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# Alexandria Gazette Packet

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APRIL 5, 2018

25 CENTS



Alexandria Sheriff's Office Master Deputy Norman Thompson, third from left, poses for a photo with family and friends after receiving the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award March 14 from American Legion Post 24 in Old Town. Joining Thompson are Post 24 Commander Doug Gurka, left, and Sheriff Dana Lawhorne, right.

## Thompson Named Officer of Year

### Honored by Post 24.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria Sheriff's Office Master Deputy Norman Thompson was honored as the 2017 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year March 14 by the American Legion Post 24 in Old Town. A 15-year veteran of the ASO, Thompson was recognized for his service to the community as part of the Legion's Homeland Se-



World War II veteran Col. Kim Ching, left, congratulates Master Deputy Norman Thompson on being recognized as the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.

curity Support Program.

"We have always held our law enforcement comrades in the highest regard," said Post 24 Commander Doug Gurka. "The Alexandria Sheriff's Office in particular has consistently exceeded the highest professional standards."

As part of the ceremony, Sheriff Dana Lawhorne spoke of Thompson's work ethic and many contributions to the ASO, including his eight years with the Sheriff's Emergency Response Team and as a team leader for the Sheriff's Honor Guard. Lawhorne then surprised everyone in attendance by announcing Thompson's promotion to sergeant.

"I was going to announce the promotion tomorrow morning," Lawhorne said. "But with so many of Deputy Thompson's family and friends here tonight, I thought it would be nice if he was able to share this moment with them."

Thompson's wife Teri, son Trey and daughter Ayla were in attendance at the ceremony. Joining them were Thompson's parents, Elaine and Melvin Marshall, sister, Natalie Thompson, and Pastor Tony Ares with his wife Kim and children Courtney and Nadia.

Prior to joining the ASO, Thompson served four years in the U.S. Marine Corps and eight years as a volunteer firefighter for the Dumfries/Triangle and Montclair stations.

"This is a real honor," Thompson said. "I am humbled by this award and very grateful to have the support of my wife, family and friends, not just tonight but every day."

## Old Town, New Art

### Commission approves developer contributions for Arts District.

BY VERNON MILES  
GAZETTE PACKET

There was a reason your parents probably told you not to study those arts classes in college and focus on getting a practical degree. Arts, beloved as they are, can be a financially unrewarding passion. So as Alexandria's city government works to promote local arts, it faces a challenge in getting it funded.

The city's answer is to turn to a solution that's had some success with affordable housing in Alexandria: developer contributions. To combat the rapidly declining market-affordable housing market, Alexandria implemented a system where developers could trade bonus density on projects in

exchange for affordable housing space in their project or a contribution to the affordable housing fund. On April 3, the Planning Commission approved a plan to implement a similar system for a new Old Town North Arts and Cultural District.

Developers can secure over 30 percent more density over the city's usual maximum Floor Area Ratio in exchange for hosting an arts or cultural anchor. These anchors are defined as a destination or venue where arts or cultural works are taught, created, and made available to the public by various means including presenting live performances of theater, dance, music, or other imaginative work and/or producing or exhibiting physical works created by or

SEE ARTS DISTRICT, PAGE 5

## Arrest Follows Fatal Fight

The Alexandria Police Department is investigating a homicide that occurred on Sunday, March 25, in the 2200 block of N. Beauregard Street.

At approximately 6:24 p.m., police responded to a fight between relatives. Upon arriving, officers located an unconscious man and he was transported to an area hospital. Brian Cruz-Segovia, 23, a city resident, was arrested the day of the assault and charged with malicious wounding.

The victim, Nelson Cruz, 28, also

a city resident, died from his injuries at the hospital on March 28. The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner determined the manner of death to be homicide.

Additional charges may be pending and will be determined after consultation with the Alexandria Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney. Anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact Detective William Oakley at 703-746-6606. This is the first homicide in Alexandria this year.

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Deputy Chief Dave Huchler, right, is congratulated on his retirement from the Alexandria Police Department by former Police Chief Earl Cook March 27 at Landini Brothers Restaurant.



PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET  
Former APD Deputy Chief Eddie Reyes with Dave Huchler.



Dave Huchler, right, with his wife Jackie and son Aiden, 11, at his APD retirement party.

# Huchler Retires from Alexandria Police Department

## He's been named MWAA Chief of Police.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

Deputy Chief Dave Huchler, who briefly served as acting Chief of Police for the Alexandria Police Department, was honored at a reception March 27 at Landini Brothers Restaurant marking his retirement from the APD and celebrating his hiring as the new Chief of Police of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority.

"Your service has been second to none," said Mayor Allison Silberberg in thanking Huchler for his 26 years of service to the community. "Alexandria's loss is MWAA's gain."

Huchler began his APD career in 1991 as a patrol officer, steadily moving up in the ranks to police lieutenant, police captain and deputy chief in 2012.

"This is very emotional for me," said Huchler in thanking his friends and family for their support. "We try to say this is not

personal, that the APD is just business. But it is personal. This is a family."

Huchler briefly touched on the recent changes within the APD that include the retirement of Deputy Chief Dianne Gittins and Captain Len Fouch. Police Chief Michael Brown has announced the elimination of the Deputy Chief position and will be conducting a national search for the newly created position of Assistant Chief of Police.

"It's been quite a year but we'll move on from this and be better for this," Huchler said. "Most of my career I have reflected on my failures, but I like to think that I always failed forward. I'll be able to lead an agency because of my experience here in Alexandria."

As the Airports Authority Police Chief, Huchler will direct the operations of the police force at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, Washington Dulles International Airport and the Dulles Toll Road.

"I knew Dave when he first came on the force," said former APD Chief Earl Cook. "I watched his career develop and always knew that he would move on to even greater opportunities because of his skill and expertise."



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED  
APD Captain Len Fouch has announced his retirement.



Deputy Chief Dianne Gittins has announced her retirement from the APD.



Deputy Chief Dave Huchler when he joined the APD in 1991.

Huchler holds a bachelor's degree in law enforcement and a master's degree in public administration from George Mason University. He also serves as an adjunct professor in George Mason's Department of Criminology, Law and Society and is a member of the International Association of Chiefs

of Police.

"Every day I look at what this city has given to me," said Huchler of his wife Jackie, who he met while on the job. "My beautiful family, my colleagues — so many have contributed to my success. It has been a wonderful career."

## Uhler Terrace

There's not a lot of room in Alexandria for new housing. Something was bound to fill the empty lot on a cul-de-sac at the end of Uhler Terrace in Del Ray. Despite concerns from some neighbors, the Planning Commission approved a single family dwelling for 105 Uhler Terrace.

"The criteria for substandard lot is that it doesn't negatively affect property values," said Susan Lavington. "It seems that that's been made in a very subjective way in this case. This is not a cul de sac. If you've been to this street, it's a tight, one lane with no space to get out. Now it's going to be even tighter and more difficult to get out of

## Cramped housing development approved.

the driveway. It will affect property value of my house. We feel like we have a gun to our head."

Despite this, the Planning Commission agreed that in terms of potential developments on the site, the proposed single family dwelling was the best option.

"I can't imagine that I could have come up with a better solution for this site than what they came up with," said Commissioner David Brown. "This is as good a situation as you could hope for."

— VERNON MILES

## Police Investigate Fatal Crash

The Alexandria Police Department is investigating a traffic crash that occurred on Friday, March 30, in the 4300 block of King Street.

At approximately 2:37 a.m., police responded to the area for a single vehicle crash. Initial investigation indicates Victor Fugitt, a 34-year-old from Haymarket, was driving a motorcycle eastbound on King Street when he struck a light pole. He died at the scene of the crash.

Members of the Criminal Investigations Section and Crash Reconstruction Team are investigating the collision. The investigation is

ongoing. Alexandria Police ask that witnesses or people with information regarding this incident contact Detective Loren King at 703-746-6689.

### CRIME INCIDENTS

#### APRIL 3

The Alexandria Police Department is conducting a death investigation in the 1400 block of Roundhouse Lane.

#### MARCH 28

The Alexandria Police Department is investigating a robbery in the 300 block of W Glebe Road. A man punched a woman and stole her purse. There were no serious injuries.

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## NEWS

# Coleman: Guilty of Murder

A jury found Robert D. Coleman, a 27-year-old Alexandria resident, guilty of murder in the second degree-felony on April 3 and recommended a 10-year prison sentence for the killing of Fedelia Montiel-Benitez.



physical altercations because physical altercations often bring devastating consequences.

“So it was here, where a random encounter and brief argument inside of a store led to inexplicable violence.

“Ms. Montiel-Benitez did nothing to cause such an irrational and vicious response from the defendant. I am saddened by the needless loss of life, and my thoughts are with the victim’s family.

“I thank the jury for their time and attention, and for serving as the conscience of the community. By finding the defendant guilty of murder and recommending a significant sentence, the jury has demonstrated that Alexandrians will not stand for such brutality.

“I also wish to highly commend the outstanding police work that brought this case to a just result.”

Senior Assistant Commonwealth’s Attorney David A. Lord prosecuted the matter on the behalf of the Commonwealth. The case was investigated by Detective Bikeramjit Gill of the Alexandria Police Department.

The defendant remains in the custody of the Sheriff and is incarcerated in the Truesdale Adult Detention Center. The formal sentencing hearing of the matter was set on May 24, at 10 a.m.

The evidence established that in the early morning hours of July 10, 2017, Coleman encountered Montiel-Benitez inside of a convenience store located in the 4900 block of Seminary Road. Coleman was not acquainted with the victim. Video surveillance from inside the store showed Coleman appearing to verbally taunt the victim until another individual sought to intercede. The victim exchanged words with Coleman as she left the store and Coleman appeared to become enraged. Coleman followed Montiel-Benitez outside of the store and attacked her without warning, striking her in the face with his fist.

Coleman was much larger than Montiel-Benitez, and the force of his punch knocked her unconscious. As she fell, she struck her head and sustained injuries that ultimately led to her death.

Commonwealth’s Attorney Bryan Porter said: “In an all-too-often repeated theme, a tragedy unfolded because of a defendant’s inability to tolerate a perceived slight. Verbal arguments should never devolve into

## Alexandria Transit Company (DASH) Public Hearing Notice - April 11, 2018

A public hearing on the FY 2019 ATC (DASH) Transit Development Program will be held on April 11, 2018, at 5:30 PM, in Room 2410, City Council Workroom, City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. Proposed changes under consideration are:

### 1. Proposed fare changes to take effect July 1, 2018:

- Increase the DASH base fare from \$1.60 to \$1.75;
- Increase the price of the monthly DASH Pass from \$40.00 to \$45.00;
- Reduce the free DASH transfer window from four hours to two hours; and
- Introduce new discounted fare of \$1.00 for all Senior SmarTrip users traveling during off-peak periods and weekends pending City Council decision on the final FY 201 DASH subsidy amount.
- Extend the T.C. Williams high school 'Free Student Rides' program for the 2018-2019 academic year, pending City Council's decision on the final FY 2019 DASH subsidy amount.

### 2. Proposed service changes to DASH routes to take effect in July 2018, include:

- Move the weekday start time for the King Street Trolley back by 30 minutes from 10:30 AM to 11:00 AM; and
- No other service changes to regular DASH routes.

For a copy of the FY 2019 Transit Development Program (TDP), please visit [dashbus.com](http://dashbus.com) or contact Fatima Ahmed at 703-746-5637 or [Fatima.ahmed@alexandriava.gov](mailto:Fatima.ahmed@alexandriava.gov).

Special thanks to Alexandria Gazette Packet



# NEWS

## Arts District

FROM PAGE 1

under the direction of one or more artists, which are intended for unique production or limited reproduction. Museums where art and/or historic artifacts are displayed and/or created, art schools, including but not limited to culinary art schools, instructional art, music, or drama academy may also qualify as Arts and/or Cultural Anchor.

The program approved by the Planning Commission would act as a pilot, with ongoing review by staff of projects implementing an arts or cultural anchor. During the Planning Commission discussion, one of the main concerns was that the language in the legislation was overly prescriptive and would deter businesses from participating.

“If we’re going to have an arts and cultural district, let’s do something that actually works and causes something to happen rather than just nice language,” said Planning Commissioner Maria Wasowski, “We’re being challenged to be creative in how we approach this text amendment. It’s new territory. There’s guidance based on what’s been done in other places but not a whole lot. What we want to do is open ourselves up to experimentation and new ideas.”

One item that drew criticism was a limit of Arts and Cultural Anchor space to 50,000 square feet. Commissioner Nathan Macek referred back to the city’s Food Truck pilot, where a program opening up a few areas of the city to food trucks failed because strict provisions deterred any potential trucks from taking part.

“We tend to be overly prescriptive on pilots and they fail,” said Macek. “I don’t want to see us throw a wet blanket on this proposal. I want it to succeed.”

The amendment was changed from 50,000 square feet to 100,000.

One of the other concerns raised was the potential for the Old Town North Arts and Culture District to compete with developer contributions to affordable housing. Commissioner Maria Wasowski noted that the Arts and Culture District is very limited in scope to an area of Alexandria where there isn’t a lot of opportunity for affordable housing, which opened up concerns about whether certain areas of Alexandria are or aren’t realistic for affordable housing.

The Old Town North Arts and Culture District was unanimously approved by the Planning Commission and goes to the City Council on April 14.

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# Leaders of the PAC

Wood, Burns, and Hardaway join forces.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**T**wo-time City Council candidate Bob Wood, along with community leaders Kathy Burns and Hal Hardaway, announced March 29 the formation of a non-partisan Political Action Committee called Alexandrians for Better City Government, or A4BCG.

In a press conference held at the Beatley Central Library, the trio representing three political viewpoints announced that it will screen candidates running for mayor and City Council in the June 12 Democratic primary and endorse those who the PAC feels “are most committed and qualified to restore citizen confidence in city hall.”

“Our government has not delivered answers to questions that have routinely been asked and routinely dismissed,” Wood said. “We will recommend one mayor and three City Council candidates. By concentrating our votes this way, citizens have the best chance to overcome the inherent incumbency bias of ‘at large’ elections and achieve real change in the makeup of city government.”

Wood added that the June 12 primary is “essentially our general election for our city” and outlined the three areas of focus for the PAC: accountability, safety and affordability.



PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

**Kathy Burns, left, talks about her role in the newly formed non-partisan Political Action Committee Alexandrians for Better City Government at a March 29 press conference at Beatley Central Library. With her is co-chair and two-time City Council candidate Bob Wood.**

Hardaway addressed the issue of affordability.

“Poor choices, unexamined priorities, mismanagement, or underperforming investments cannot be compounded by unaccountable government,” said Hardaway, a retired Naval officer and Old Town resident. “As citizens, we cannot afford it. We will look closely at how candidates for our City Council discuss their approach to taxes, the cost of living in Alexandria and affordable housing.”

The PAC will conduct its review via questionnaire as well as from information gathered during presentations, debates, discussions and public remarks made by the candidates.

“Interviews are possible to add necessary clarity and understanding of candidate positions,” Wood added.

Burns, a long time city resident and community leader, focused on safety.

“Safety of our community, schools and streets is a fundamental responsibility of city government,” she said. “Actions here must support the right policies, to purchase and sustain the right equipment, and to hire and to retain the best men and women in service to the community.”

Wood, a retired lieutenant general and West Point graduate, said that the recently formed PAC is a way to educate voters on the issues.

“Candidates need to better represent our

citizens and be more accountable to solve problems,” Wood said. “Alexandria voters can no longer accept the status quo in Council of constant discord and disrespect, on the dais and toward citizens.”

He continued: “Simply passing a problem to staff is not leadership in our opinion. Regardless of new, old, incumbent or not, we need elected officials who can be intent on the safety that we need in our city — on our streets, in our schools — and address the affordability of people who live in this city and call it home. Many are about one decision away from leaving because they cannot afford the rising of taxes, the increase of fees and the indirect cost of burdens in their neighborhood. It focuses back to the candidates on how they present solutions to problems that remain chronic and unsolved.”

See [www.Alex4BCG.org](http://www.Alex4BCG.org).



Bob Wood



Kathy Burns



Kathy Burns

## Come Together to Support Alexandria's Giving Day

**S**pring2ACTion, Alexandria's Giving Day, returns Wednesday, April 25. The 24-hour online giving event provides a way for donors to connect to the charitable causes they care about most and encourages them to take action. This online fundraising effort, hosted by ACT for Alexandria will offer local nonprofits the chance

to raise thousands of dollars for the benefit of all Alexandria.

Last year, more than 9,000 individuals gave during Spring2ACTion, raising a record-breaking \$1,592,459 for 158 nonprofit organizations at [www.Spring2ACTion.org](http://www.Spring2ACTion.org).

This year, the more than 150 participating nonprofit organizations represent a va-

riety of causes, including health and wellness, animal rescue, food and shelter, arts and music, schools and PTAs, children and families, and more. From providing scholarships to summer camp to building baseball fields to pro-bono legal services to serving meals to low-income families, the money raised during Spring2ACTion will continue to have an impact on the community throughout the year.

Support Spring2ACTion by making an online donation at [www.Spring2ACTion.org](http://www.Spring2ACTion.org). Early giving begins on April 11. The minimum donation is \$5. Residents can also support this citywide giving day by visiting local businesses that are offering special promotions and/or donating a percentage of sales back to nonprofits. Examples include:

- ❖ Alexandria Restaurant Partners Restaurants (Lena's Woodfire Pizza, The Majestic, Virtue Feed & Grain, Vola's Dockside Grill and Hi-Tide Lounge) will donate 5 percent proceeds to ACT on April 25;

- ❖ Comfort One Shoes will donate 5 percent of purchases made during the month of April in all Alexandria stores to local nonprofits;

- ❖ Yates Automotive will benefit Spring2ACTion through its Give Your Two Cents program during April;

- ❖ Sugar Shack will give customers a free donut with proof of a donation on April 25;

- ❖ Participate in Good. Works. Wednesday. by shopping at Penny Post or Red Barn Mercantile to help nonprofits win \$1,500

in prizes;

- ❖ Holy Cow Burgers, Pork Barrel BBQ and Sweet Fire Donna's will donate 25 cents per meal to charity of the customer's choice; and

- ❖ Whole Foods' Nickels for Nonprofits program will benefit ACT during April through June when customers bring their own shopping bags.

Giving Day Sponsors include: Alexandria Restaurant Partners, Grant Thornton, Maria and Harry Hopper, McEneaney Associates Realtors, Access National Bank, Beyer Subaru, Caudron Megary Blackburn Wealth Management Group, Comfort One Shoes, Holy Cow Burgers, Focus Data Solutions, John Marshall Bank, Penny Post, Red Barn Mercantile, Pork Barrel BBQ, Reingold, Sweet Fire Donna's, Yates Automotive, Alphagraphics, ALX Community and Brighter Strategies.

Community Partners include the Alexandria Arts Alliance, Alexandria Chamber of Commerce, Alexandria City Public Schools, Alexandria Economic Development Partnership, Alexandria Gazette Packet, Alexandrianews.org, Alexandria Times, Del Ray Business Association, Good. Works.Wednesday, Patch, Sugar Shack Donuts, Visit Alexandria, Washington Street United Methodist Church, Whole Foods, and The Zebra. Spring2ACTion is hosted on the Give Gab platform.

For more information about Spring2ACTion, Alexandria's Giving Day, visit [www.Spring2ACTion.org](http://www.Spring2ACTion.org).

### Spreading Spring Cheer

**Sheriff Dana Lawhorne and members of his staff helped the Easter Bunny spread spring cheer on Friday, March 30. First the Sheriff's Office escorted the Easter Bunny to Charles Houston Recreation Center to visit seniors as well as youths who were on spring break. The Bunny Brigade handed out stuffed toys and candy there before heading out to surprise families at several parks, including the playgrounds at Potomac Yard, Hume Springs and Presidential Greens. This annual outreach event is a partnership between the Easter Bunny Foundation and the Sheriff's Office.**





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MARY NORMILE

## A MESSAGE FROM THE BRANCH VICE PRESIDENT

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## Coming Together On Gun Violence

To the Editor:

To my fellow citizens,

It breaks my heart that our children are exposed to school shootings. However, upon the heels of the March for Our Lives held in Washington, D.C., and around the world, I am hopeful that positive change is on the horizon.

After the shooting in Florida I began a conversation on Facebook with “my community.” It was a long, civil conversation with disagreement throughout. I took the conversation offline with someone who is former military and

a police officer who presently works as a resource officer in a Washington state public high school. We talked about many issues that surround gun violence today, but I wanted to understand his opposition to changing gun laws. We talked and to my relief, we agreed on several points.

We both agreed that no law will solve all of our problems. We agreed that parents need to be present, to be aware of their children and sensitive to their needs. We talked about the need for better mental health access. We agreed that social media often doesn't play a helpful role in the lives of teenagers. We talked about guns.

We both grew up in a same town where hunting was the norm. I asked him how he felt about training as a prerequisite for gun ownership, similar to that required of owning a car. Laws requiring licensure and registration of car and driver don't prevent bad drivers, but the intent is to create a safer environment. Why can't training be built into buying a gun? Just as with buying a car, when shopping for a gun you plan on similar requirements. Will this stop illegal gun ownership? Absolutely not. Would this reduce illegal guns and help reduce crimes committed with guns? That is the hope. I also liken it to medication, cancer research and treatment. Not all drugs work on all patients, not all cancer treatments work on all patients or even all of the time, but we still use them with the hope of saving a percentage of lives.

Recent studies have shown that the human brain doesn't fully develop until at least 25 years of age. The current law allows an 18 year old to buy a rifle and a 21 year old to buy a handgun – without supervision or training. The military accepts soldiers at the age of 18, but they are closely supervised and constantly in training, key aspects to their decision-making. My friend volunteered that he has no issue with increasing the age for gun ownership. Compromise. Understanding that legal, responsible gun owners are not the issue, but realizing that guns are part of the equation.

Many variables involved in gun violence cannot be legislated, but through public campaigns and service announcements we can remind people of the power of social media and the need to speak responsibly and respectfully. We must talk to others whose opinion we may not share as a means to create better understanding and to work for the common good. These aspects cannot be overlooked, but neither can the access to guns be ignored. Too many lives are lost daily across this country.

Please step back and reflect on the number of deaths from gun violence — mass shootings and the daily killings. Our children are exposed



PHOTO BY HAL HARDWAY

**Snapshot**  
Afternoon of April 3 on the waterfront.

to unacceptable situations and we are creating an unacceptable social norm. Our youth created an amazing March For Our Lives with remarkable, passionate speakers from across the country. They have hope which gives me hope. Join their cause, make it our cause and let us bring wholeness to this country.

**Sally Schneider**  
Alexandria

## Pay Police Officers What They're Worth

To the Editor:

As the widow of a fallen Alexandria Police officer and the mother of an Alexandria Police officer, I am very concerned about the safety of our officers. The city has continued to disregard their pay philosophy, which states it will pay their employees competitively.

Alexandria Police are and have been the lowest paid police department in the metropolitan area, yet they provide the city with exceptional service every day. The Police Department ranks third (behind the Fire Department and Libraries) as how positively the residents see city agencies and programs.

My first husband, Corporal Charlie Hill, gave his life serving this city on March 22, 1989. Charlie died saving the life of a 17-year-old drug dealer.

He left behind two young sons. His youngest son, Rob, is now an officer on this department.

If the city continues to ignore their philosophy and pay our officers at the current rate, they will continue to lose quality officers to other surrounding jurisdictions. How many officers can you afford to train for other departments? Of the department's street patrol officers, 46 percent have five years or less on the force. This is a staggering figure and a huge officer safety issue. These officers deal with the

citizens every day. We need to make the investment in our officers now so they will stay to become veteran officers to lead this department in the future. The event at Simpson Park was an anomaly, and because of the abilities of the three officers involved we did not lose one life except for the shooter.

The officers the department hires are being recruited by other agencies at a higher pay as soon as they start the academy. These officers, after being trained, will look to other departments to go to. The cost to train one officer is \$100,000 plus. Does the city have this kind of money to throw away?

Mayor Silberberg, Council members and City Manager Mark Jinks, wake up! You need to pay fairly and competitively to keep our quality officers from leaving to go with other agencies.

**Ginny Hill-Obranovich**

## Sheriff's Handling Of ICE Warrants

To the Editor:

On March 20, I witnessed the difficult and at times very personal presentation by the Alexandria Sheriff Dana Lawhorne before the City Council. Fairfax County's terminating of their contract with ICE brought to the forefront questions about Alexandria's policies governing the relationship between the city jail, the contracted Federal holding floor at the jail and ICE. The sheriff was responding to questions that had been raised at the previous Saturday's City Council public comment period.

The sheriff explained that he had a different contract with the Federal government than Fairfax County had and terminating it would more difficult. He made statements about the legal weight of ICE's administrative warrants.

He also argued that, if an immigrant that was released based on a more liberal policy interpretation went on to cause serious harm, the sheriff himself would be blamed harshly. At that point in his testimony, I felt empathy for his concerns for the well being of our community as well as for his concerns for his own reputation. Are the sheriff's policies following the law? He presented documentation which seemed to show: yes. Are they the most liberal policies possible regarding holding detainees for ICE that are also within the law? On the previous Saturday, the city attorney had said the answer was: no. For example, the sheriff might raise the standard for detaining the undocumented for ICE based on administrative warrants to the higher standard of requiring judicial warrants.

The most disturbing part of his presentation was that, although the Sheriff's Office researched for three days, they could only determine the status or location of 64 of the 111 individuals that they turned over to ICE in 2017. The apparent lack of the right of habeas corpus for the undocumented and/or ICE's apparent lack of concern for transparency makes the decision to choose the more conservative interpretation of Alexandria's relationship to ICE a greater moral hazard.

The sheriff said that he was elected in order to make these decisions.

To some degree, that is true and I am sympathetic to his burdens of office. But I also believe officials are elected in order to carry out

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# OPINION

## Sustain Affordable Housing Now

BY WILLIE F. BAILEY SR.  
MEMBER OF CITY COUNCIL



For almost two decades, Alexandria has lost a considerable amount of its affordable housing stock, making it increasingly difficult for average Alexandrians like our seniors, veterans, teachers, and other public sector workforce to live comfortably. The declining housing stock should not be a surprise to anyone living in Alexandria. The time for talk and no action is over and as a city government, we need to put our money where our mouth is and create a dedicated funding stream to sustain affordable housing in our city.

It has become the norm around town that Alexandria is too expensive, but to me that's just plain unacceptable. Our police and firefighters should be able to call the place where they protect and serve home too. Our senior citizens should be able to age in place, comfortably, and with respect. And our veterans deserve the right to come back to a home where they were born and raised. Our sense of community is eroding and more must be done to reverse any further damage.

With development in Alexandria continuing to grow, the ever need for subsidies to serve lower and moderate income households increases and we will be at a shortfall. Citizens and advocacy organizations alike have asked once again for a reliable, dedicated source of funding. That's what I intend to do.

As a city and as a broader regional community, I believe Alexandria can lead by thinking outside of

the box when it comes to housing affordability. It is true that Alexandria is not the only locality dealing with this issue. Just last week we saw that in the Washington Post that officials in Miami-Dade County, with the fourth-largest school district in the mainland, are pushing a plan to build housing for teachers on land right on or next to the schools where they work. The plan is serious and money has already been committed to the project. As a city, we have to take a serious look at how we advocate for and acquire affordable housing because we are heading down a dangerous path.

Lack of available affordable housing is rearing its head all across our country. But in Alexandria, the time for actionable solutions is now and I know that we can lead the way. Some have argued against dedicated funding streams, but Alexandria already uses multiple dedicated funding streams to address some of our most serious challenges; and securing additional funds for affordable housing through a small tax is no different.

Michelle Krocker from the Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance, said it best, "As the average rent for a one-bedroom apartment approaches \$1,700 a month, working residents with modest incomes, new families with young children and seniors on fixed incomes are being priced out of the city's housing market. Our workforce in the restaurant and hospitality industry, healthcare workers, small business employees and many others struggle to find housing that they can afford."

I'm open to hearing solutions and options from anyone willing to tackle this challenge with me. I strongly believe that no solution is perfect, but something needs to be done and it needs to be done now.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 10

the laws of the land, the will of those they represent, and to be guided by compassion. If Alexandria's statement on inclusiveness (2007 and amended 2016) represents the will of the majority of our citizens, most Alexandrians would hope the sheriff would lean toward more liberal policies regarding undocumented members of our community.

**Robert Ray**  
Candidate for City Council

### Retain Best And Brightest

To the Editor:

I would like to second James Baker's letter ["Re-

volving Door Staffing," Gazette Packet, March 22] regarding the revolving door of our first responders and their training.

It makes little sense to spend the money training these police officers and EMTs, just to have them leave us for a higher paying neighbor. This is a great city, but it's an expensive city. If we are to retain the best and brightest we need to pay them enough to be able to live here.

I have been a resident of Alexandria for many decades and have always been grateful for the professional response of these men and women.

**Murney Keleher**  
Alexandria

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 22

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## HISTORY

# Alexandria African Americans' Emancipation Day

BY CHAR MCCARGO BAH

**O**n Jan. 1, 1863, President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation freeing all the enslaved blacks in Union-controlled areas.

The Virginia Restored Government led by the provisional governor, Francis H. Pierpont (Pierpoint) who declared Alexandria as the capital of Virginia during the Civil War, voted to emancipate all the slaves in Virginia under Union rule on April 7, 1864.

### THE OTHER ALEXANDRIA

When the Union took over other counties in Virginia, each county emancipated their slaves. One year later,

the Federal government declared victory and slavery officially ended with some resistance by the lower southern states against the Union.

For 50 years, African Americans in Alexandria celebrated Emancipation Day. Prominent African Americans of that era organized parades and had speakers. Those celebrations did not take place on the actual anniversary date of Alexandria's Emancipation Day, but on different months of the year, for example: it was celebrated in January for the following years 1890, 1891, 1900 and 1901; celebrated in May 1905; and it was celebrated in September for the following years 1893, 1895, 1896, 1903 and 1910. What was consistent was that every year for 50 years, the African Americans in Alexandria celebrated their freedom in ceremonies throughout Alexandria by displaying President Lincoln's picture in their parades, at their banquets and at their conferences. The conferences usually centered on different topics for that year's celebration, for example: accomplishments of the colored race since Emancipation Day, voter registration, adequate schools for colored people, adequate housing and community involvement.

During those early emancipation ceremonies, the Emancipation committee sent invitations to well-known speakers. Some of the speakers over the course of those 50 years of celebrations included: the Honorable Frederick Douglass, Congressman John M. Langston, Booker T. Washington, Colonel John M. Hay, ministers from Alexandria and Washington, D.C.; and many other prominent dignitaries of that era.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

**President Abraham Lincoln and his cabinet at the White House discussing the draft Emancipation Proclamation.**

The individuals and organizations responsible for those celebrations over a 50 year span were: Mangus L. Robinson, editor of Weekly Newspaper, owner of National Leader Newspaper, Freemason and a member of the Order of Odd Fellows; his brother, Robert B. Robinson; and his father, Reverend Robert H. Robinson, founder of William Normal & Independent School, Grand Master of Freemasons; William A. Carter, store owner and Washington Bee correspondent; George L. Seaton, builder and businessman; Washington N. Jackson, hotel owner of Jackson's Hotel and businessman; and John W. "Baker" Jackson, bakery owner, hotel owner and businessman. Also several local churches hosted the emancipation celebrations throughout the years: Roberts Chapel (Roberts Memorial United Methodist Church); Third Baptist Church; Shiloh Baptist Church; and other African American churches in Alexandria. The emancipation ceremonies were also held at different venues: Lannon's Opera House; Jackson Hotel; Odd Fellow Lodge; and Baker's Jackson's Hotel.

In 2015, Mayor William D. Euille read the Proclamation and recognized April 7, 2015, as the 151<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the emancipation of enslaved people in Alexandria. Prior to the former mayor's acknowledgement of the eman-

icipation of enslaved people, African Americans in Alexandria had quietly stopped celebrating Emancipation Day on April 7 and joined the nation in celebrating the Emancipation Day in Washington, D.C., and the Juneteenth Emancipation Day, when slaves in Texas were emancipated on June 19, 1865.

Many of the African Americans in Alexandria responsible for organizing the Emancipation ceremonies were all dead by the late 1930s. The younger generation celebrated Juneteenth's Emancipation Day as their Emancipation Day, because they did not know about the Emancipation ceremonies that the older generation celebrated.

Alexandria has a unique documented history about the emancipation of enslaved African Americans in Alexandria. This history should be preserved for generations to come, so that they can learn about the struggle of enslaved people.

Happy Emancipation Day to all of the people whose enslaved ancestors came to Alexandria for their freedom and experienced the jubilation of freedom.

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

## OBITUARY

### Susan Joyce Cluff

Susan Joyce Cluff (Williams) died on March 14, 2018 after a long battle with scleroderma and other health issues. Her health had been declining for many years, but her passing was unexpected. The family is comforted that she is no longer in pain, though she is dearly missed.

Susan, or Susie to many, was born in Chicago, Ill. on Jan. 21, 1945 to Robert and Dorothy Williams. Most of her childhood was spent in Alexandria, Va. She graduated from Hammond High School in 1964 and went on to Mary Washington College. While at college she met and was swept off her feet by her future husband Mike. They would have celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary on



March 30. As a military wife, Susie lived all over the U.S. and abroad, gathering cherished friends everywhere.

Susie was an avid antique collector and was certified in Appraisal Studies & Decorative Arts from George Washington University. She owned

Blue Butterfly Antiques which kept her busy in her search for treasures. Many of these finds were brought home for Mike to refinish.

Susie was also very active with St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Burke, Va. and Trinity Episcopal Church in Newport, R.I. After moving to Vinson Hall, Mike and Susie joined St. Dunstan Episcopal Church in McLean, Va. She held a Certification in Education for Ministry (EFM) from University of the South School of Theology. Mike and Susie enjoyed traveling

and have been all over the world on many adventures.

Susie will be remembered by her husband, Col. Michael L. Cluff (ret), their children, Michael Sean Cluff (Ronda) and Kristin Michelle Shafer, and by her sister, Dr. Sharon Williams Ignarro (Lou). She was blessed with three grandchildren, Andrew Ryan Shafer, Eric Matthew Shafer, and Grace Matthews Cluff. Susie's warm smile and gracious manner will be forever held in their hearts.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, April 8, at 3 p.m., at St. Dunstan Episcopal Church, 1830 Kirby Rd, McLean, Va.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in remembrance of Susie may be made to the Navy Marine Coast Guard Residence Foundation, 6251 Old Dominion Drive, McLean, VA, 22101 Attn: Sara Simms.

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## Senior Living



**Northern Virginia Senior Olympics includes bocce competition.**

FILE PHOTO BY  
SHIRLEY RUHE/  
GAZETTE PACKET

## Preparing for Senior Olympics

**New this year:  
canasta, croquet and  
beach ball wallyball.**

BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
GAZETTE PACKET

Arlington, who often enters 20 events, and says he practices all year long.

Opening ceremonies for this year's events are scheduled for Sept. 15 at 9 a.m. at Thomas Jefferson Community Center in Arlington, and the competition is scheduled to end on Sept. 26.

The NVSO began in 1982 with about 80 people competing; last year there were 752 competitors signed up for one or more of the 70 events offered. The events ranged from tennis, baseball throw, bocce,

It may seem like a long time until September when the 36th year of the Northern Virginia Senior Olympics (NVSO) kicks off.

But not for 83-year-old Chuck Toftoy from

SEE SENIOR OLYMPICS, PAGE 15

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# Senior Living



**Kim Aderman competes in last year's diving match.**

FILE PHOTO BY SHIRLEY RUHE/ GAZETTE PACKET

# Senior Olympics

FROM PAGE 14

orienting, swimming and diving, golf, corn hole toss, volleyball, and pickleball.

Three new sports have been added to the competition this year including canasta, croquet and beach ball wallyball. Herb Levitan, a member of the NVSO Board, explains beach ball wallyball is like volleyball but played on a racquetball court with a beachball which is bigger and softer than a volleyball. Levitan is currently preparing for the Virginia senior games coming up soon where he swims four freestyle events.

Alease Brooks, 85, has been competing for 14 years and participated in 13 different sports in 2017. But her favorite is pickleball. Her children have bought her T-shirts in different colors for her games and often come to watch her and cheer her on.

Toftoy says this year he plans to reduce the number of sports he enters so that he can concentrate on pickleball since he plans to enter singles, doubles and mixed

competition this year.

Last year, 93-year old Henry Colette from Oakton was one of 19 bocce competitors. But for the last several years he has been guaranteed a win because there was no one else in his age group competing.

Last year's oldest competitor was 101 years old with her sport of choice was duplicate bridge.

Seniors participate for many reasons — some because they like to stay busy and fit, others because they are returning to a high school or college sport, some because they like the community of friends they see every year and others because they still “like to dream big.”

This year's games are expected to be held in 29 venues including community centers, parks, high schools and other locations across Northern Virginia. Registration for this year's NVSO will open June 1. This year NVSO is hoping to bring back the 5k run and looking for an event director for that event. Those interested in volunteering can call 703-403-5360.

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## Senior Living



The flagstone patio immediately outside the master bedroom is linked to a network of walkways that segues to a gazebo, an herb garden and an exercise area for the family Irish setter. Owner Fred Saalfeld, who walks with the aid of two canes, says the remodeling changes have created a major quality of life improvement that has made it much easier to enjoy the home.



Before remodeling, the home's existing backyard ascended at a 20 degree angle from the rear door. To install the concrete base needed for the new addition, remodeling Michael Nash had to remove and re-compact approximately six tons of dirt.

# One-Level Master Suite Enables Aging-in-Place

Solution addresses long-term needs arising from spouse's stroke.

BY JOHN BYRD

**F**red and Liz Saalfeld had occupied their four-bedroom 2,800-square-foot Colonial in Springfield for nearly five decades when the unexpected caused them to reconsider basic housing needs. Without warning, Liz Saalfeld suffered a heart attack. Her mobility — previously hampered by arthritis — now became seriously compromised.

Looking ahead, a wheelchair-access plan also now seemed prudent to Fred Saalfeld, who increasingly relied a pair of canes to get around.

The proposed retrofit was a tall order, however. The master bedroom was on the second floor; the laundry room in the basement. There was an open carport, but no extra storage space. The master bathroom was just too narrow for a wheelchair — assuming there was a way to mount the stairs.

Equally relevant, the home's surrounding landscaping was undeveloped, with a steep hill in the backyard. There were places to sit, but no quiet places to stretch out and relax.

Acting decisively, Saalfeld sought fresh ideas from local remodelers — eventually deciding on Michael Nash Kitchens and Homes who had previously remodeled his kitchen.

"Michael Nash was very responsive to our needs, and really understood Aging-In-Place considerations," Saalfeld said.

Part of that responsiveness arose from Sonny Nazemian, Michael Nash's founder and president, and a Universal Design Certified Remodeler (UDCR), who commenced drafting design ideas with the Saalfelds on the first meeting.

"Aging-in-place (AIP) is becoming one of the high-demand remodeling services segments," Nazemian said. "But it's a specialty area — and requires staying on top of ever-evolving ADA (American with Disabilities Act) regulations, and strict building codes."

From the first, Nazemian pictured an addition extending from the rear elevation. The Saalfeld would gain expanded sleeping quarters and each spouse would have

their own walk-in closet. A wheelchair-friendly bathroom replete with in-shower bench, grab bars and hand-held body spray nozzles would be specially designed. The laundry room would be moved to the first floor.

At 1,200 square feet, the new master suite addition features a 14-foot cathedral ceiling and double French doors that segue to a flagstone patio. To create the needed 28'

x 42' footprint, Nazemian excavated down three feet from the existing surface, removed six metric tons of earth and — to achieve the necessary compaction — planted a grove of Tock's shrubbery.

To control water runoff, designers introduced a French drain and swell linked to an infiltration trench.

With the foundation issues resolved, attention turned to the new addition's space plan and design. Exterior brick cladding was matched to the home's original masonry creating a seamless enlargement of the existing house. Interior floors were, likewise,

SEE AGING-IN-PLACE, PAGE 19



The Saalfelds added a wheelchair friendly master suite to the four bedroom colonial they had occupied for over 50 years. The 1,200-square-foot addition extends from the old rear elevation into a formerly hilly backyard. The new addition includes a laundry, a spacious ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) master suite with "his" and "her" wardrobe closets. The French doors access a flagstone patio, and newly landscaped grounds surrounded by a privacy fence. The addition also has a dedicated HVAC system



The shower is equipped with grab bars, a bench and hand-held nozzles — all of which Fred Saalfeld uses in his daily bathing routine.





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With a pair of walk-in wardrobe closets on the left, and access to a first level laundry and master bedroom on the right, the access corridor from the main house is spacious. The French doors open into the dining room. Michael Nash matched the original hardwood flooring to create a seamless unity between the old house and the new addition.

## Remodeling for Aging-in-Place

FROM PAGE 16

milled and finished to blend with the hardwood floors in the existing structure.

“The interior style is very consistent throughout,” Saalfeld said. “It’s very much one house.”

To ensure natural light and comfort, Nazemian specified low-E, double Argon-filled glass for all windows including a pair of double French doors that lead to the patio. A smaller louvered door was created for the family’s Irish setter who exercises in a side yard.

A new split-system HVAC unit was installed to provide the new addition with dedicated heat and air control. The solution proved to be a money-saver, since it concentrates temperature requirements in rooms where the couple spend most of their time.

The master bathroom (at 200 square feet) is a masterpiece of efficiency and warmth. The door from the bedroom is 32” wide with the 90 degree swing radius required by the ADA-regulations — yet the interior design is soft and earthy, porcelain tiling offset by walnut cabinet facings and a granite-topped vanity.

Best yet, a series of well-defined walkways link garden focal points with a mid-yard gazebo. Surrounded by a privacy fence, the grounds are a nicely protected Eden, perfect for quiet enjoyment.

For more information, call 703-641-9800 or visit [MichaelNashKitchens.com](http://MichaelNashKitchens.com)

*John Byrd has been writing about home improvement for 30 years. He can be reached at 703-715-8006, [www.HomeFrontsNews.com](http://www.HomeFrontsNews.com) or [byrdmatx@gmail.com](mailto:byrdmatx@gmail.com). Send photos of interesting remodeling projects to: [b2b@homefrontsnews.com](mailto:b2b@homefrontsnews.com).*



The louvered door on the right is for the family’s Irish setter, who exercises in the side yard. All doors are at least 32 inches wide and have a 90 degree clearing width.

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# HISTORY

## March 27, 1953: Korean War Sailor Earns Medal of Honor

By ERIC LOCKWOOD  
MASS COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST  
2ND CLASS  
NAVAL HISTORY AND HERITAGE COMMAND,  
COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH DIVISION

It was 65 years ago on March 27 when Francis C. Hammond Middle School's namesake, a young Alexandria man, performed "great personal valor in the face of overwhelming odds" while taking care of wounded members of the 1st Marine Division in South Korea.

Hammond was born on Nov. 9, 1931 to Harry and Elvira Hammond, in Alexandria. Harry Hammond worked at a pharmacy, and after high school Francis joined him, planning to become a pharmacist.

Then, on June 25, 1950, North Korea invaded South Korea. The United Nations Security Council called the invasion a "breach of peace" and President Harry S. Truman quickly committed American troops to a combined United Nations force to defend the 38th parallel.

Francis decided to enlist, joining the Navy. First, he headed off to the Navy's Hospital Corps School in Great Lakes, Ill. Once a medic, he proceeded to California for more training. Anticipating he would be sent to Korea, Francis married his girlfriend in June 1952. The following year, Feb. 1, Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Hammond was as-

signed to the 1st Marine Division in South Korea.

On the night of March 26, Hammond and the 1st Marines were trying to retake Combat Outpost Reno, which the North Koreans had overrun earlier that day. The Marines encountered heavy mortar and artillery fire as they neared the outpost.

"We kept going forward and finally gained posts in a small shallow trench," said Marine Sgt. William R. Janzen from a series of articles collected by B.J. Sullivan, a librarian at the school which bears Hammond's name.

Undeterred and undaunted by the mortar and artillery fire, Hammond got to work.

"He was all over the place patching up the wounded, no matter how slight their wounds," Janzen remembered. "Even after he himself was wounded he continued moving about the area, ignoring his own wounds, and giving as much aid and comfort to the other wounded as he possibly could under the circumstances.

"The bravest man I saw out there that night was Corpsman Hammond."

As a relief unit showed up, Hammond's division was ordered to pull back. Hammond refused. According to the Vir-



**Francis C. Hammond, Hospitalman, United States Navy**

ginia War Memorial's website, "[he] did not want to leave his men, so he stayed behind to help evacuate the wounded, refusing care for himself. While assisting the units relieving them, [Hammond] was mortally wounded by enemy mortar fire."

Four months later, an armistice would end the conflict.

For his actions, Hammond posthumously received the Purple Heart and the Medal of Honor. His Medal of Honor citation concludes, "By his exceptional fortitude, inspiring initiative and self-sacrificing efforts, HC Hammond undoubtedly saved the lives of many Marines. His great personal valor in the face of overwhelming odds enhances and sustains the finest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country."

In his honor, the Navy commissioned a frigate named for him on July 25, 1970, the USS Francis Hammond (FF 1067). She served her country until decommissioned in July 2, 1992.

The Francis C. Hammond High School, which opened in 1956, was named in his honor. Now a middle school, "the school crest (donated by the Class of '62) still

### Medal of Honor Citation

**HAMMOND, FRANCIS C.**

**Rank and organization:** Hospital Corpsman, U.S. Navy, attached as a medical corpsman to 1st Marine Division.

**Place and date:** Korea, 26-27 March 1953.

**Entered service at:** Alexandria, Va.

**Citation:** For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as a HC serving with the 1st Marine Division in action against enemy aggressor forces on the night of 26-27 March 1953. After reaching an intermediate objective during a counterattack against a heavily entrenched and numerically superior hostile force occupying ground on a bitterly contested outpost far in advance of the main line of resistance, HC Hammond's platoon was subjected to a murderous barrage of hostile mortar and artillery fire, followed by a vicious assault by onrushing enemy troops. Resolutely advancing through the veritable curtain of fire to aid his stricken comrades, HC Hammond moved among the stalwart garrison of marines and, although critically wounded himself, valiantly continued to administer aid to the other wounded throughout an exhausting 4-hour period. When the unit was ordered to withdraw, he skillfully directed the evacuation of casualties and remained in the fire-swept area to assist the corpsmen of the relieving unit until he was struck by a round of enemy mortar fire and fell, mortally wounded. By his exceptional fortitude, inspiring initiative and self-sacrificing efforts, HC Hammond undoubtedly saved the lives of many marines. His great personal valor in the face of overwhelming odds enhances and sustains the finest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.

graces the floor of Hammond's central hall with the motto 'Vivat Academia' (Long live Academics).

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# BUSINESS

## Building Conversions Signal New Office Environments for Old Town

PHOTOS BY SISSON STUDIOS, INC.

The office building at 1010 North Fairfax, directly across from Canal Center Plaza, recently received a 21st century makeover for an enhanced workplace image.

It's part of Old Town Alexandria's trend promoting adaptive reuse of existing structures for modernized office environments within Old Town's historic district.

Alexandria-based Cole & Denny Architects (C&D) has transformed the interior two floors and rooftop of this 1980s structure from single tenant to multi-use office space featuring a 9,000 sq. ft. layout. This design exposes the building's original concrete floors, steel columns, beams, joists, and HVAC systems while updating light fixtures and plumbing. Transformation of exterior brick from a light sandy color to a dark gray, installation of modern energy efficient windows, an upgraded entryway, and rooftop terrace complete the exterior makeover.

Building owner Christopher Campagna of Braddock Commercial Realty believes this new image will attract a new generation of entrepreneurs. "This revitalization effort will cater to start-ups and small businesses alike," Campagna said. "Its design will facilitate a mobile workforce that doesn't require lots of space or administrative support, where workers are not tethered to specific work areas."

Capitalizing on a trend with commercial



**Rooftop deck tops the renovations at 1010 N. Fairfax St.**

renovations in the metro area, Campagna requested a rooftop terrace. Partially sheltered by a stairwell canopy extension, it adds 600 sq. ft. of casual outdoor space for building occupants.

Another C&D conversion project is located at 130 N. Fayette St. Formerly hosting an assortment of tenants ranging from a pool hall to a church, renovations to this early 20th century structure now accommodate an open space floor plan for workforce flexibility. C&D refurbished a total of 3,050 existing sq. ft., while a new interior mezzanine, outdoor roof deck, egress stairs, and

contemporary bathrooms add another 1,030 sq. ft. of space.

Like 1010 N. Fairfax, 130 N. Fayette's upgrades also meet contemporary office needs. Architects removed interior walls and ceilings, creating work space featuring exposed wooden beams and brick, and new outlets for updated communications systems. The refurbished basement level offers cubicle-style workstations — its environment brightened by modified light wells in ground level windows. The original and exterior stairwells have been removed, replaced by a new set of interior egress stairs

extending from basement to second floor, and another stairwell from second floor to the mezzanine level and roof deck.

Gene Ulm, 130 N. Fayette's owner, also requested a roof deck addition. Overlooking King and Cameron Streets, this rooftop space faces west towards the George Washington Masonic Temple.

Situated on the corner of Fayette and Cameron streets, 130 N. Fayette's exterior facade retains its original character, accented by cleaned and painted white brick, new black window trim, and a bright red main entry door.



**The 130 N. Fayette renovation project.**

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Delight in our **HomeLifeStyle** sections, the second week of every month. Peek at the top real estate sales, glimpse over-the-top remodeling projects, get practical suggestions for your home.

Celebrate students, camps, schools, enrichment programs, colleges and more in our **A-plus: Education, Learning, Fun** pages, the third week of every month.

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## NEWS

# All Alexandria Reads Returns

The Alexandria Library has launched its annual one book program All Alexandria Reads, an initiative designed to create shared experiences through reading.

This year, Alexandria is reading an all-American story about a dog: "Sergeant Stubby: How a Stray Dog and His Best Friend Helped Win World War I and Stole the Heart of a Nation" by award-winning author Ann Bausum.

Similar themed books for younger readers will be featured too.

The All Alexandria Reads program began March 27. A feature event is planned for April 5 with author Ann Bausum and the program concludes with an introduction to dog training on May 21.

The series of events also includes book discussions, story times, craft and music programs, a knit-a-thon, a pop-up pup party, a yappy hour and a range of lectures on both canines and local military history.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 11

## Decision Reveals City's Biases

To the Editor:

Vice Mayor Wilson's current newsletter has him again clouding the issue of his role in approving the Karig development by explaining that he voted in favor of the project because it is "by rights development" and because Virginia is a Dillon rule state. Such arguments don't fool readers because they are largely irrelevant in this case — a red herring. In its zeal to favor the developer's interests, the city ignored its own environmental ordinances, initiatives, and policies; an unprecedented level of quality testimony from opponents of the development; and overrode neighbors' legitimate concerns about likely damage to their properties.

If (as Wilson says) the City Council did not have the power to turn down the proposed Karig plan, there would have been no need for a public hearing. Moreover, Wilson himself in a Nov. 6, 2017 email stated, "obviously there were a bunch of process failures within the city side and the applicants side."

Wilson and all council members but Mayor Silberberg voted not to remand the flawed Karig plan back to Planning and Zoning for appropriate overhaul. Mayor Silberberg, in stark contrast, followed the right course of action and dissented from the rest of the council's decision. Not only has Mayor Silberberg been consistently engaged on the important issues in Alexandria, as witnessed by her quality voting record, but in the Karig hearing she recognized two major errors the city had made: Planning and Zoning should have chosen the 57-foot setback from Seminary Road instead of the 104-foot setback and Transportation and Environmental Services was wrong to insist that no intermittent stream exists on the property (despite TES staff, city environmental staff, professional geoscientists, a 2004 Open Space Committee report, and others' reports to the contrary).

All but Silberberg made no effort to ensure statutory protections for the existing forest, ravine, and water resources because they don't value them. It's



**AUTHOR TALK WITH ANN BAUSUM**  
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With the exception of the April 5 author talk, events will take place at various library locations throughout Alexandria.

For program details, visit <https://bit.ly/AAR2018>.

— RIKKI GEORGE

that simple.

Fortunately we have a choice this spring to vote for Mayor Silberberg, and for two other promising candidates as well, Robert Ray and Matthew Feely. Perhaps with more balanced views on the council we will begin to see improvement in the way things are done in Alexandria.

**Nina Schwartz, C. Dara,  
Katy Cannady, Jimm Roberts,  
Cynthia Evans, Kathy Burns,  
Bonnie Petry, Joan and Denis O'Toole,  
and Robert and Suzanne McLaughlin**

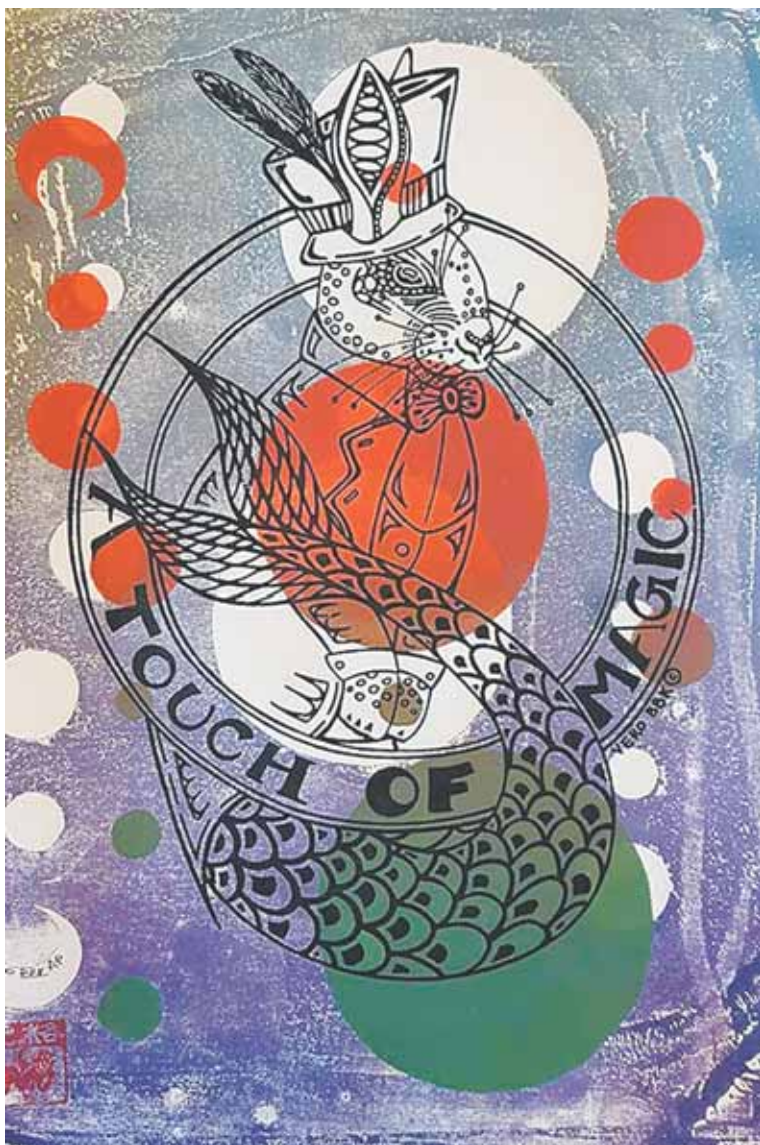
SEE LETTERS, PAGE 29



PHOTO BY LAURA MAE SUDDER

## Easter Sweets

Was that the Easter bunny at Old Town Farmers' Market in City Hall's Market Square on Saturday morning March 31? No, it was Maribeth Nyerges, of Maribeth's Bakery, selling cookies and baked goods.



**"A Touch of Magic" by Veronica Barker-Barzel.**

## A Touch of Magic

Del Ray Artisans "A Touch of Magic" exhibit is inspired by the subtle, simple, complex, or bold magic that creates life's special moments, fulfilled dreams, rare experiences, and fosters the recognition of beauty. The art will be on display from April 6-29, gallery hours at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Opening Reception is Friday, April 6, 7-9 p.m. Visit [www.DelRayArtisans.org](http://www.DelRayArtisans.org).

### CALENDAR

Submit entertainment announcements at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/). The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

#### ONGOING

**"Parallel Lives."** Various times, through April 15, at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. In Parallel Lives transcultural humanity is on display. Curated by Brigitte Reyes, five artists (Antonius Bui, Amy Chan, Nekisha Durrett, Muriel Hasbun, and Jeff Huntington) bridging diverse cultures and aesthetic traditions embrace and explore their place in the world. visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org) or call 703-548-0035.

**Art Exhibit: Renewal.** Through April 15, gallery hours at Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, Studio 29, 105 North Union St. Gallery artists producing themed work may draw on any aspect of "renewal" for inspiration. This show will highlight the work of gallery artists Debra Lee, Cheryl Roesel, and Julia Stephens. visit [www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com](http://www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com) or call 703-548-0935.

**Art Exhibit: Beasts Beyond Boundaries.** Through April 29, daily 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thursdays until 9 p.m. at Scope Gallery, 105 North Union St., ground floor Studio 19 of

the Torpedo Factory Art Center. Kiln Club artists highlight "Beasts Beyond Boundaries: Cultural Creature-centric Connections," corralling critters on gallery shelves. Call 703-548-6288 or visit [www.scopegallery.org](http://www.scopegallery.org).

**Art Exhibit A Study of Manhattan.** Through May 6, gallery hours at the Art League Gallery, 105 North Union St., Studio 21, in the Torpedo Factory. Paintings by Robert Gilbert: A Study of Manhattan: Power, Dominance, and Excitement. Opening Reception takes place Thursday, April 12, 6:30-8 p.m. Visit [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org) or call 703-683-1780.

**Art Exhibit: 2018 Emerging Artists.** Through May 20, daily 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thursdays until 9 p.m. at Target Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 North Union St., Studio 2. Target Gallery, the contemporary exhibition space of the Torpedo Factory Art Center, introduces a new annual exhibition series featuring the work of emerging artists of the D.C., Maryland, and Virginia region. This inaugural year's exhibition features the work of Katie Barrie, Ronald Jackson, Hollis McCracken, and Holly Trout. Visit [torpedofactory.org/partners/target-gallery](http://torpedofactory.org/partners/target-gallery).

**Pick-Up Hockey.** Ongoing, Wednesdays and Fridays 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Mount Vernon Ice Skating,

## 7 Dates to Circle in April

BY HOPE NELSON

**T**he weather is slowly warming up in Alexandria, day by day, and with that comes more activity — cherry blossoms in bloom, sports teams gearing up for spring and a heavy docket of food-and-drink events to carry hungry diners through it all. Here are some of the month's top picks around town.

### Vola's Oysterfest, April 7

Start spring off with a passel of oysters down on the water at Vola's Dockside Grill. Go raw with some fresh-shucked oysters or taste the fried and broiled varieties, plus oyster stew and some wine or beer to wash it all down. 101 N. Union St. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Tickets \$84.24.

### Ben and Jerry's Free Cone Day, April 10

Free ice cream? What's not to love? Celebrate the beloved Vermont-based creamery's anniversary with a free handout of their mainstay product. And come prepared to make some tough decisions: Despite the celebration's name, visitors can choose a cone or a cup ... and name their favorite flavor. But bring some patience: The lines are often out the door. 103 S. Union St. Noon-8 p.m.

### Cocktails and Correspondence at The Hour, April 11

April is National Letter Writing Month, and stationery shop Penny Post has teamed up with cocktail-party purveyor The Hour to spark some creativity and reconnect loved ones via the written word. In support of the national #Write\_On campaign, Penny Post is asking would-be writers to commit to posting 30 letters in 30 days. Learn some new cocktail recipes and put pen to paper while you're at it. 1015 King St. 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$20.

### Chocolate Through Time at Lee-Fendall House, April 14

Learn about chocolate's sweet (and sometimes

unsavory) past with food historian Joyce White at one of Alexandria's historic homes. From the industrialization of the chocolate market to the sweet treat's cultural significance throughout time, the cocoa-based confection has a lengthy backstory. Stick around to taste some chocolate-based recipes. 614 Oronoco St. 2-4 p.m. Tickets \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door.

### Carpenter's Cook-Off, April 22

Carpenter's Shelter takes over The Birchmere for a good — and filling — cause. Take part in the shelter's largest fundraiser of the year and dive headfirst into delicacies from more than 20 area restaurants. Taste special dishes from the likes of Stomping Ground, Hard Times, Dishes of India and Sugar Shack — among many more — and help the shelter achieve its financial goals in the process. 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Noon-3 p.m. Tickets \$100 for VIP, \$50 for adults, \$20 for kids 12 and under.

### Murder Mystery Dinner at the Carlyle Club, April 22

Join the Carlyle Club for a night of murder and mayhem — and dinner — at their "A Murderous Matrimony" evening. Put on by the Michael Murder Mystery Players, the 90-minute show features the nuptials of Marsha and Billy Bob, complete with plenty of dysfunction. 2050 Ballenger Ave. 6 p.m. Tickets \$25.

### Schlafly Beer Dinner at Stomping Ground, April 24

The Southern outpost in the heart of Del Ray is pairing some good Midwestern beer with five courses of down-home cooking and invites you to be a part of it. Schlafly's founding brewer, Stephen Hale, will be in attendance to guide diners through the evening's pairings. 2309 Mount Vernon Ave. 7-10 p.m. Tickets \$65.

*Hope Nelson owns and operates the Kitchen Recessionista blog, located at [www.kitchenrecessionista.com](http://www.kitchenrecessionista.com). Email her any time at [hope@kitchenrecessionista.com](mailto:hope@kitchenrecessionista.com).*

2017 Belle View Blvd. Play hockey with other hockey buffs, hitting slap shots and learning puck handling skills that the pros use. Players must have full equipment. 16 and older. visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/mtvernon/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/mtvernon/) or call 703-768-3224.

#### THURSDAY/APRIL 5

**Local Author Thursday.** 5-7 p.m. at The Old Town Shop, 105 South Union St. Book signing by Craig Roach, "Simply Electrifying: The Technology that Transformed the World, from Benjamin Franklin to Elon Musk." Light refreshments. Call 703-684-4682 or visit [www.TheOldTownShop.com](http://www.TheOldTownShop.com).

**Author Talk with Ann Bausum.** 7 p.m. at the Nannie J. Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St., Alexandria. Free. The author of Sergeant Stubby will read from her books as part of All Alexandria Reads, facilitated by the Alexandria Library. Call 703-746-5405.

**Ain't Nobody More Surprised.** 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. By Spoken Word Artist 13 of Nazareth. In the form of

storytelling, poetry, and verse, spoken word artist 13 of Nazareth shares observations and experiences gathered along the road of a life. Free. Call 703-548-0035 or visit the website at [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org).

#### FRIDAY/APRIL 6

**Fools' Day Merriment.** 6-8:30 p.m. at Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St., Alexandria. Wear crazy hats and clothes to celebrate April Fools' Day. The Alexandria Singers will be on hand to teach juggling. The Mobile Art Lab will be on hand to lead interactive art activities. \$9 per person. Children must be accompanied by one adult. To purchase tickets, visit [tiny.cc/yhysry](http://tiny.cc/yhysry).

#### FRIDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 6-15

**Architecture at its Best: An Exhibit of Projects by Local Architects.** At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St. Visit the Torpedo Factory to view an exhibit of winning projects from AIA Northern Virginia's Design Awards Program, on display in the ground floor lobby.

This event, co-hosted by the Torpedo Factory, is offered in celebration of AIA Northern Virginia Architecture Week. Admission to both the Torpedo Factory and the exhibit are free and open to the public. Visit [aianova.org/architectureweek.php](http://aianova.org/architectureweek.php).

#### APRIL 6-29

**Art Exhibit: A Touch of Magic.** Gallery hours at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Del Ray Artisans "A Touch of Magic" exhibit is inspired by the subtle, simple, complex, or bold magic that creates life's special moments, fulfilled dreams, rare experiences, and fosters the recognition of beauty. Opening Reception is Friday, April 6, 7-9 p.m. Visit [www.DelRayArtisans.org](http://www.DelRayArtisans.org).

#### SATURDAY/APRIL 7

**Spring Cleaning in the Parks.** 9-11:30 a.m. at 10 different Fairfax County parks: Cub Run RECenter, Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, Hidden Oaks Nature Center at Roundtree Park, Hidden Pond Nature Center,

# ENTERTAINMENT

Huntley Meadows Park, Lake Accotink Park, Lake Fairfax Park, Riverbend Park, Scott's Run Nature Preserve, and Sully Historic Site. More than 750 volunteers will join the Fairfax County Park Authority and The Nature Conservancy for annual "spring cleaning" efforts to kickoff Earth Month. The volunteers will remove trash and debris, while also assisting scientists and conservationists by recording data about what they remove. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/).

### Garden Gate Plant Shop Reopens.

9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. You will find shrubs, native plants, wildflowers, ornamental grasses and unusual perennials and annuals. All proceeds from the shop benefit the gardens at Green Spring. Friends of Green Spring (FROGS) receive a 10 percent discount. Call 703-642-5173 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/green-spring/shops](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/green-spring/shops).

### Playwriting for Young Audiences

**Workshop.** 9 a.m.-noon at National Art Education Association, 901 Prince St., Alexandria. Guest playwright Martha King DeSilva will discuss writing and developing new plays for younger audiences. Registration fee: \$45; early bird fee \$35 (before March 30). Email [PipelinePlaywrights@gmail.com](mailto:PipelinePlaywrights@gmail.com) for registration information.

### The "Grandest Congress" - The French and Indian War in Alexandria.

12-4 p.m. at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St., Alexandria. Free. Visitors to the Carlyle House will experience Maj. Gen. Edward Braddock's visit there and the French and Indian War firsthand through costumed interpreters. Visit



Nicholas Hersh

## Alexandria Symphony Orchestra

Guest Conductor Nicholas Hersh's program focuses on contrasting styles, featuring Johannes Brahms' Symphony No. 2 in D Major, C.P.E. Bach's Symphony in E-Flat Major and Astor Piazzolla's Tangazo: Variations on Buenos Aires. Saturday, April 7, 8 p.m. at Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 4915 E. Campus Drive; Sunday, April 8, 3 p.m. at George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Tickets are \$20-\$80. Visit [www.alexsym.org](http://www.alexsym.org) or call 703-548-0885.

[www.novaparks.com](http://www.novaparks.com) or call 703-549-2997.

### Horse and Carriage Re-Enactment.

Noon at George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate. Horse and Carriage Re-enactment with Col. Washington and his bride. Experience the reenactment of Colonel and Martha Washington's 1759 arrival to the estate in a horse-drawn carriage. Included in admission. Visit [www.mountvernon.org/arrival](http://www.mountvernon.org/arrival).

### 50-Year Tribute to Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



The Alexandria Symphony Orchestra at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center.

2 p.m. at Bethlehem Baptist Church, 7836 Fordson Road. To remember the 50th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King's death on April 4, 1968, a local coalition of faith communities and nonprofits, Ventures in Community (VIC), will sponsor a tribute to him. An informal cookie-and-punch reception will follow. The event is free and open to all. Visit [www.bethlehemofalexandria.org](http://www.bethlehemofalexandria.org).

6-7 p.m. at Lincolnia Senior Center, 4710 North Chambliss St., Alexandria. Open dancing 7-9:30 p.m. with a DJ who provides music. Admission for NVCWDA members \$10; non-members \$12; children under 18 accompanied by a paying adult \$5. Smoke-free, alcohol-free. BYO refreshments. Visit [www.nvcwda.org](http://www.nvcwda.org).

**Alexandria Symphony.** 8 p.m. at Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 4915 E. Campus Drive,

Alexandria. Nicholas Hersh's program focuses on contrasting styles, featuring Johannes Brahms' Symphony No. 2 in D Major, C.P.E. Bach's Symphony in E-Flat Major and Astor Piazzolla's Tangazo: Variations on Buenos Aires. Tickets are \$20-\$80/adults. visit [www.alexsym.org](http://www.alexsym.org) or call 703-548-0885.

### SUNDAY/APRIL 8

**Bagels and Bach Concert.** 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St., Alexandria. Enjoy classical music, learn how to appreciate classical music, and be treated to a light brunch. Features Low Brass Orchestral Highlights (featuring excerpts from works by Wagner, Mozart, Schumann, Mahler, Berlioz, Hindemith and more.). Featured musicians will be: Tyler Castrucci and Stephen Omelsky, tenor trombone; and Adam Stokes, bass trombone. Tickets are \$9 per person; children under 5 are free. Reserve tickets at [tiny.cc/yhsryr](http://tiny.cc/yhsryr) or visit [www.alexandriava.gov/Arts](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Arts).

**Alexandria Symphony.** 3 p.m. at George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria. Nicholas Hersh's program focuses on contrasting styles, featuring Johannes Brahms' Symphony No. 2 in D Major, C.P.E. Bach's Symphony in E-Flat Major and Astor Piazzolla's Tangazo: Variations on Buenos Aires. Tickets are \$20-\$80/adults. visit [www.alexsym.org](http://www.alexsym.org) or call 703-548-0885.

**Walking Tour of Historic Old Town Alexandria.** 1-3 p.m. Led by members of AIA's Historic Resources Committee, the tour covers the history of Alexandria as reflected through its architecture and urban

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# ENTERTAINMENT

design, highlighting examples from Georgian to Art Deco. This event is offered in celebration of Virginia Architecture Week. \$10 per person. Tour is open to the public, but space is limited and advance reservations are required. Visit [aianova.org/architectureweek.php](http://aianova.org/architectureweek.php).

**WIA Lecture Series: Architecture, Design and Cultural Space.** 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Torpedo Factory, 105 North Union St. Co-hosted by the Torpedo Factory and offered as part of Virginia Architecture Week and the 2018 Women in Architecture Lecture Series. Three panelists, Ronit Eisenbach, Philippa Hughes and Khara James, will share their experiences with the design of various cultural spaces. Information about the panelists is available here. Reception at 6:30, followed by the panel at 7:30. \$12 AIA members, Torpedo Factory members, tenant artists and Factory Society members; \$10 students; \$20 non-members. Visit [aianova.org/architectureweek.php](http://aianova.org/architectureweek.php).

## MONDAY/APRIL 9

**On the Boards – Cleveland Park Library.** 6:30-8 p.m. at Virginia Tech's Washington-Alexandria Architecture Center, 1001 Prince St. This event is offered in celebration of Virginia Architecture Week. Students, architects and the public are invited to join staff from Perkins Eastman as they discuss their design for the new Cleveland Park Library in Washington, D.C. Free. No registration needed. Reception to follow presentation. Visit [aianova.org/architectureweek.php](http://aianova.org/architectureweek.php).

**Ballroom Dance Classes.** 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. Led by Gary Stephans, ballroom dance instructor. Learn the Fox Trot, Waltz, Tango, Swing, Salsa, Merengue, Rumba, Cha-Cha and Samba. No partner needed. Cost is \$30/person; \$55/couple. Email [garystephans@me.com](mailto:garystephans@me.com) or 703-505-5998.

## MONDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 9-15

**Architecture Week Book Displays.** Displays of architecture-themed books for all ages will be featured at participating area public libraries. Free and open to the public. This event is offered as part of Virginia Architecture Week. Visit [aianova.org/architectureweek.php](http://aianova.org/architectureweek.php).

## TUESDAY/APRIL 10

**Living Legends Portraits Reception.** 5-6:30 p.m. at Market Square Lobby, Sisters Cities Room #1101, City Hall, 301 King St., Alexandria. The room is located on the first floor of City Hall by the Cameron Street entrance. Prior to and following opening remarks by City officials and board President Jennifer Ayers, a video compilation will show the interviews with each of this year's honored Legends.

**Virtual Reality Demonstrations.** 6:30-8 p.m. at the Durant Recreation Center, 1605 Cameron St. This event is offered in celebration of Virginia Architecture Week. Join local architects for a night of virtual reality demonstrations during Architecture Week, featuring design walkthroughs, historic virtual tours, 360° Photography, and more. Organized by AIA Northern Virginia Young Architects Forum and the DC Virtual Reality Meetup, this event is offered free of charge and is open to the public. Visit [aianova.org/architectureweek.php](http://aianova.org/architectureweek.php).

## WEDNESDAY/APRIL 11

**Architecture's Relevance Revolution.** 7-8 p.m. at The Beatley



## Ain't Nobody More Surprised.

By Spoken Word Artist 13 of Nazareth. In the form of storytelling, poetry, and verse, spoken word artist 13 of Nazareth shares observations and experiences gathered along the road of a life which has lasted longer than he expected. Thursday, April 5, 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. Free. Call 703-548-0035 or visit the website at [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org).

### 13 of Nazareth

Central Library, 5005 Duke St. In celebration of Virginia Architecture Week, Carl Elefante, FAIA, 2018 President of the American Institute of Architects, will speak about environment concerns and how architecture can make a difference. A reception will follow the presentation. \$10 (AIA NOVA 360 Mentoring participants are free.) Reservations are requested; onsite registration available. Free parking. Visit [aianova.org/architectureweek.php](http://aianova.org/architectureweek.php).

## THURSDAY/APRIL 12

**Days of Remembrance.** Noon at Market Square, 301 King St., Alexandria. Alexandria City Council hosts the annual ceremony in commemoration of the national Days of Remembrance, April 8-15. The speaker will be Irene Weiss, a survivor of the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp. The event is free and open to the public. In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held in the Vola Lawson Lobby on the first floor of City Hall.

**Kick Off Charity Dinner.** 6 p.m. at Murphy's Irish Pub of Alexandria, 713 King St., Alexandria. For the One Step at a Time 20M/20K/5K Run/Walk to raise money and awareness for veteran suicide and homelessness. The race on April 14 at 8 a.m. will be held at Prince William Forest Park in Dumfries. Register for the dinner at: [www.classy.org/alexandria/events/murphys-alexandria-one-step-at-time-charity-dinner/e170153](http://www.classy.org/alexandria/events/murphys-alexandria-one-step-at-time-charity-dinner/e170153) Register for the run at: [www.classy.org/event/one-step-at-a-time/e162158](http://www.classy.org/event/one-step-at-a-time/e162158)

**Opening Reception.** 6:30-8 p.m. at the Art League Gallery, 105 North Union St., Studio 21, in the Torpedo Factory. Paintings by Robert Gilbert: A Study of Manhattan: Power, Dominance, and Excitement runs April 4-May 6, 2018. Visit [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org) or call 703-683-1780.

**30 Years of Shaping the City.** 6:30 p.m. wine and cheese reception; 7 p.m. program at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. In 1984, The Washington Post began publishing a weekly column called "Shaping the City." Written and illustrated by Roger K. Lewis, FAIA, the column addresses a broad range of topics and issues relevant to the built environment, among them architecture, historic preservation, housing, smart growth, sustainability, transportation, and urbanism. RSVP at [admin@nvfaa.org](mailto:admin@nvfaa.org).

**Earth Care Forum.** 7-9 p.m. at Fairlington Presbyterian Church, 3846 King St., Alexandria. Learn how to better care for your property. Hear from Audubon at Home Ambassadors, Earth Sangha, and local groups that have taken on projects to compost and create

monarch way stations. Visit [www.fpcusa.org/welcome](http://www.fpcusa.org/welcome).

**Center for Alexandria's Children Gala.** 7-10 p.m. at the new Old Dominion Boat Club "ODBC" Clubhouse, 200 Strand St., Alexandria. Cost is \$175 each. A benefit to raise funds for the City's primary resource for the prevention, investigation, and treatment of child abuse. Support critical programs that build strong families and keep children safe. Visit the website at [www.centerforalexandriaschildren.org](http://www.centerforalexandriaschildren.org).

**Natural Discoveries: A Firsthand Account of Citizen Science.** 7:30-9 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Talk by Jim Waggener, a naturalist who organized the public campaign that led to creation of Occoquan Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Visit [vnps.org/potowmack/events](http://vnps.org/potowmack/events).

## APRIL 12-28

**"Outside the Lines."** Play performances at 10, 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. at The Lab at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. Tickets are \$9. The story is about two pen pals, Bud and Vi, who brighten each other's lives from afar. Bud lives in a straight-line world of tall, tall buildings. Vi lives in a curvy-line world of rolly, rolly hills. Bud and Vi have never met, but they create a world together by exchanging lines...through the mail. Purchase tickets at: [www.artsonthehorizon.org/outside-the-lines.html](http://www.artsonthehorizon.org/outside-the-lines.html).

## FRIDAY/APRIL 13

**Cocktails by Candlelight.** 6-9 p.m. at George Mason's Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Mason Neck. Sip on period cocktails and learn to make 18th century mixed drinks and snacks; enjoy a candlelight tour of George Mason's historic home. Tickets are \$35/\$25; sold online at [bit.ly/2Bd5i1Y](http://bit.ly/2Bd5i1Y). Contact Mary Kristen Craver at 703-550-9220 ext. 240 or [mkcraver@gunstonhall.org](mailto:mkcraver@gunstonhall.org).

**The Georgetown Saxatones.** 6:30 p.m. wine and cheese reception; 7 p.m. program at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. Tickets \$15. The Georgetown University Saxatones' repertoire includes everything from alternative to pop to soul. Proceeds to benefit the Saxatones' charity, The John McNicholas Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation. Buy tickets at [www.nvfaa.org/events/](http://www.nvfaa.org/events/).

**Opening Reception: 2018 Emerging Artists.** 7-9 p.m.; artist talk at 7:30 p.m. at Target Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 North Union St., Studio 2. Target Gallery, the contemporary exhibition space of the Torpedo Factory Art Center, introduces a new annual exhibition

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# ENTERTAINMENT

series featuring the work of emerging artists of the D.C., Maryland, and Virginia region. This inaugural year's exhibition features the work of Katie Barrie, Ronald Jackson, Hollis McCracken, and Holly Trout. Visit [torpedofactory.org/partners/target-gallery](http://torpedofactory.org/partners/target-gallery).

**Scrap City - Family Activities.** 7-9:30 p.m. at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St. This event is offered in celebration of Virginia Architecture Week. Architects from AIA Northern Virginia will be on hand to help participants design and build a "Scrap City." Families are encouraged to stop and participate. Reservations are not required. Visit [aianova.org/architectureweek.php](http://aianova.org/architectureweek.php).

## APRIL 13-14

**Spring Garden Market.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at River Farm, 7931 E. Boulevard Drive, Alexandria. More than 40 vendors will offer plants, vegetable seedlings, natives and pollinator favorites. Parking is \$10 (cash only) per car; waived for AHS members showing a current membership card or other proof of membership such as an online receipt. Call 703-768-5700 or visit [www.ahsgardening.org/gardenmarket](http://www.ahsgardening.org/gardenmarket).

## APRIL 13-29

**"I Did It My Way in Yiddish (in English)." 8 p.m.** at MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St., Alexandria. A play written and performed by Deb Filler, an internationally acclaimed Canadian/New Zealand Jewish comic, musician and writer. Visit [www.metrostage.org](http://www.metrostage.org).

## SATURDAY/APRIL 14

**The Old Dominion Boat Club Tour.** 9-10 a.m. at 200 Strand St. This tour, led by Michael Winstanley, AIA, with Michael Winstanley Architects & Planners, the architects for the project, will explore the new three-story Old Dominion Boat Club (ODBC) completed in late 2017. This event is offered in celebration of Virginia Architecture Week. \$10. Attendance is limited and advance reservations are required. Visit [aianova.org/architectureweek.php](http://aianova.org/architectureweek.php).

**Sympatico Concert.** 10-11 a.m. at City Hall, 301 King St., Alexandria. During the Farmers Market, Alexandria Symphony Orchestra's Sympatico performs. In partnership with Coldwell Banker's Alexandria office. Visit [www.asosympatico.com](http://www.asosympatico.com) or [www.alexsym.org](http://www.alexsym.org).

**Skyline Yoga.** 10-11 a.m. at 2311 Wilson Blvd., Rooftop Terrace. Enjoy a free yoga class with local architects in an architecturally inspiring place with sweeping views of the metro area. Organized by the AIA Northern Virginia Young Architects Forum, this



PHOTO BY GIULIANO ANTONIO

**Metropolitan School of the Arts students to perform for Annual Showcase: 10Plus1 at the Ernst Community Cultural Center.**

## Metropolitan School of Arts' Annual Showcase

Metropolitan School of the Arts Performing Arts Academy is hosting its Anniversary Annual Showcase, 10Plus 1, an innovative choreography of MSA students in tap, jazz, contemporary and hip-hop. Tickets are \$20 per person. Sunday, April 15, 5 p.m. at Ernst Community Cultural Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Visit [www.metropolitanarts.org](http://www.metropolitanarts.org).

event is free and open to the public. Please bring a yoga mat. Visit [aianova.org/architectureweek.php](http://aianova.org/architectureweek.php).

**"Riding with George" Java Jolt Lecture.** 10 a.m.-noon at the Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 North Union St., #327, Alexandria. Free. Philip Smucker will discuss his new book, "Riding with George: Sportsmanship & Chivalry in the Making of America's First President." Reservations required. Email [archaeology@alexandriava.gov](mailto:archaeology@alexandriava.gov) or call 703-746-4399.

**Architecture Scavenger Hunt for Children.** 11 a.m.-1 p.m., begins at the AIA Northern Virginia Chapter House, 1101 Duke St. A fun self-guided activity for children and their families, organized by our Architecture Lab Committee. Start by checking in at the Chapter House. There participants will receive a map identifying 12 places that are synonymous with Old Town Alexandria. After completion of the activity, bring the map to the Torpedo Factory to receive a small prize. Children must be accompanied by an adult to participate. Free event, but pre-registration is required. Visit

[aianova.org/architectureweek.php](http://aianova.org/architectureweek.php).

**Huntley's Discovery Day.** 1-4 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park, 6918 Harrison Lane, Alexandria. Free. Sleuth through documents, maps, artifacts, and architecture to discover which Founding Father once owned Huntley Meadows Park. Discover the hidden history of Historic Huntley by making (and tasting) homemade butter or cranking fresh ice cream. Call 703-768-2525 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows-park/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows-park/).

**The U.S. Air Force Strings.** 1:30 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. Free. Sixteen pieces will join in an afternoon for a traditional orchestra and strolling segment. To RSVP, email [admin@nvfaa.org](mailto:admin@nvfaa.org).

**Discovery Day.** 1-4 p.m. at Historic Huntley, 6918 Harrison Lane, Alexandria. \$5 donation. Enjoy activities for the whole family while discovering how this 19<sup>th</sup> century villa changed over time: sleuth through Huntley photos, maps and artifacts; tour the federal-style house; participate in old-time Huntley activities such as ice cream- and

butter-making. Call 703 768-2525.

**"Chocolate Through Time."** 2 p.m. at Lee-Fendall House, 614 Oronoco St., Alexandria. An interactive presentation led by food historian Joyce White will focus on how chocolate has changed through time. The presentation will be followed by a chance to taste an assortment of chocolate recipes. Tickets are \$15 through museum's website; \$20 day of program. Visit [leefendallhouse.org](http://leefendallhouse.org) or call 703-548-1789.

**WeLive Crystal City.** 2-3 p.m. at 2221 South Clark St., #413, Arlington. WeLive Crystal City, opened in 2016, is a co-living residence with furnished living spaces and common areas to provide shared community, work and social spaces. Perkins Eastman, the project Architect of Record, transformed a 1960s Crystal City office building into a co-living, micro-unit residential building, part of the shared workspace provider WeWork. Tenant amenities include media lounges, a library, professional kitchens, co-working space, a laundry-arcade, yoga studio and a courtyard with tables and grills. Free. Register to ensure space. Visit [aianova.org/architectureweek.php](http://aianova.org/architectureweek.php).

**Writing Training.** 2:15-4:15 p.m. at Ellen Coolidge Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road, Alexandria. Learn how to write a letter to the editor. Bring an article about an issue that's important to you. Contact Stephanie Burns at [sdburns13@gmail.com](mailto:sdburns13@gmail.com).

**Firm Tour - Winstanley Architects & Planners.** 3-4 p.m. at Winstanley Architects & Planners, 107 North West St. Tour an architecture firm located in a renovated warehouse, see impressive architectural models for projects worldwide and learn about the firm's award winning Potomac Transportation Framework Plan. The tour is free and reservations are not necessary. Visit [aianova.org/architectureweek.php](http://aianova.org/architectureweek.php).

**UCM Spring Gala.** 6 p.m. at U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, Madison Building Atrium, 600 Dulany St., Old Town Alexandria. Join United Community Ministries for a special event of celebration, benefiting local families in need. Event emcee is NBC4 News 4 Anchor, Adam Tuss. Bruce and Joanne Malkin will be honored with the Gerald W. Hyland Humanitarian Award. Tickets \$200 per person; \$140 under age 40. Sponsorships starting at \$500 still available, including seats and publicity. Details at [ucmagency.org](http://ucmagency.org) or email [info@ucmagency.org](mailto:info@ucmagency.org).

**Springtime in Paris Ball.** 7-10:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St., Alexandria. Cost is \$150. Enjoy a "joie de vivre" atmosphere with music by Doc Scantlin and Chou Chou. French cuisine, libations and silent auction. Visit [www.gadsbytavernmuseum.us](http://www.gadsbytavernmuseum.us).

Contact Kay Zerwick, Ball Co-Chair at [kay.zerwick@gmail.com](mailto:kay.zerwick@gmail.com).

**Gatsby's Speakeasy.** 8:30 p.m. at Westin Hotel, 400 Courthouse Square, Alexandria. Sponsored by the Orchestra League of Alexandria (SOLA) to benefit the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra. Ticket prices range from \$50 for the 8:30 p.m. opening (includes casino, bourbon tasting, signature cocktail (2), dancing, live music.) to full access from \$200 per person to \$5,000 for a table for 10, which begins with the Patron's Reception. Visit [www.501auctions.com/sola](http://www.501auctions.com/sola).

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 14-15

**Annual Daffodil Show.** Saturday, 2-7 p.m.; Sunday, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at The Alexandria Scottish Rite Temple, 1430 West Braddock Road. Show features different daffodil forms and colors including trumpet, large-cup, small-cup, double, split-cup, and miniature. Show also includes a design category and a multi-category photography contest, with photographs to feature daffodils. Free. Visit [www.thewashingtondaffodilsociety.org](http://www.thewashingtondaffodilsociety.org).

## SUNDAY/APRIL 15

**Parallel Lives Gallery Talk.** 2 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. Free. Join a Gallery Talk with the artists in Parallel Lives and exhibition curator Brigitte Reyes. The talk will be moderated by Laura Roulet, independent curator. Call 703-548-0035 or visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org).

**Jazz at Meade Concert.** 4-6 p.m. at 322 N. Alfred St., Alexandria. Featuring jazz saxophonist Marshall Keys at Meade Memorial Episcopal Church. Suggested \$20 donation for jazz and buffet. Visit [www.meadechurch.org](http://www.meadechurch.org) or email [jazzatmeade@meadechurch.org](mailto:jazzatmeade@meadechurch.org).

**Metropolitan School of Arts' Annual Showcase.** 5 p.m. at Ernst Community Cultural Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Alexandria's Metropolitan School of the Arts Performing Arts Academy is hosting its Anniversary Annual Showcase, 10Plus 1, an innovative choreography of MSA students in tap, jazz, contemporary and hip-hop. \$20 per person. Go to [metropolitanarts.org](http://metropolitanarts.org) to purchase.

## TUESDAY/APRIL 17

**FamilySearch.org Changes.** 1-3 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Free. Mount Vernon Genealogical Society's Carol Kostakos Petranek will discuss recent changes to FamilySearch.org, the world's largest free family history website. Visit [mvgenealogy.org](http://mvgenealogy.org) or call 703-768-4101.

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## National Champions

**Bishop Ireton swept the Christian Cheerleaders of America's (CCA) National Championships in Fayetteville, N.C. last month. The varsity cheerleading team has clenched this title for the third year in a row. The team took first place in tumbling, and in the Large Varsity Division in the music and non-music categories offered at the competition. The Cardinals became the National Grand Champions after receiving the highest score out of any division in the National Competition. At the competition, Cardinals Coach Angela Hope-Eskew, the 2012 CCA National Coach of the Year, was recognized for being in the CCA's Coach's Hall of Fame.**

**BULLETIN BOARD** Submit civic/community announcements at [ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar](http://ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar). Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

### 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](http://www.alexandriava.gov/DCHS) for eligibility and required documents.

### THURSDAY/APRIL 5

**DASH Meeting on Fare Change.** 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Mt. Vernon Rec Center, 2701 Commonwealth Ave., Alexandria. DASH is gathering community input on several proposed fare and service changes. The changes include a fare increase from \$1.60 to \$1.75, an increase in the cost of the monthly DASH Pass from \$40 to \$45, a new discounted Senior SmarTrip fare during off-peak periods, and a minor reduction in weekday morning King Street Trolley service. Visit [www.dashbus.com](http://www.dashbus.com).

**Sewer Outfalls Meeting.** 7-9 p.m. at Alexandria Renew Enterprises, 1800 Limerick St., Alexandria. City of Alexandria is seeking input on its Long Term Control Plan update, a key piece of the City's work to address its combined sewer outfalls. Members of the public are invited to give feedback. The City and AlexRenew will present the draft plan and solicit comments and feedback. Visit [alexandriava.gov/CleanWaterways](http://alexandriava.gov/CleanWaterways).

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 28



## Gold Medal Winners

**The Alexandria Titans' 14 Black team of the Alexandria Titans Volleyball Club took home the Gold Medal at the March 10, Maryland Juniors Sportsplex Tournament in Jessup, Md. Coaches and players of Titans 14 Black include (from left) Derek Baxter (head coach), Nia Baskin, Maura Munson, Lauren Thiell, Kaitlin Peters, Natalie Keough, Anna Harrington, Dylan Rex and Jeff Klein (assistant coach). Missing from the photo include Tess Lundgren, Nellie Hartell, and Addie Fielding.**

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# 'Run the George'

## Register for 34th Annual George Washington Parkway Classic.

**T**he 34th Annual George Washington Parkway Classic presented by Jillian Keck Hogan Group - McEneaney Associates takes place on Sunday, April 22. Alexandria's hometown destination centric race is presented by local apparel and race management company Pacers Running and draws over 8,000 runners and spectators throughout the region and beyond.

The George Washington Parkway Classic starts at the Mount Vernon Estate and takes runners down the tree-lined namesake parkway to another of George's destinations — Old Town Alexandria. The event features two distances to choose from (10 Miler or 5K) as well as a Sugar Shack Kids Dash, and a Finish Festival with live music, Port City

Brewing Company pop-up beer garden, a kids zone, a post race stretch zone provided by ProRehab, and other activities. Runners are treated to a cold brew from Port City Brewing Company and a taco from District Taco when they cross the finish line. This year, the race will have the Washington Nationals Racing President George Washington at the finish line cheering runners and celebrating at the Finish Festival.

Several Alexandria businesses and city organizations are offering a variety of activities and promotional specials for runners, spectators, family and friends to celebrate and support the race:

- ❖ Watch in style on Union Street at Hotel Indigo. The Hotel Indigo Old Town will serve as a spectator lounge and poster-making station on the morning of the GW Parkway Classic, offering rose and prosecco Chambong "morning happy hour" specials, mini "Sunrise on the go" biscuit sandwiches with bacon egg and cheddar, as well as some other light brunch bites.

- ❖ Visit Alexandria 'Make It A Classic Weekend' Travel Packages: Parkway Classic runners and guests can stay overnight and take

advantage of a Parkway Classic hotel package. Visit Alexandria has more than a dozen participating hotels and 20-plus restaurants offering carbo-loading menus for Saturday night and a post-race brunch on Sunday.

- ❖ Old Town Boutique District Fashion Pass entitles runners to 15 percent off one item in any OTBD member store and can be used from April 6-May 6, 2018.



- ❖ AR Workshop Alexandria: Runners are encouraged to stop by AR Workshop's booth at the Finish Festival to make a complimentary mini wood sign/race memento while supplies last.
- ❖ Alexandria Restaurant Partners: Join ARP to refuel post-race with carbs, protein, and a beer. Runners get their first draft beer for a rock bottom special. Offer good on Sunday, April 22 only and at the following participating restaurants: Lena's Wood-Fired Pizza & Tap, The Majestic, Mia's Italian Kitchen, Palette 22, Virtue Feed & Grain, and Vola's Docksides Grill. Not valid with any other discount or promotion.

- ❖ Lagers for Joggers Post Race Recovery at Union Street Public House: After the Finish Festival wraps, runners and their families can enjoy "Lager's for Jogger's" Post Race "Recovery" specials. Doors open at 10 a.m. with specials extending all afternoon.

For registration information, race route details and event day activities, visit [www.runpacers.com/race/parkway-classic/](http://www.runpacers.com/race/parkway-classic/). Race starts at 8 a.m., April 22 at Mount Vernon Estate. Cost is \$78-10 Miler, \$48-5K, \$10-Sugar Shack Kids Dash.

## SPORTS

# Junior Rowers Score Wins for TC at Noxontown Regatta

## Frosh rowers make a statement at St. Andrews.

The T.C. Williams High School Class of 2021 announced at the first regatta of the Spring 2018 season that they intend to be a force on the water, with Frosh rowers winning two races, coming in a close second, and contributing to a first place finish with upperclass rowers in a fourth boat.

On Saturday, March 31, TC rowers traveled two hours north to St. Andrews School in Middleton, Del. for their traditional opening season regatta on Noxontown Pond. While this race often features temperatures barely above freezing and occasionally has been run in snow squalls, the weather this year was a relatively balmy 55 degrees with sunny skies and light breezes, offering excellent racing conditions.

The Titans' competitors, in ad-



TC Women's Frosh 8A Boat

dition to host St. Andrews, included rowers from Fairfax's W.T. Woodson, and Ocean City, Main-

land, and Holy Spirit high schools from New Jersey.

Setting the pace for the Titans

in the second race of the day was the Frosh Women's 8A boat, which roared down the 1500-meter course to finish with a time of 5:28.5, more than 10 seconds ahead of St. Andrews and 26 seconds ahead of third-place Holy Spirit. The Frosh Women's 8A includes rowers Riley Bucholz, Libby Padilla, Mackenzie Allen, Kaitie Dennis, Wellesley Snyder, Grace Yokitis, Adrienne Carter, and Halle Reinholtz, and coxswain Caroline Miles.

In the next event, the TC Men's Frosh 8 battled evenly down the course in what became a two-boat race with the oarsmen from Mainland. The Titans finished second with a time of 5:07.3, just over 3 seconds short of the win and 13 seconds ahead of number 3 Ocean City.

Immediately after the Frosh Men, the TC Women's Light 8 took to the water in an event that in-

cluded not only other Light 8 boats, but typically stronger Junior 8 and Third 8 boats as well. The TC Light 8 boat features juniors Chloe Marsh and Anna Jane Guynn, sophomores Ava Elkins, Felicity Brock, Alaina Browand, Lila Arnold, and coxswain Candace Goodman, and frosh rowers Anna Hill and Caroline Surratt. The Titan Lights scored a win in 5:24.2, over 3 seconds ahead of the Holy Spirit Third 8s and 10 seconds better than St. Andrews Third 8s.

The TC Women's First 8 recorded a third-place finish in their first outing of the season with a time of 5:12.1, behind winner Holy Spirit and second-place Ocean City. The Titan Women's Second 8 also placed third in their race with a time of 5:16.6, behind WT Woodson and Ocean City.

Racing in a full six-boat field, the TC Frosh Women's 8B boat secured the largest winning margin of the day with a time of 5:44.9, almost 25 seconds ahead of runner-up Holy Spirit and roughly half a minute ahead of number 3 Mainland. The Titan Frosh Women's 8B includes rowers Grace Willmore, Katie Rose Milone, Maggie Coombs, Annalise Roberts, Emily Surratt, Ellie Nebolsine, Julianne Joven, and Julia Guessford, and coxswain Zaida Calix-Tello.

TC's final win of the day came in the Men's JV 4+ category, where the Titans entered two boats and finished first and third in the five-boat field with times of 5:35.8 and 5:53.9, respectively. The rowers on the Titan's winning JV4+ include Griff Austin, Will Bavin, Adam Elnahas, and CJ Chidlow, with coxswain Clare Williams.

Next up for the Titan Crew is the Walter Mess Regatta at Occoquan on Saturday, April 7.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PAUL FLUOS



## March Madness in Alexandria

As family and friends gathered around on March 19 to celebrate the athletes of the Nannie J. Lee 10 and under girls' basketball team's season, in came WNBA Washington Mystic Basketball player Tierra Ruffin-Pratt and retired NBA Basketball Player Jerrod Mustaf. Ruffin-Pratt and Mustaf asked if the girls wanted their 2017-2018 jerseys signed with their autographs, and the girls responded with a loud "Yes!" Coach Oswald and his players were able to take pictures with the two stars as well as have their PINK basketball officially autographed by them. It's on display at the Nannie J. Lee Center located at 1108 Jefferson St. "If you really want to change the world you have to inspire young people. That's how you change the world," said Mustaf. To volunteer to be a coach/mentor, contact the center at 703-746-5535.

## BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 27

### FRIDAY/APRIL 6

#### Scholarship Nomination Deadline.

The National Capital Region Chapter of the National Football Foundation is accepting nominations for their 2018 Scholar-Athlete banquet. The Chapter awards five \$1,000 scholarships annually to deserving high school senior scholar athletes who played high school football. Nominees are evaluated on academic and athletic excellence, as well as contributions to their school and community. Nomination packets have been mailed to each high school head coach in the National Capital Region.

### MONDAY/APRIL 9

#### Opioid Community Action Plan

**Meeting.** 6:30-8 p.m. at T.C. Williams High School cafeteria, 3330 King St., Alexandria. This strategic planning session will address the local impact of the national opioid crisis, which affects all ages, cultural backgrounds, income levels and neighborhoods in Alexandria. Visit alexandriava.gov/Opioids.

**Meet the Candidates Night.** 7:30 p.m. at Beverley Hills Community United Methodist Church, 3512 Old Dominion Blvd., Alexandria. Sponsored by the North Ridge Citizens Association. At 7:30 p.m. the NRCA will begin a 1D2 hour business meeting and at 8 p.m. the 13 candidates will each have a couple minutes to introduce themselves. Contact Bruce Johnson at 571-238-1548 or email bjohnson123@comcast.net.

# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 22

## Keep City 'Walkable'

To the Editor:

Several weeks ago, a close friend of mine was walking on a brick sidewalk in Old Town, and fell face first on the sidewalk. On several occasions, I have also fallen on these same sidewalks, but thankfully, never face first. The most problematic sidewalks are those with tree wells, wherein a tree's roots grow out to such a degree that they dislodge the sidewalk bricks, or cause the bricks to loosen. In other parts of town, the sidewalks are not level due to tree roots altering the angle of the concrete blocks, creating a sizeable gap between these blocks.

In today's climate, pedestrians are often glued to their telephones, either taking selfies, web surfing, or texting rather than having the situational awareness to pay close attention to where they walk. These phone-absorbed people are also likely to become "spill victims." Needless to say, the city should be more vigilant in the inspection of sidewalks, and immediately take the appropriate corrective action, as it's very easy to stub one's toe on one of these loose bricks.

Another problem is the numerous potholes that have been created during this winter. Although the city's repaving plan for its 550 miles of roads is to pave 50 miles each year, this may be insufficient for this year's crop of potholes. (Hopefully the roads closest to your home are not scheduled for year 11!) Although the pothole dilemma is normally solved by calling the city's pothole number to get more immediate attention, the city appears to be totally overburdened this year, so they need to step up their game, and to dedicate more resources to the problem. Since Alexandria considers itself to be a walkable city for the most part; due diligence is needed to make sure that this activity safely occurs without undue impediments.

**Townsend A. "Van" Van Fleet**  
Alexandria

## A Mayor With Initiative

To the Editor:

This week marks 50 years since Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was shot dead at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis. King earned his hard-

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 30

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<p><b>Employment</b></p> <p><b>Fulltime Medical Receptionist Position for Orthopaedic Practice</b> Fort Washington, MD. Experience w/ insurance, but will train the right person. Fax Resume to 301-203-0482 Email Resume to Sameerbshammas@gmail.com Call Gina 301-203-0230</p>	<p><b>Announcements</b></p>	<p><b>Obituary</b></p>  <p><b>Margaret Bell Taylor Hatton</b>, 95 of Herkimer, NY died on March 22, 2018 at Folts Nursing Home. She was born in Arlington Virginia on August 2, 1922 to the late William Leslie Taylor and Alice Grey Cunningham. Including her parents, she is preceded in death by two daughters, Evelyn Delores Hatton and Brenda Lee Hinkley and two granddaughters. Margaret is survived by her two sons William A. Hatton and wife Jeanne; Kenneth C. Hatton and wife Leslie; one daughter, Suzette L. Vivyan and husband William. She also leaves to cherish her memory 8 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. A life celebration service will be held at Mount Comfort Cemetery Chapel, 6600 S. Kings Highway, Alexandria VA 22314 on Thursday, March 29, 2018 at 12:00pm.</p>	<p><b>For a free digital subscription to one or all of the 15 Connection Newspapers, go to <a href="http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe">www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe</a></b></p> <p>Complete digital replica of the print edition, including photos and ads, delivered weekly to your e-mail box.</p> <p>Questions? E-mail: <a href="mailto:goinggreen@connectionnewspapers.com">goinggreen@connectionnewspapers.com</a></p> 
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<p><b>Announcements</b></p> <p><b>STORM PROOF METAL ROOFING</b></p> <p>✓ WE MANUFACTURE METAL ✓ WE INSTALL METAL ✓ WE FINANCE METAL</p> <p>SUPERIOR DURABILITY - ENERGY EFFICIENT 40 YEAR WARRANTY ON THE FINISH SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT</p> <p><b>WWW.METALROOFOVER.COM</b></p> <p><b>CALL 800-893-1242</b> <b>FREE ESTIMATE! CALL TODAY!</b></p>	<p><b>Announcements</b></p>	<p><b>Obituary</b></p>  <p><b>Robert (Bob) Edward Via</b> of Colonial Beach, Virginia passed away on September 30, 2017 in Ohio. Bob is survived by his wife Marilyn Stumpf Via of Colonial Beach, Virginia, his daughter, Torey Via Worron of Lakewood, Ohio, his son, Robert Deane Via of Cape Coral, Fla.(deceased) granddaughter Tully Lee Worron of Lakewood, Ohio, grandson James Deane Via of Cape Coral, Florida and stepson Dwayne Stumpf of Manassas, Virginia. Bob graduated from George Washington High School in Alexandria, Virginia in 1949 where he was a multiple sport standout. Most notably were his multiple football touchdowns as an unstoppable running back. He was stationed out of Norfolk Virginia in the Coast Guard from 1952 to 1954. Then, much of his career was spent working for Eastern Airlines at Washington National Airport and at the Fort Lauderdale Florida airport. Following time residing in Virginia and Cape Coral Florida, the bulk of his time was spent in Colonial Beach, Virginia until recently when he moved to Ohio to be with his daughter and to receive medical care. Those who knew Bob know that he loved playing sports, coaching sports and watching sports. He was a big fan of the Washington Redskins and the Nationals. Later in life he enjoyed watching Tiger Woods play golf on TV and lamented that that it was the one sport he found difficult to play. Bob loved his family very much and was a quiet man who found solace in doing the crossword puzzle each and every day. He was also an avid reader who enjoyed a good book and a good cigar. A short service and interment will take place at The Arlington National Cemetery on April 19th at 9:00 am at the Administration building. Friends and relatives who are interested in attending should contact his daughter Torey Via Worron 's email at <a href="mailto:tlvorrone@gmail.com">tlvorrone@gmail.com</a> or by phone at 216-272-1678.</p>	<p><b>Obituary</b></p>
<p><b>Announcements</b></p> <p><i>Help for people with</i></p> <p><b>MACULAR DEGENERATION</b></p> <p>DMV offers special permit allowing low vision patients to drive with bioptic telescopic glasses. Call for a FREE phone consultation with Dr. Armstrong, Optometrist</p> <p><i>Offices in: Roanoke, Harrisonburg, Wytheville, Virginia</i></p> <p>Learn more at <a href="http://www.VirginiaLowVision.com">www.VirginiaLowVision.com</a> Dr. David L. Armstrong (866) 321-2030</p> 	<p><b>Announcements</b></p>	<p><b>Legals</b></p>	<p><b>Legals</b></p>
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## Label Me Presumptuous



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I have not been collecting return-address labels for years. I have however, been receiving them for years. Either as thank yous for charitable contributions made or as inducements for charitable contributions yet to be made. Regardless of the reason, I have had an ample supply until recently. And they have served me well as both a reminder of what I have and have not done. And over time, they have most definitely served their purpose. Amazingly though, the pages of return-address labels in inventory has been shrinking of late. Due to some combination of my lack of charitableness as well as a reduction in the numbers of unsolicited charitable quid pro quos (they may be a relationship there).

Let me be clear: I am under no delusion or pressure to respond to these letters/requests for money. Just because I receive them doesn't mean I must adhere to them. They're hardly a subpoena nor are they payment for services rendered. They are merely a pre-approach-type solicitation mailed to me at my home offering goods (the labels) for services (my contribution) not yet rendered. Opening an envelope and reading its contents doesn't make me a partner in their pursuit of my dollars.

But what exactly is the protocol here? Certainly I can understand keeping and/or using the return-address labels if I make a contribution, but what if I don't make a contribution? Do I have to throw these perfectly good return-address labels away? Don't some of these labels, by their design/content – and ultimately by their use by yours truly, indirectly support the original sender's cause? Isn't their use some kind of tacit paying-it-forward-type approval/contribution on my part? I realize money and/or in-kind contributions likely help more, but is there use by a non-contributor not abuse at all? After all, I'm sort of passing the word/keeping their chain going, aren't I?

If all is fair in love and war, certainly there's a little wiggle room in the world of mailing unsolicited inducements to unsuspecting recipients? I mean, I'm not asking for trouble here, am I? I'm merely asking for some understanding and clarification. If what was sent to me – not at my request and not as part of a phone conversation securing a commitment, was not my doing, then why am I responsible for it being done?

Obviously the labels are a convenience for me, and that is worth some amount of money and time that now I'm not having to spend. Still, it feels like an intrusion of sorts, a method to their madness – presumably, but to me a presumption, nevertheless. And that's just a few letters away from an assumption, and you all know what is said about assuming?

I suppose if you cast a wide enough net you're going to catch a few contributors who don't find anything fishy about this direct mail process and who feel compelled to respond favorably – so to speak, because a good deed has been for them. And if a good deed (or a "solid," to quote Detective Andy Sipowitz/Dennis Franz from NYPD Blue) deserves another then contributions will be made and address labels will be affixed.

But after years of receiving these return-address-labels-masquerading-as-solicitations-for-contributions – to a variety of charities, some more well known than others, I don't feel the least bit stuck in my decision to use these return address labels as I see fit. In a way, I am the beneficiary of their largess and in turn, they are the beneficiary of my non-cash contribution. It's sort of a win-win. But I don't suppose that was their intention. I suppose they wanted more, not less.

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

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## LETTERS

FROM PAGE 29

won reputation by showing up and speaking in support of important causes and movements. And he used his words around those events to set an example and change the direction of our country for the better.

I want to thank Mayor Allison Silberberg for also being that kind of leader, a leader who shows up. She went to the student walk-out at George Mason Elementary School on March 14 at the invitation of several students, including 11-year-old Naomi Wadler. On March 24, Mayor Silberberg greeted fellow marchers at the King Street Metro before the March for Our Lives and then went with them to the March. By showing up and being at the March, she participated in this historic conversation on gun violence. She also wrote a Resolution, passed unanimously by City Council on Feb. 27, which called for Congress and the Virginia General Assembly to "prioritize the protection of students" and support common sense gun reform laws. It also called for local governments to be allowed to enact common sense gun policies.

Mayor Silberberg has drafted two other initiatives, one on ethics and transparency in local government and a Statement on Inclusiveness, which is now posted all across our city. These are not just words but set the tone for how we move forward as a city, especially after tragic events, such as Charlottesville, or the Parkland shooting in Florida, or the shooting at Alexandria's Simpson Field.

Because of her thoughtful leadership, Mayor Silberberg was one of only nine mayors invited by New York City Mayor Bill De Blasio and New Orleans Mayor and President of the U.S. Conference of Mayors Mitch Landrieu to Gracie Mansion to discuss the importance of equity and inclusiveness in our country with prominent civil rights leaders. She was also invited last fall to be a lecturer at New Mayors School at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government. She has gone as a representative of our great city, and represented us well.

Despite a meager salary, Mayor Silberberg often works 16-18 hours as a more than full-time mayor. She consistently shows up to represent the city at multiple events day and night. She is careful, measured, and thoughtful with her words, and this is a very important quality to have in our mayor. I appreciate that, like MLK, she speaks up and shows up. In addition to tackling many issues across the city, Mayor Silberberg has set a new high bar for leadership in a very short time, and for this, she deserves to be re-elected as the Democratic nominee for mayor on June 12.

**Boyd Walker**  
Alexandria

## Write

The Gazette Packet welcomes views on any public issue.

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