents. 3 p.m. at Ivy Hill Cemetery, 2823 King St. Join Historians Terry Gish and Wayne Kehoe for tales of history. Come celebrate the history of Valentine's Day and President's Day at Ivy Hill — in the vault! A rare opportunity to experience a "room" in the cemetery. Not for the faint of heart. \$10/person. Not recommended for children under 10 years of age. Space is limited, call to R.S.V.P. at 301-395-9541 or email info@ihchps.org.

Anne Hills and John Flynn in Concert. 7 p.m. at the George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Sponsored by Focus Music. Tickets are \$18 in advance at www.focusmusic.org/buy-tickets and for members, \$20 at the door.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 14

Experience Ethiopian Dance. 10:30 a.m. at Beatley Central Library, 5005

Duke St. Learn Iskista, the "shoulder dance," and see demonstrations of Oromigna, Tigrigna, Wolitigna and Guragigna and more with an authentic Ethiopian Dance Master. Visit alexlibraryva.org.

Valentine's Day Coffee. 10-11:30 a.m. at Del Ray Cafe, 205 E. Howell Ave. Drop in to enjoy a cup of coffee and meet At Home in Alexandria members and staff to learn about the social activities, the practical services, and the many benefits of AHA membership. Free. Email aha@athomeinalexandria.org, call 703-231-0824 or visit www.athomeinalexandria.org.

Poetry and Tea. 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. The Historic House at Green Spring will host a Valentine's Tea. Afternoon tea will be accompanied by a reading of ancient and modern love poems that speak to everyone. Join in a prize drawing and take home a favor bag. \$32 per person for the program and tea. To make reservations, call Historic Green Spring at 703-941-7987. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring/.

DIY Sustainable Yard Series. 8:30 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Learn how to retain and absorb storm water using the right landscaping techniques and plant choices. Free. Advance registration requested at mgnv.org. Questions, telephone 703-228-6414 or email mgarlalex@gmail.com.

THURSDAY/FEB. 15

Birthnight Ball Dance Classes. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. In preparation for the Birthnight Ball on the 17th, learn 18th century English



By E. E. McCollum

Photography Exhibit

An exhibition of new photographs by E. E. McCollum. McCollum's work explores the emotional currents that exist in relationships – connection, conflict, isolation, comfort. Made in collaboration with a couple who are partners in life as well as in modeling and art-making, McCollum's black and white images explore the universal power of relationships. Exhibit runs Feb. 13-March 25, various hours, at Multiple Exposures Gallery, The Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Studio 312. Visit www.multipleexposuresgallery.com/.

country dancing from expert dance instructors. \$12 per class or \$30 for the series. Reservations are recommended: online at alexandriava.gov/Shop or by calling 703-746-4242

FEB. 15-MARCH 3

U-Street the musical. Various times

at the Richard Kauffman Auditorium (Lee Center), 1108 Jefferson St. U-Street, the musical is an exploration of homelessness in America brought to life with 12 musical numbers, and a 30-member cast from around the D.C. metro area. The production is also a fundraiser to support programs for low-income youth in Alexandria. \$20. Call 703-640-4980 or visit

www.momentumcinc.org.

FRIDAY/FEB. 16

Opening Reception. 6-9 p.m. at Principle Gallery 208 King St. Principle Gallery presents Bodies of Work: A Figurative Invitational. Thirteen artists from around the world have been invited to participate in this selective exhibition, and from found object sculptures to traditional figure studies to Magical Realism oil paintings, the show offers a variety of work. Free and open to the public. Visit www.principlegallery.com.

SATURDAY/FEB. 17

Grio StoryMan. 9-11 a.m. at Bethlehem Baptist Church, Multipurpose Room, 7836 Fordson Road. Troop 1906 presents Grio StoryMan: Baba Jaml Koram. As part of Black History observance, gather around Baba Jaml Koram unfolds children's tales filled with the warmth of the African sun. Each conveys a lesson: of standing up for what's right, caring for the earth and its animals, and believing in the good in everyone. Visit www.bethlehemofalexandria.org.

Puppet Shows. 10 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. at the Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. The National Capital Puppetry Guild in collaboration with the Office of the Arts will present Beech Tree Puppets at two family-friendly puppet shows. Reservations per show are \$5 for person, including children. Children must be accompanied by at least one adult. To purchase tickets online, visit www.alexandriava.gov/webtrac, select activity number 355211.02 (10 a.m.) or 355211.03 (11:15 a.m.).



Community Lodgings
invites you to our

30 Year Anniversary
Pearl Gala

Saturday, February 17, 2018
6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Belle Haven Country Club
6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, VA 22307

Join us as we celebrate 30 years of lifting families from homelessness and instability to independence and self-sufficiency during an evening of:

Dinner and Dancing • Live and Silent Auction
Special Awards Presentation • Open Wine and Beer Bar

And featuring live entertainment by **The Intruders**

Register online at <http://geni.us/gala>, call (703) 549-4407 or email gala@community-lodgings.org

Another  Community Partner

THE LOCAL IMPACT OF A NATIONAL CRISIS,
HOW ALEXANDRIA IS RESPONDING
& WHAT WE CAN DO TOGETHER





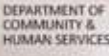


A Community Conversation

**HEROIN & OTHER
OPIOIDS**

FEBRUARY 28, 2018 | 7 P.M. - 9 P.M.
MINNIE HOWARD CAMPUS OF T.C. WILLIAMS | AUDITORIUM
3801 W. BRADDOCK RD. | ALEXANDRIA

**FROM OLD TOWN TO DEL RAY TO THE WEST END,
THE CONSEQUENCES OF OPIOID MISUSE AND ADDICTION
ARE BEING FELT THROUGHOUT OUR CITY.**

The U.S. is experiencing a nation-wide crisis as a result of the dramatic increase in the misuse of opioids, which include pain-relieving prescription drugs like oxycodone, hydrocodone, morphine and fentanyl as well as illegal opioids like heroin. This crisis is a community health emergency in the City of Alexandria, affecting all ages, cultural backgrounds, income levels and neighborhoods.

For more info, contact noraine.buttar@alexandriava.gov or 703.746.3436. The City of Alexandria is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended. To request a reasonable accommodation or an alternative format, email maurice.tomdoo@alexandriava.gov or call 571.384.5244, Virginia Relay 711.

ENTERTAINMENT

Make Room: Charlie's on the Avenue

BY HOPE NELSON

When it comes to new restaurants on the block, Del Ray diners need to know only one thing: Charlie is coming.

The erstwhile Fireflies restaurant space at the corner of Mount Vernon and Nelson avenues won't be quiet for long. Taking its place — and changing its face — will be Charlie's on the Avenue, a neighborhood sports pub from the owners of the nearby Live Oak Restaurant.

"I hate to say the words 'sports bar' because I think there's a bad stigma that goes with that," lamented co-owner Jeremy Barber. But his goal for Charlie's is to be "one of those places you can go into and always feel at home. ... We want to create a family atmosphere and environment."

And unlike Barber's original restaurant, Live Oak, Charlie's menu will contour to fit the new theme.

"Charlie's is not a Southern restaurant. ... We may have some of our (Live Oak) staples that people really enjoy — fried chicken, pulled pork, things like that — but it's a different style," he said.

To that end, expect the likes of Cuban sandwiches, chicken parmesan subs, spaghetti and meatballs, as well as smoked baked and fried chicken wings and

baby-back ribs. And Barber's team is just getting warmed up.

Charlie's will be open seven days a week for lunch and dinner to start; once the restaurant gets rolling, Barber and team will see about breakfast or brunch offerings. And if you're worried about too much pub fare for lunch, rest easy; Charlie's will offer up some lighter options such as build-your-own salads and sandwiches.

Visitors to the now-defunct Fireflies will see some changes to the space once Charlie's opens. The kitchen will remain largely intact — save for a few facelifts with the new team's own equipment — but the dining room and patio will enjoy some changes. Charlie's will sport a larger bar, a new dining room décor and a renovated patio space, Barber said.

And — perhaps most pressing — who, precisely, is Charlie?

"It's named after many people, but most importantly it's named after my grandfather. My grandfather was the best guy I've ever known," Barber said, so much so that one of his daughters is named after him too.

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

CALENDAR

Locals' Alley Saturdays. 12:30-2:30 p.m. at The Old Town Shop, 105 South Union St. Meet the makers of local goods, featuring Crum's Hot Sauce tasting. Call 703-684-4682 or visit www.TheOldTownShop.com.

Freedom House Museum Tours. 1-5 p.m. at Freedom House Museum, 1315 Duke St. The Freedom House Museum was once the headquarters and holding pen for the largest domestic slave trading firm in the United States, Franklin and Armfield. The building is currently owned by the Northern Virginia Urban League and together with the Office of Historic Alexandria, the public is invited to visit the museum in this historic reminder of slavery. Admission is \$5 per person. Space is limited and reservations are recommended. Tickets can be purchased online, or by cash or check at the door. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com/listings/freedom-house/4676/.

Community "Ceili" Dance. 7-9 p.m. at Del Ray United Methodist Church, Lunceford Hall, 100 E. Windsor Ave. Alexandria's own Irish Breakfast Band is hosting a Community "Ceili" dance designed for first-timers and beginners who would like to have some fun learning traditional Irish social dancing. A ceili (pronounced KAY-lee) is similar to an American square dance, with live music provided by friends and neighbors and fun had by all. Free. Call 571-379-3927 or visit www.Irishbreakfastband.com.

SUNDAY/FEB. 18

Alexandria Wedding Showcase. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at The Westin Alexandria 400 Courthouse Square. 50+ exhibitors, fashion show, brides across america wedding dress giveaway. Call 703-652-5367 or visit alxweddingshowcase.com/.

Walk with Washington Tour. 2 p.m. at the Alexandria Visitor Center (Ramsay House), 221 King St. Focuses on some of the most important Old Towne sites associated with George Washington. 60-90 min. Free. Recommended for ages 10 and older. Call 703-746-3301.

Fancy Nancy Author Visit

Visitors should dress in their fanciest ensemble (that's fancy for "outfit") as Hooray for Books! welcome back Jane O'Connor. She will present and sign her final Fancy Nancy picture book, *Oodles of Kittens*. To secure a spot in the signing line, stop in, call 703-548-4092, or email order@hooray4books.com to purchase a copy of *Oodles of Kittens*. Recommended for children ages 3 and up. Saturday, Feb. 10 at 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Hooray for Books!, 1555 King St. Free admission. Visit www.hooray4books.com.



Jane O'Connor

Benefit Concert. 3 p.m. at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane. The Harmony Heritage Singers, a men's barbershop chorus, will perform to benefit the charity Alice's Kids. Ron Fitzsimmons, founder of Alice's Kids, is a member of the chorus. Free and open to the public; an offering will be taken for Alice's Kids, the organization that arranges payment for small things children need but can't afford. Email gronbrandt@gmail.com or call 703-765-4779.

Concert. 3-5 p.m. at George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. The Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic introduces three works by American Composers including William Grant Still's *Symphony #4*, Mark Edwards Wilson's *Piano Concerto* with acclaimed pianist Thomas Pandolfi, plus this season's WMPA Composition Competition Winner, Zhou Tian's *Broken Ink*. \$20, children are free. Visit www.wmpamusic.org/.


TUESDAY/FEB. 20

Shopping Stories. 7-8 p.m. at Cameron Station Clubhouse, 200 Cameron Station Blvd. AAUW Alexandria Branch presents

"Shopping Stories: Learning about 18th-Century Women's Lives through Ledgers." How do store ledgers show us how 18th century women living in Alexandria were able to be independent and live their daily lives separate from men? Esther White, PH.D., of History Revealed, Inc., will answer those questions and more. Open to all community members. Email GailLaneAAUWAlex@gmail.com. **Inventors of Color.** 7 p.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. This free program from the National Park Service describes crucial inventions developed by enslaved people and others which helped cultivate the United States. From a slave named Ned, who invented the cotton scraper in 1858 through the 20th century. Visit alexlibraryva.org.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 21

Oney Judge Historical Reenactment. 1:30 p.m. at Duncan Branch Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Sheila Arnold Jones, a local storyteller and historical character interpreter, will be performing as Oney Judge, a slave owned by Martha Washington who escaped to the North. This program is for ages 6+. Visit alexlibraryva.org.



2017-2018 SEASON!

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11 AT 3PM

JOSÉ-LUIS NOVO, GUEST CONDUCTOR

**ADULT: \$20-\$80
STUDENT: \$10
YOUTH: \$5**

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PHOTO BY MICHAEL ADAMS

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Winter Specials

Shad Roe season has begun!

- Split Pea Soup with Smoked Sausage
- Asparagus with Fresh Smoked Trout
- Venison Medallions
- Beef Wellington
- Rack of Lamb
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- Cassoulet
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Since 1904, The Royal has been Old Town's Favorite neighborhood restaurant. Award-winning menu includes prime rib, fresh seafood, roast chicken best burgers hand-carved roast turkey and salad bar.

Serving Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner

Full Buffet with
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ENTERTAINMENT

Author Talk. 3:30 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Ruthi Postow Birch discusses her memoir, "How to Build a Piano Bench: Lessons for Success from a Red-Dirt Road in Alabama," which shares her humorous and heart-warming story about the life lessons she learned and how she applied that knowledge to build a successful business. Visit alexlibraryva.org.

Four Hundred Years of American Chairs 7 p.m. at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Oscar Fitzgerald gives an overview that will show how American chair styles evolved over time from the 17th century to the present. This will be followed by a signing of American Furniture. Visit alexlibraryva.org.

THURSDAY/FEB. 22

Local Author Thursday. 5-7 p.m. at The Old Town Shop, 105 South Union St. Book signing by John R. Maass, "George Washington's Virginia." Light refreshments. Call 703-684-4682 or visit www.TheOldTownShop.com.

Vegetable Gardening. 7-8:30 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Vegetable Gardening Part 2: Planning and Preparation for the beginning gardener. Learn easy-to-implement practices for selecting the best site and evaluating and improving soil, including which plants grow best in this area. Free. Advance registration requested at mgnv.org. Questions, telephone 703-228-6414 or emailmgaralex@gmail.com.

Air Force Band Concert. 8 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall 4915 East Campus Drive. Special appearance by percussionist Michael Burritt. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/.

FRIDAY/FEB. 23

"The Audience." 7 p.m. at the Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. The Commonwealth Republican Women's Club (CRWC) presents "The Audience," as the club's fundraiser for local candidates. For 60 years, from 1952 on, every Tuesday afternoon, Queen Elizabeth II met in Buckingham Palace in a private audience with her prime ministers. What did they discuss? How candid were they? Before the performance, from 7-8 p.m. attendees will be treated to a buffet with champagne. \$35. Visit www.alexandriacrwc.org/.

Artists Reception. 7-9 p.m. at The Gallery @ Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. The All City High School Art Exhibition hosted by the Convergence Arts Initiative returns for its third and most exciting year so far. This year's expanded event features over 90 Alexandria high school students and will welcome two additional schools to its juried exhibition; Commonwealth Academy and The Howard Gardner School. Visit www.ourconvergence.org.

SATURDAY/FEB. 24

"Kepi to Cartridge Box." 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum, 4301 W. Braddock Road. Learn about the clothing and equipment used by Union soldiers during the Civil War in "Kepi to Cartridge Box: Outfitting Billy Yank." Free. Call 703-746-4848 or visit www.fortward.org.

Inventors of Color. 11 a.m. at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. This free program from the National Park Service describes crucial inventions developed by enslaved people and others which helped cultivate the United States. From a slave named Ned, who invented the cotton scraper in 1858 through the 20th century. Visit alexlibraryva.org.

Keeping Heritage Alive: African



John Flynn



Anne Hills

In Concert

Sponsored by Focus Music Anne Hills and John Flynn are in concert Sunday, Feb. 11, 7 p.m. at the George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Tickets are \$18 in advance at www.focusmusic.org/buy-tickets and for members, \$20 at the door.

Story Telling. 11 a.m. at Duncan Branch Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Sheila Arnold Jones, a local storyteller, will be a program featuring stories and songs written, told, or passed down through the African-American culture. For adults and kids of all ages. Visit alexlibraryva.org.

Brides for Haiti. 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Brides For Haiti, a fundraising effort of St Mary's Church, will host a discount bridal sale event with hundreds of wedding dresses. Changing space is limited during the event. Pre-register for the event on the Brides for Haiti Facebook page or by emailing Brides4Haiti@gmail.com.

Freedom House Museum Tours. 1-

George Washington's Birthday 2018

Celebrate George Washington's Birthday at His Home, Mount Vernon. Four days of events, with free admission on Monday, Feb. 19 and Thursday, Feb. 22. Visit www.mountvernon.org/birthday or call 703-780-2000. Saturday-Sunday/Feb. 17-18 (9 a.m.-4 p.m.)

George Washington's Favorite Breakfast - 9 a.m.-noon - Join "General Washington" for a sample of hoecakes prepared by Mount Vernon staff (while supplies last).

Mingle with Costumed Characters from George Washington's World - 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

18th-century Dancing Demonstration with costumed characters.

Wreathlaying Ceremonies at the tomb of George Washington throughout the day.

Monday/Feb.19 (9 a.m.-5 p.m.) Free admission.

Visit George Washington's home and burial site. The traditional wreathlaying ceremony at Washington's Tomb takes place at 10 a.m. followed by Mount Vernon's official celebration on the east lawn including a keynote speaker and 21-gun salute to the first president. Special military demonstrations and patriotic music will take place on the Bowling Green at 11:15 a.m. "General Washington" is on the grounds to greet visitors and receive birthday wishes all day.

Special musical tribute - 1 p.m.-1:30 p.m.

Share selected stories with "George Washington" - 2 p.m.

Wreathlaying at the tomb of George Washington - 3 p.m.

Visit the Washington Library for the rare opportunity to tour the reading room and examine replica documents.

Thursday/Feb. 22 (9 a.m.-4 p.m.) Free admission

George Washington's 286th Birthday - Visit Mount Vernon on George Washington's actual birthday for wreathlaying ceremonies throughout the day. Enjoy a patriotic concert and observe a moving ceremony honoring new citizens. Join "General Washington" for a slice of birthday cake (while supplies last).

Be Washington: It's Your Turn to Lead - Mount Vernon has opened a new first-person interactive experience titled Be Washington: It's Your Turn to Lead in its Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center.

New Objects on View in the Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center. A new installation will highlight objects related to one of the Be Washington's scenarios: the Newburgh conspiracy.

New Revolutionary War 4-D Theater - The new 17-minute film focuses on Washington's leadership and the pivotal campaigns that secured American independence. This experience is included in admission.

The City of Alexandria celebrates George Washington's Birthday with more than a dozen events throughout February. Visit www.washingtonbirthday.net or call 703-829-6640.

George Washington Birthday Parade - Feb. 19, 1-3 p.m., Old Town Alexandria.

Cherry Challenge - Jan. 28-Feb. 11, at various restaurants throughout Alexandria. **Walking with Washington Tours** - Sundays in February 2018, 2 p.m. at the Alexandria Visitor Center, 221 King St.

Washington's Birthday Celebration - Feb. 17-19, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and Feb. 22, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., at George Washington's Mount Vernon. Visit www.mountvernon.org/birthday or call 703-780-2000.

George Washington's Birthnight Banquet & Ball - Saturday, Feb. 17, 5:30-11 p.m. (9 p.m. if attending the ball only), at Gadsby's Tavern Museum. Reservations required. Visit Alexandria.gov/Shop or call 703-746-4242.

Historic Alexandria Open Houses - Feb. 19, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., various museums throughout Old Town Alexandria. In honor of George Washington's birthday, admission is free at these historic Alexandria sites: Friendship Firehouse Museum, Gadsby's Tavern Museum, Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum and The Lyceum: Alexandria's History Museum.

Alexandria Chamber of Commerce

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP FORUM

Friday, March 9, 2018
8:00am-11:00am

The Westin Alexandria
400 Courthouse Square
Alexandria, VA 22314

Get tickets at www.alexchamber.com

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News



PHOTOS BY CERI BALDWIN

New Traffic Lights

Jim Ploss, digging, works for the R.E. Lee Electric Company, a contractor for the City of Alexandria. On Jan. 25, the company was preparing to install new traffic lights at the corner of South Columbus Street and Wilkes Street intersection.



The South Columbus Street sign comes down Jan. 31 for the new traffic lights replacement.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 18

Street Metro. Church of the Resurrection, will offer Ashes to Go at the bus stops in front of The Graham at Southern Towers on Seminary Road from 6:30-7:30 a.m. Visit Ashestogo.org.

The Business Leaders Circle. 7:30 a.m. at The Campagna Center, 418 S. Washington St. The Business Leaders Circle presents Jim VandeHei, co-founder and CEO of Axios, the new media company he launched with

Mike Allen and Roy Schwartz. \$25 per person. Reserve early, as space is limited. Visit www.campagnacenter.org/events/business-leaders-circle or call 703-549-0111.

Grant Application Deadline. The Community Investment Funds are the signature grant cycle managed by the Community Foundation in which funds are invested in organizations serving the Northern Virginia community. This year funding will be provided in four areas of focus: Child

and Youth Development, Education, Poverty Relief, and Aging. Visit www.cfnova.org/for-grant-seekers/community-investment-funds.

Summer Camp Guide Available.

Registration for 2018 summer camps offered by the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities will begin at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 14 for Alexandria residents and on Friday, Feb. 16 for nonresidents. Register online at www.alexandriava.gov/webtrac or in-person at the Lee Center, 1108

Jefferson St. Summer Camps Guide is available online at www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation.

THURSDAY/FEB. 15

Grant Application Webinar. 11 a.m. Registration is required. Login information will be sent upon registration. The City of Alexandria's Office of the Arts will be accepting applications for Arts Program Grant. The Office of the Arts will conduct a series of grant workshops and

webinars to assist interested applicants. New applicants or arts organizations who have not applied in the past two years are required to attend. Due to changes in the granting process, all applicants are urged to attend these free workshops and webinars. Online application forms, instructions, and frequently asked questions for all grant programs will be available online at www.alexandriava.gov/Arts on Jan. 2.

Services of Alexandria February 21st



DASH invites you to view the **Electric Bus of the Future...**




Time:
Saturday, February 10th at 8:00 A.M. - Noon

Location:
City Hall Market Square
301 King Street, Alexandria VA

Reduced maintenance and fuel costs.

Motion reduction technology providing a smoother ride.

Range exceeding 200 miles on a single charge on newer models.

Special thanks to:
Alexandria Gazette Packet

Reduction of up to 160 tons of greenhouse gas per year.

Quiet electric motor provides a greater riding experience.

Industry-leading passenger carrying capacity.

News



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

'Night of Stars'

The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities – Recreation Services Division held its annual “Night of Stars” Performing Arts Festival on Jan. 26 at T.C. Williams High School before a crowd of more than 500 people. More than 150 youth from the Charles Barrett, Charles Houston, Chick Armstrong, John Adams, MacArthur, Mt. Vernon, Nannie J. Lee, Patrick Henry and William Ramsay Recreation Centers performed. The theme for this year was “You and I Together ... Can Change the World.” Performances ranged from solo and group singing, dance, spoken word that reflected how working together people can change the world. The master of ceremonies was Jason Ellis of the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority.

BUSINESS NOTES

Jennifer L. Ferrara has been named vice president and business banking relationship manager at **M&T Bank**. Ferrara is responsible for providing traditional financial services and customized product solutions to business clients in the Alexandria market.



Ferrara brings a M&T nearly 30 years of banking experience. Most recently, she served as vice president and business deposit officer for BB&T Bank, where she was responsible for new business development and client portfolio management for small, mid and corporate size businesses, nonprofit organizations and political organizations.

Ferrara currently serves on the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. She also serves as the 2018 development chair for the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce Executive Committee, and on the Volunteer Alexandria Advisory Board of Directors.

Ferrara holds a B.A from Marymount University, and graduated with honors from the Virginia Bankers School of Bank Management in 2004.

TC Latin Club Shares Roman Traditions

This winter, TC Latin Club held a Saturnalia-themed celebration that reached out to the middle school students currently studying Latin.

Saturnalia is an ancient Roman festival held in the winter time to honor Saturn. Saturn is the Roman god of the harvest, equivalent of the Greek titan Cronus, but much less evil and murderous. Saturnalia was a time of revelry in the dark cold winters, which at that time generally meant hard times and death. One of the notable traditions of Saturnalia was the temporary freedom of all slaves. During the week-long celebration of Saturnalia, everyone wore pillius, or caps of freedom, and one slave was appointed the Prince of Mischief and all slaves got to play pranks on their masters.

In TC Latin Club’s celebration of Saturnalia the goal was not to make mischief, but instead to include the younger grades and ensure an enthusi-

astic next generation of Latin learners. The activities included cookie decorating, a Latin-themed scavenger hunt, and some Roman-related board games and puzzles. To imitate the traditions of Saturnalia, Latin Club decorated a live holly tree and made pillius.

Holiday traditions such as gift giving and tree decorating can be connected back to pagan traditions from Saturnalia.

All these facts were packed into fun activities in to order appeal to the younger crowd that was present. “There are many reasons why it is important to include the middle schools,” said Julie Cizek, vice president of TC Latin Club. She believes that this activity helps get students interested in being more active in the classics community, which gives them more academic opportunities in college and high school.



To imitate the traditions of Saturnalia, TC Latin Club decorated a live holly tree.

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

Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE VOLUNTARY REMEDIATION PROGRAM (VRP)

Property: Gables Old Town North
525 Montgomery Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP) Site No: 00686

VRP Applicant: CG First Street LP

In accordance with the Virginia Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP) public participation requirements of 9 VAC 20-160-120, the general public is hereby notified that CG First Street LP has enrolled the property located at 525 Montgomery Street, City of Alexandria, VA 22314 (Former Giant Food Store and VABC Store) in the VRP and is requesting a Certification of Satisfactory Completion of Remediation from Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ). The property consists of two distinct parcels of land, totaling approximately 87,000 square feet of land. The documented contamination at the subject property primarily includes low concentrations of total petroleum hydrocarbons-diesel range organics (TPH-DRO), metals - primarily arsenic and lead, and semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs) that contained within fill materials. In accordance with the VRP requirements, site characterization and human health risk assessments were performed, and a remedial action plan (RAP) was prepared and approved by VDEQ. A series of voluntary remedial activities, as outlined in the RAP, have been completed at the site and included excavation across the entire footprint of the property to approximate depth of 25 feet below grade, removal, and proper off-site disposal of impacted soils. Institutional control in the form of groundwater use restriction will be placed on the property. These measures have ensured long term protectiveness to occupants of the subject property and the public. For more information on this matter, you may contact the person listed below by telephone, email or FAX. Any comments can be submitted in writing to Apex Companies, LLC by mail, email or fax. Comments will be accepted for 30 days following the publication date of this notice.

Mr. Prem Neupane
Apex Companies, LLC
15850 Crabbs Branch Way, Suite 200
Rockville, MD 20855
Telephone: (301) 417-0200
Fax No: (301) 975-0169
Email: pneupane@apexcos.com

Legals

Obituary



Mr. Robert H. Talford, 70 (Retired Security Driver for E.P.A.) died Jan. 29, 2018 in Rock Hill, SC. His funeral will be 1pm Feb. 4, 2018 at Mt. Do-Well Baptist Church in McConnells, SC. Burial will follow at Barber Memorial Cemetery in Rock Hill, SC. He is survived by four children; Troy Talford (Renee), Jelani (Takia), Jasime Talford and Jose (Kendra), seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Legals



Public Hearing will be held by the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, City of Alexandria, Virginia, on Saturday, February 24, 2018 at 9:30 a.m., or as soon as may be heard on the hereinafter described items.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Sections 8-1-111 (DEFINITIONS), 8-1-113 (RENTAL INSPECTION DISTRICTS ESTABLISHED), and 8-1-12- (RIGHT OF ENTRY) of Article G-1 (RESIDENTIAL RENTAL INSPECTION DISTRICTS), of Title 8 (BUILDING CODE REGULATIONS) of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended.

The proposed City Code amendment clarifies that the areas of the City that are subject to the City's Residential Rental Inspection Program are the year 200 Alexandria census tracts 1.01, 1.03, 1.04, 1.05, 3.01, 3.02, 3.03, 4.01, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.02, 12.02, 12.03, 12.04, 13.00, 14.00, 16.00, 18.01, 18.02, and 20.01. This clarification is needed because the City's census tract numbers have changed since time of the program's creation and City Code Section 8-1-113 does not specify which census year program, nor is the intent to make any additional structures subject to the program. Additionally, this proposed City Code amendment makes a few non-substantive/stylistic changes to City Code Sections 8-1-111 and 8-1-120.

THE PUBLIC IS ADVISED THAT AMENDMENTS OR ADDITIONS MAY BE MADE TO PROPOSED ORDINANCES WITHOUT FURTHER PUBLICATION. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT PERSONS INTERESTED IN ANY OF THESE ORDINANCES OBTAIN FREE FULL-TEXT COPIES FROM THE CITY CLERK AT CITY HALL. If the mayor finds and declares that weather or other conditions are such that it is hazardous for members to attend the meeting, this meeting will be continued to the following Saturday January 20, 2018. GLORIA SITTON, CMC, CITY CLERK

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**THE CONNECTION
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"Chronic Ken"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Nearly nine years into a "13 month to two-year" prognosis, I can hardly believe my good fortune. And though I rarely look a gift-oncologist in the stethoscope, I am happy nonetheless to count my blessings as I continue to look ahead rather than stress behind, and try not think about what was said and when.

At the initial "Team Lourie" meeting with my oncologist, I was told that there was no cure for lung cancer. I could be treated though. As to whether I might live beyond two years, I remember my oncologist responding to our desperate query by saying: "Could you be the one? Sure." Reassuring it wasn't, but hopeful? It sort of was.

As the years have passed and research into lung cancer has grown, an interim step to a cure has evolved: treating lung cancer as a chronic (has opposed to acute/dire) disease, similar to diabetes, as an example. Not as yet curable, but manageable over a longer period of time. A disease with which, I'm fond of saying, one can live. Live beyond the applicable word because, I have to tell you, at the beginning of my treatment, based on what my oncologist had described, living was a long way from what he was anticipating my outcome would be. Nevertheless, I began treatment the following week and the rest is history you regular readers have been privy to since June of '09 when I first published a "cancer" column (as I call them).

Feb. 20, 2018 will be nine years since my internal medicine office called me at work with the results of my previous week's biopsy. He said the tumor was malignant. I remember asking him what that meant. (Duh!). He said he'd rather let the oncologist answer any questions and referred me to the doctor, the same doctor with whom I've been a patient all these years. Sure enough, a week later we heard the news: non-small cell lung cancer, stage IV. And I've been up to my whistles in real or imagined anxiety ever since.

And I'm still present and accounted for as are more and more of us previously-characterized-as-terminal, non-small cell lung cancer "diagnosees." We are not just patients any more. We are survivors, surviving longer than ever before. We are not cured but neither are we dying. Our treatments are modified when the results warrant it and life continues to go on. As much as a cure would be, and continues to be, the goal, life continues, relatively normally, for many of us. It's unlikely however, that we'll ever get out from underneath the weight of our cancer diagnosis. Rather than dying from it though, we're now able to live with it months/years longer than many patients previously diagnosed within the disease.

So what's the next step? Maybe a bigger, bouncier, longer step than before, but more than likely, more of the same, moving forward, one step at a time. To one whose present was hardly a given nine years ago and whose future seemed like a taken-away, being able now to actually live in the present without fearing/forfeiting the future is the opposite scenario many of us lung cancer patients, especially those of us staged as IV, ever imagined. Day by day was the best we could muster.

Now we're mustering months and years and living longer more fulfilling lives. We're not victims anymore nor are we victimized by our circumstances. We're advocating and being advocated for. We don't exactly have lung cancer on the run, but we may have it on the trot. I don't know if I'll live to see a cure but I have lived long enough to have given myself a nickname, one which I'm most proud to have earned.

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

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 16

ments. Since Alexandria is the densest city in Virginia (10,266 residents per square mile), you would think that the size and scope of every new development would be assessed as to the cumulative impact on this density. However, this does not appear to be the case, since another massive development on the waterfront is being proposed, specifically on the Strand.

The Planning Commission will be considering a plan for 18 new residential units and ground floor retail (including two new restaurants) at 205 and 211 Strand, which is the vacant parking lot space between Chadwicks restaurant and the Indigo hotel on the Strand.

First of all, there really isn't a dying need for more restaurants here, since there are almost 200 restaurants in the Old and Historic District alone. Where is the requirement for more eating establishments coming from?

Next, this particular area of the Strand is already saturated with cars during peak dining times where previous nearby developments were able to reduce parking requirements. In addition, the current 50 parking spaces in the city's lot on the Strand and those available on the street are occupied most of the time by patrons of the Indigo, Chadwicks, and from the overflow from the Old Dominion Boat Club's parking lot.

The original proposal for this development did not include any restaurants, however the city forced them on the developer. Hopefully, this development will not be approved by the City Council with these two new restaurants included.

Townsend A. "Van" Van Fleet
Alexandria

SCHOOL NOTES

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

Luanne Guthrie, of Alexandria, was named to the Champlain College (Burlington, Vt.) president's list for the fall 2017 semester.

Emma G. Daw, a sophomore majoring in health and exercise science, from Alexandria, was named to the Bridgewater College (Va.) dean's list for fall 2017.

John P. Howerton, a senior majoring in biochemistry, from Alexandria, from Alexandria, was named to the Bridgewater College (Va.) dean's list for fall 2017.

Ada Lazo, a sophomore majoring in sociology, from Alexandria, from Alexandria, was named to the Bridgewater College (Va.) dean's list for fall 2017.

Justin Rogers, a sophomore majoring in communication, technology and culture, from Alexandria, was named to the Bridgewater College (Va.) dean's list for fall 2017.

Kathryn Taylor, of Alexandria, has been named to the chancellor's list at Troy University (Troy, Ala.) for the fall semester/term 2 of the 2017/2018 academic year.

Leah Kirk, of Alexandria, graduated from Carson-Newman University (Jefferson City, Tenn.) with Bachelor of Science in interdisciplinary studies.

2

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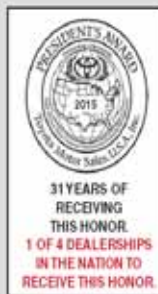
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