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# Alexandria Gazette Packet



25 CENTS

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SEPTEMBER 20, 2018



PHOTOS BY DAN BRENDL/GAZETTE PACKET

The T. C. Williams High School choir, flanking elementary school students, prepares to sing the National Anthem.

## 'Future Guardians of Liberty'

ACPS Students celebrate annual Constitution Week.

BY DAN BRENDL  
GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) students showcased knowledge and appreciation of U.S. government and history at a ceremony on Monday, Sept. 17. The date marked the 231<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the U.S. Constitution's signing in 1787. Monday's ceremony, held at city hall and sponsored by the

Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) commemorated the occasion.

High school and elementary students, some in time period costume, sang various patriotic tunes before an audience of parents, teachers, public officials and local DAR members. Participating schools included T. C. Williams High School, Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy, Mount Vernon Community School and Samuel Tucker Elementary

SEE 'FUTURE GUARDIANS', PAGE 4

Students from Mount Vernon Community School sing "America the Beautiful" in English, Spanish and American Sign Language.



## Not Enough Businesses

City's Master Plan advances in some areas, behind pace in commercial development.

BY DAN BRENDL  
GAZETTE PACKET

A new database for tracking Alexandria's Master Plan shows the city has generally made the most progress in infrastructure and community devel-

opment and least in commercial development.

The Master Plan comprises plans guiding development in 18 neighborhood-level "small areas," as well various citywide subjects, like transportation, housing, open

SEE CITY'S MASTER, PAGE 12

## 'The Future Is Now'

Bishop Ireton breaks ground on new academic center.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

Bishop Ireton High School officially launched "The Future Is Now" fundraising campaign Sept. 18 at a groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of a new 40,000-square-foot academic center.

SEE 'THE FUTURE', PAGE 8



By JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Bishop Ireton High School head of School Dr. Thomas Curry gives remarks at the Sept. 18 groundbreaking for a new 40,000-square-foot academic center.

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This unparalleled waterfront home in Fords Landing features glorious Potomac River views! Enjoy the Maryland shoreline and birds which lay claim to the nearby pilings from the brick terrace and all four levels of the home. Elegant with comfortable spaces in the family room, kitchen and breakfast/sitting area for living and entertaining. Grand master suite! Three additional bedrooms, two full and two half baths! Upgrades include granite countertops and top-of-the-line appliances in the kitchen, newer hardwood flooring on two levels, 2-foot porcelain tile in the family room and all new marble in the master bath! Two-car garage. Minutes to the cultural events, shops and restaurants of Old Town!

Susan Anthony 703.795.9536

[www.susanbruceanthony.com](http://www.susanbruceanthony.com)



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Julian Burke 703.867.4219

[www.JulianBurke.com](http://www.JulianBurke.com)



OPEN SUN 9/23, 2-4

### Warwick Village | \$589,900

3-bedroom, 2-bath townhouse. Open and updated kitchen with quartz counters and stainless appliances. Finished lower level with family room, bath and laundry. Large private deck. Walk to "The Avenue" in Del Ray. 2921 Mosby Street

Jen Walker 703.675.1566

[www.JenWalker.com](http://www.JenWalker.com)



### Marina Towers | \$595,000

Fully updated, 10th floor, waterfront condo with commanding views of the DC skyline. Just under 1,200 SF featuring 2 bedrooms, 2 full baths, hardwood floors, kitchen with Sub-Zero and quartz counters.

Bob Bazzle 703.599.8964

[www.BobBazzle.com](http://www.BobBazzle.com)



### Braddock Heights | \$829,000

Tucked away among the trees, this expanded 3-bedroom, 4-bath Cape Cod is a short walk to Maury school. Hardwood floors, huge kitchen, dining room with French doors to the patio, and great room with fireplace & cathedral ceilings.

Kay Blemker 703.623.8563

[www.KayBlemker.com](http://www.KayBlemker.com)



### Beverley Hills | \$779,000

Large corner property with front porch and detached screened gazebo. Living room with gas fireplace & built-ins. Family room off cook's kitchen. Hardwoods on 2 levels. 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths on the upper level. Finished lower level with full bath.

Betty Mallon 703.989.8548

[www.BettyMallon.com](http://www.BettyMallon.com)



### Old Town \$1,535,000

Fabulous inviting, 3-bedroom, 4.5-bath Backyard Boats townhouse features hardwood floors, handsome moldings, chef's stainless/granite

kitchen, 2 gas fireplaces and lovely bay window in family room. Spacious master suite with sitting area, his and hers closets plus spa-like marble bath. Two-car attached garage.

Babs Beckwith 703.627.5421

[www.BabsBeckwith.com](http://www.BabsBeckwith.com)



OPEN SUN 9/23, 2-4

### Old Town \$979,000

Immaculate and like-new 4 level townhouse just 3 blocks to the river and King St. 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, gourmet kitchen with

breakfast area, family room, loft/den leading to roof-top terrace. 2-car garage, extensive storage, hardwood floors throughout. 9 blocks to Metro. 1 block to Metro bus stop. 419 Princess Street

Annette Hinaman 571.216.4411

[www.AnnetteHinaman.com](http://www.AnnetteHinaman.com)



OPEN SUN 9/23, 2-4

### Old Town \$1,119,000

Stunning renovation of this brick townhouse with garage and driveway parking! Stylish kitchen with separate wet/coffee bar, open

concept main level with generous natural light, large bedrooms, 4.5 baths, 2 wood burning fireplaces, expertly finished garage space for parking/storage. Unbeatable location. 103 Franklin Street

Lauren Bishop 202.361.5079

[www.laurenbishophomes.com](http://www.laurenbishophomes.com)



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Item	Name	Address	Request / Purpose	Outcome	Votes
Special Use Permit #2018-0053	Stevenson Park Ballfield (City Dept. of RPCA)	300 Stultz Road	Backstop structure in excess of 15 feet	Approved	6-0
Special Use Permit #2018-0057	405 F, LLC	405 Fannon Street	Parking reduction for industrial building	Approved	6-0
Special Use Permit #2018-0058	Doyle's Outpost	4550 Kenmore Avenue	Amusement enterprise featuring laser tag, arcade games, and a virtual reality attraction. Property was historically a bowling alley amusement center, has been vacant since 2005.	Approved	6-0
Special Use Permit #2018-0059	Trade Center Shopping Village	300 South Pickett Street	Additional square footage for a sign and for signage above a roofline	Approved	6-0
Special Use Permit #2018-0068	Misha's Coffee House	6 Prince Street	Add outdoor rooftop dining seats at an existing restaurant	Approved	6-0
Encroachment #2018-0009	Private home	815 Green Street	Encroachment into the public right-of-way for a fence and existing steps	Approved	5-1
Encroachment #2018-0011	Private home	100 East Luray Avenue	Encroachment into the public right-of-way to add afence and provide side yard access	Approved	5-1
Text Amendment #2018-0009	Potomac Yard Design Advisory Committee	2900 Main Line Blvd	Add an additional seat to the Potomac Yard Design Advisory Committee(PYDAC)	Approved	6-0
Development Special Use Permit #2017-0021	Episcopal High School	1200 North Quaker Lane	Construct 6 single-family faculty homes on private school grounds	Approved	6-0
Development Special Use Permit #2018-0015	Hoffman Block 8/ Dunkin Donuts	2415 Eisenhower Avenue	Allow Special Use Permitply deliveries and loading and unloading activities between 4am and 11pm at a restaurant	Approved	6-0
Master Plan Amendment #2018-0003	Route 1 South Housing Affordability Strategy (City Depts. of Housing, P&Z)	700 South Patrick Street	Allowed increased density to retain 215 unitsof affordable housing	Approved	6-0
Special Use Permit #2018-0067	Charlie's on the Avenue	1505 Mount Vernon Avenue	Add outdoor seating and extend the hours of operation at an existing restaurant	Approved	6-0
Special Use Permit #2018-0060	Augie's Mussel House and Patio	1108 King Street	Add indoor and outdoor seating, add outdoor live entertainment, extend hours of operation, and delete a condition requiring 15 off-street parking spaces at an existing restaurant	Approved	6-0
Special Use Permit #2018-0032	219 King Street Restaurant	219 King Street	Extend hours, add indoor and outdoor seats, and add live entertainment to an existing restaurant	Approved	5-0
Special Use Permit #2018-0052	Urbano 116	116 King Street	Add outdoor carry-out service to an existing restaurant	Approved	5-0
Encroachment #2018-0008	Urbano 116	116 King Street	Encroachment into the public right-of-way for a customer service line and access to an outdoor carry-out window	Approved	5-0
Encroachment #2018-0001	Private home	2701 Dewitt Avenue	Encroachment into the public right-of-way for an existing fence	Approved	5-0
Master Plan Amendment #2018-0002; Rezoning #2018-0002; Development Special Use Permit #2017-0020; Encroachment #2018-0006; Transportation Management Plan Special Use Permit #2018-0042	1200 N. Henry, LLC	1200 North Henry Street	List the individual sites located within the Route 1 Triangle Site (Site 8) and revise the zoning and maximum allowable floor area for this site; amend the zoning from OCM(50) to CRMU-H; construct a multifamily residential building with ground floor retai	Approved	5-0
Special Use Permit #2018-0038	CAVA Mezze Grill, LLC	3525 Jefferson Davis Highway	New use for outdoor dining	Approved	Administrative
Special Use Permit #2018-0043	Alexandria Chicken, LLC	25 S. Pickett Street	Change of ownership	Approved	Administrative
Special Use Permit # 2018-0044	Yogaworks	100 S. Patrick Street	Minor amendment to change hours	Approved	Administrative
Special Use Permit #2018-0045	Ruju Hem DC. LLC	1504 King Street	Change of ownership	Approved	Administrative
Special Use Permit #2018-0047	Eat Augies, LLC	1106 King Street	Change of ownership	Approved	Administrative
Special Use Permit #2018-0050	Eastern Farrington, LLC	611 S. Pickett Street	Minor amendment to add car wash	Approved	Administrative
Special Use Permit #2018-0051	Alexandria Coffee Company	917 King Street	New use of a restaurant	Approved	Administrative
Special Use Permit #2018-0070	Individual	2415 Eisenhower Ave	New use to operate a restaurant	Approved	Administrative
Special Use Permit #2018-0071	Individual	134 Jasper Place	Change of ownership	Approved	Administrative
Special Use Permit #2018-0073	Individual	201 East Monroe Ave	Construct an addition	Approved	Administrative
Special Use Permit #2018-0076	Ashford Alexandria, LP	1767 King Street	Change of ownership	Approved	Administrative

Shaping the City: How Planning Commission Voted

Here’s what the Planning Commission decided at its September meeting, held over two days, Tuesday, Sept. 4 and Thursday, Sept. 6. Commissioner Melissa McMahon was absent both days, and Vice Chair Nathan Macek was absent at Thursday’s continuation. Commissioners in attendance approved all but two items unanimously, with Commissioner David Brown voting against in both cases. For more information, visit [www.alexandriava.gov/Planning](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Planning). — DAN BRENDEN

A New Era for Affordable Housing

City moves from rehabilitating old apartment buildings to developing new affordable units.

By MICHAEL POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria is falling behind its affordable housing goal, creating or preserving about half of the units that were anticipated five years ago. But now that that restaurant diners will be chipping in an extra \$5 million a year, city officials are poised to move forward with an aggressive new slate of affordable housing development. Gone are the days when city officials could get their hands on a few 1940s garden apartments here and there to rehabilitate. These days the thinking at City Hall is developing new

units as part of a grand strategy to build their way out of an affordable housing crisis. “We are marching toward the goal,” said Helen McIlvaine, director of the Office of Housing. “That’s partly the underpinning for why we got the dedicated funding through the meals tax because we’re not going to be able to meet that goal unless we have the resources to do it.” The goal is to create or preserve 200 new affordable housing units a year every year for 10 years, a target adopted in 2013 as part of the city’s housing master plan. So far only 624 units have been created. That’s far short of the 1,000 that should be avail-

Agenda Alexandria: Affordable Housing, Affordable for Whom?

What exactly is affordable housing? How much of it exists, and how much of it is gone?What could the city do to get more? Agenda Alexandria will look at the issue next week. Speakers include Keith Pettigrew, CEO of Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority; Eric Keeler, deputy director of the Office of Housing; Realtor Steve Hales; and Michelle Krocker, executive director of the Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance. ♦ **Date:** Sept. 24 ♦ **Time:** 7 pm ♦ **Location:** The Hermitage, 5000 Fairbanks Ave, Alexandria, VA 22311

able by now, although city officials say they have a number of projects in the pipeline. And all that new cash from the new increase in the restaurant meals tax will help finance about one new large-scale development a year, setting the stage for a new era in affordable housing. “The goal was rather modest,” said Michelle Krocker, executive director of the Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance. “If you skip over to Arlington, they’ve got a goal of 600 units a year. They haven’t met that either by the way.”



## NEWS

# 'Future Guardians of Liberty'

FROM PAGE 1  
School.

The program kicked off Constitution Week, an annual weeklong celebration of the Constitution. As a result of DAR petitioning, the U.S. Congress wrote Constitution Week into public law in 1956. Its purpose is "to emphasize the citizens' responsibilities for protecting the Constitution, to educate people about the role of the Constitution and encourage the study of historical events leading to the drafting of the U.S. Constitution in September 1787," according to a statement from Alexandria's John Alexander Chapter of the DAR.

"The Constitution of the United State is both our birth certificate, recognizing the creation of this unique nation, and the blueprint or rulebook by which we are governed," said Linda Greenberg, a John Alexander Chapter member. She noted Virginians who "played a prominent role," including George Washington, James Madison, John Blair and George Mason. "The primary object of our nation should be the education of our youth in the science of government. In a republic, what species of knowledge can be equally important? And what duty more pressing than communicating it to those who are to be the future guardians of the liberty of the country?" she said, quoting Washington.

Each student received a copy of the Constitution and Declaration of Independence.



PHOTO BY DAN BRENDEN/CAZETTE PACKET

**Mayor Allison Silberberg and ACPS students show off a local proclamation commemorating the 231st anniversary of the U.S. Constitution's signing.**

"This is really about gratitude," said Mayor Allison Silberberg. "We cannot take [freedom] for granted. That is something that we have to continue to protect in an ongoing manner, every generation. ... I had the honor of witnessing the oath of allegiance taken by our newest Americans on Citizenship Day, just a few days ago, and it was very moving. That is really what our country is also about, as we are accepting and embracing to all."

ACPS Superintendent Gregory Hutchings recognized students and teachers and led in singing the National Anthem. For more, visit [www.dar.org/national-society/education/constitution-week](http://www.dar.org/national-society/education/constitution-week).

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For more information, contact Svandis Geirsdottir at 703.746.3639 or [Svandis.geirsdottir@alexandriava.gov](mailto:Svandis.geirsdottir@alexandriava.gov).

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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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Alexandria  
**Gazette Packet**



## NEWS

# Help Design 'I Voted' Sticker

The Nov. 6 General Election will include contests for U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives, Mayor, City Council and School Board, as well as two proposed amendments to the Virginia constitution. As soon as voters cast their ballots, they will also be able to display an "I Voted" sticker with a twist — from a design created by local artist Christina Mazurkevitch and initiated by the Commission for the Arts in conjunction with the Alexandria Electoral Board and Office of

Voter Registration and Elections.

Help pick the final design by voting for one of three sticker designs at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/MGMCWLB](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MGMCWLB). The sticker with the most votes will be used for the upcoming election. The poll is open for voting now through Monday, Oct. 1.

For additional information on the upcoming 2018 General Election, visit [www.alexandriava.gov/Elections](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Elections). For additional information on the Commission of the Arts, visit [www.alexandriava.gov/Arts](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Arts).

## 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.

### THURSDAY/SEPT. 20

**Community Listening Session.** 7:30 a.m.-8 p.m. at Residence Inn Alexandria Old Town, Prince Conference Room, 1456 Duke St., Alexandria. RiverRenew is hosting events in September to receive feedback from the community on the proposed plan to remediate Alexandria's combined sewer outfalls. Community members are invited to attend any or all sessions. The RiverRenew team will be on hand to discuss the program, answer questions and receive comments. Events are an Open House format. Plan on staying approximately 30 minutes. Free and open to the public. Call 703-518-6030 or visit [www.riverrenew.com](http://www.riverrenew.com) for more.

**Joint City Council-ACPS School Board Work Session.** 4 p.m. at ACPS Central Office Contact Katherine Carraway, [katherine.carraway@alexandriava.gov](mailto:katherine.carraway@alexandriava.gov), 703-746-

3855.

### Public Hearing on NOVA Parks Partnership.

7 p.m. at the Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St. The Park and Recreation Commission will hold a public hearing to receive a recommendation from staff on the NOVA Parks Partnership discussions for Great Waves Waterpark. Following the public hearing, the Commission will continue with its regular monthly meeting. Individuals unable to attend the public hearing may send written comment to Jack Browand at [jack.browand@alexandriava.gov](mailto:jack.browand@alexandriava.gov) or RPCA / Jack Browand, 1108 Jefferson St., Alexandria VA 22314 through Friday, Sept. 28. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov/recreation](http://www.alexandriava.gov/recreation) for more.

**Public Input Wanted.** 7-8:30 p.m. at James K. Polk Elementary School, 5000 Polk Ave. The Virginia Department of Transportation will hold a public information meeting on plans to rehabilitate the Duke Street (Route 236) bridge over I-395 to improve safety and extend the overall life of the bridge. Stop by between 7 and 8:30 p.m. at James K. Polk Elementary School to

SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 19



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Joyce Garrett, music director at Alfred Street Baptist Church, accepts the Award of Harmony presented by the Alexandria Harmonizers Sept. 8 at Rachel M. Schlesinger Hall.



PHOTOS BY JOHN BORDNER/GAZETTE PACKET

The Alexandria Harmonizers take to the stage Sept. 8 at Rachel M. Schlesinger Hall in a concert celebrating the organization's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

# Striking a Chord Garrett honored as Harmonizers celebrate 70 years.



Florida's award-winning Signature Quartet performs Neil Diamond's "Sweet Caroline" at the Sept. 8 concert celebrating the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Alexandria Harmonizers.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**T**he Alexandria Harmonizers welcomed music royalty to the stage as they celebrated their 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a sold-out concert Sept. 8 at Rachel M. Schlesinger Hall.

Marjorie Latzko, an inductee to the Grammy Hall of Fame as a member of 1950s group The Chordettes, made an appearance as a special presenter to celebrate the Harmonizers. Known for the hits "Mr. Sandman" and "Lollipop," Latzko is also the widow of the late Walter Latzko, a renowned music arranger and honorary member of the Harmonizers.

The concert, which featured performances by the Toronto Northern Lights and Florida's Signature Quartet, also presented

its Harmony Award to Joyce Garrett, music director of Alfred Street Baptist Church.

Last presented in 2012, the award recognized Garrett for her efforts in bringing together the Harmonizers and the church's men's chorus.

"This is a real honor," said Garrett in accepting the award. "I am so pleased to be a catalyst and a bridge between two communities."

The anniversary concert featured video clips of past performances and special presenters, including past music directors and choreographers, recounted tales of the organization's history.

The Harmonizers, who have won multiple international awards, are under the direction of Joe Cerutti Jr.

For more information, visit [www.harmonizers.org](http://www.harmonizers.org).



Marjorie Latzko, a Grammy Award winner and Hall of Fame inductee as a member of the 1950s group the Chordettes, congratulates the Alexandria Harmonizers at the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary concert Sept. 8 at Rachel M. Schlesinger Hall.

# Let the Games Begin St. James mega-sports complex celebrates opening.



Lt. Governor Justin Fairfax, center, with co-founders Kendrick Ashton and Craig Dixon at the Sept. 15 opening of The St. James sports facility in Springfield.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**T**en-year-old Derek Potts was one of the first in line when The St. James mega sports complex opened Sept. 15 in Springfield. Along with his mother Maurisa and father David, the Alexandria resident had a membership before the building was even completed.

"I'm really excited about the indoor water park," said Derek, who was on hand as sports stars and politicians celebrated the grand opening of The St. James, a 450,000-square-foot sports, wellness and active entertainment complex.

"This is a major investment in our youth," said Lt. Governor Justin Fairfax, who attended the College of William and Mary with co-founders Kendrick Ashton and Craig Dixon. "The St. James sends a signal to our county and to the country what it means to

SEE LET THE GAMES, PAGE 24



PHOTOS BY JOHN BORDNER/GAZETTE PACKET

Ten-year-old Derek Potts, center, along with parents Maurisa and David, waits for the official opening of The St. James sports complex Sept. 15 in Springfield.



# More, Smarter Transportation Capacity Needed

Population to outpace region-wide investment in transit and highway expansion.

BY DAN BRENDL  
GAZETTE PACKET

A draft region-wide plan, seeking public comment, spurs localities to streamline and invest more in transportation and housing, in light of unabated forecasted population growth through 2045.

The plan, dubbed Visualize 2045, is produced by the Transportation Planning Board (TPB), a federally mandated metropolitan planning organization. The TPB acts as a kind of gatekeeper for big transportation related projects, ensuring that those projects meet various federal requirements, principally relating to air quality. If a local jurisdiction or agency's project wants federal dollars or federal approval, or otherwise significantly impacts regional highway or transit capacity, it must have TPB approval.

Visualize 2045 contains two parts.

The "financially constrained" part represents "what the region can do" with known or "reasonably expected" funding sources. All told, it includes over 600 projects and accounts for \$291 billion in revenues and expenditures through 2045. Projects in Alexandria include, for example, the Potomac Yard Metro station; dedicated lanes for speedier bus service; a transit center at Landmark Mall; and traffic access and circulation improvements on Eisenhower Avenue. Fully three-quarters of forecasted funds will go to operating and maintaining public transportation and highway infrastructure, while only a quarter will go to expanding those systems.

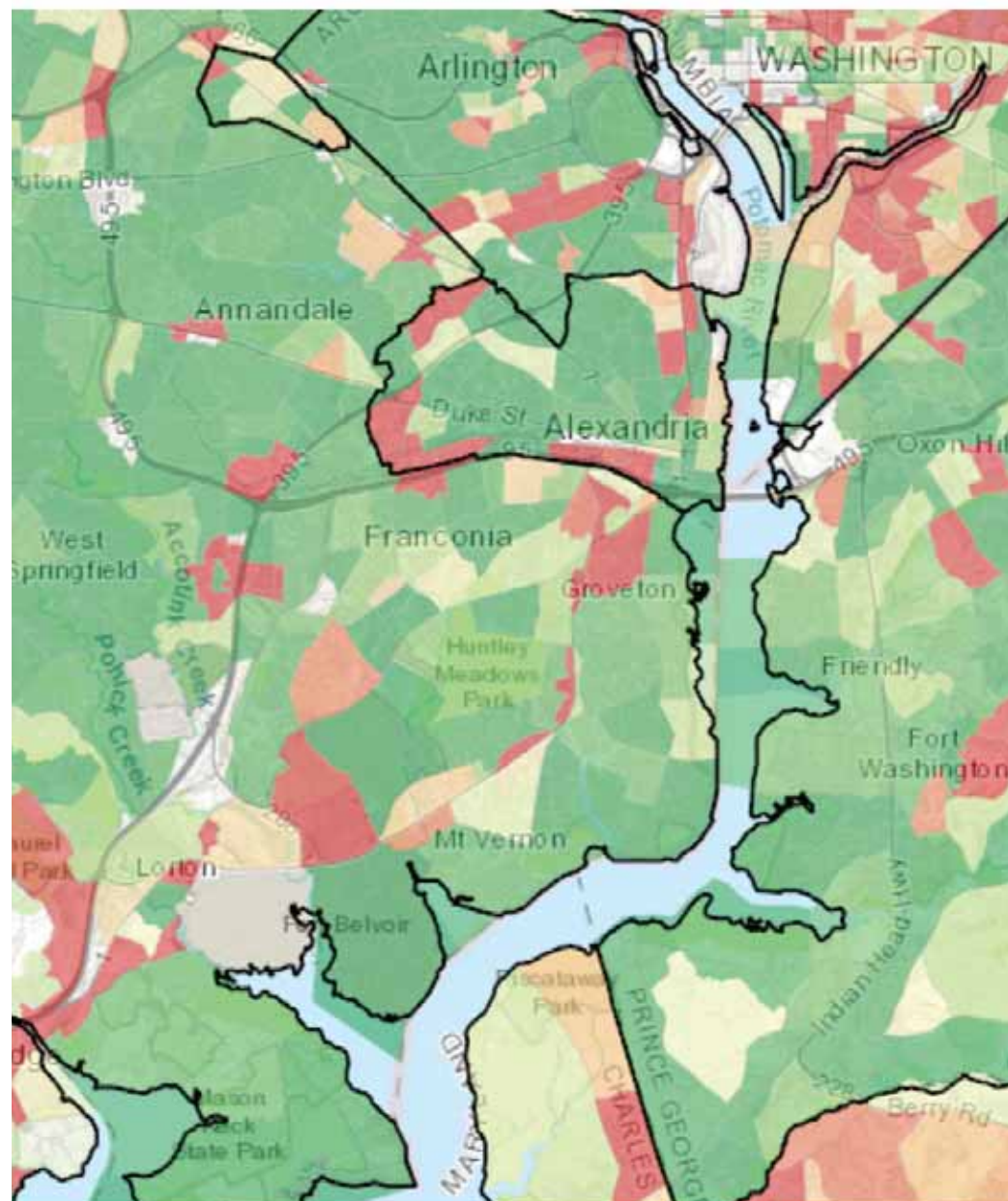
**THAT IMBALANCE** leads to Visualize 2045's second part, which outlines principles to guide "what the region aspires to," beyond what's already slated.

Even though 600 projects and \$291 billion sounds like a lot, that may not be enough, especially with the majority not going to expansion. TPB projects that, by 2045, the number of metropolitan jobs will increase by about a million (29 percent) and that the population will increase by 1.3 million (23 percent). Of the metropolitan jurisdictions, Alexandria will experience some of the highest growth rates — 46,000 (42 percent) more jobs and 51,000 (33 percent) more people.

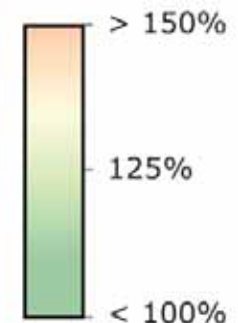
"The TPB believes that the anticipated growth in travel demand calls for increasing investment in projects, programs, and policies in line with [Visualize 2045's] aspirational initiatives, meaning more of these should be folded into the constrained element," according to the draft plan.

Some aspirational items — for example, a second Metro station in Rosslyn and new highway tolls lanes — would require the brute force of new money and new construction. And yet "we can't build ourselves out of the challenges we face," but rather must "combine projects, programs, and policies" in "mutually supportive" ways, according to the draft plan.

## Population Growth Forecast



2045 population as a % of 2020 population



SOURCES: TPB'S REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION DATA CLEARINGHOUSE (RTDC-MWCOG.OPENDATA.ARCGIS.COM), ESRI, TOMTOM, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, U.S. CENSUS BUREAU.

**Over the next two-and-a-half decades, population is forecasted to grow substantially around Alexandria's periphery, and also along Route 1 and I-95.**

For example, one of Visualize 2045's aspirational principles is to "bring jobs and housing closer together." TPB would have local jurisdictions pursue denser mixed-use — that is, housing-and-commercial — development around rail and bus nodes, thereby creating and satisfying transit demand in tandem. Rather than just building more transportation infrastructure to support population growth and commuting by car, the plan would reduce traffic congestion by putting people closer to jobs and mass transit.

"Our region doesn't have enough housing for our expected growth. By building more housing, we can encourage more people to live in our region instead of commuting in and out every day," according to the draft plan.

For this reason, among others, regional frameworks like TPBs and development decisions made by other jurisdictions still directly affect Alexandria residents. For example, "most of the traffic using Route 1

and using Franklin and Gibbon Streets [in southern Old Town] is regional traffic, and not local traffic," said Christopher Ziemann of Alexandria's department of transportation and environmental services (T&ES).

In addition to building more and optimizing the distribution of housing relative to jobs, Visualize 2045's other aspirational principles include expanding bus rapid transit region-wide; moving more people on Metrorail (i.e., with more and improved stations and lines, as well as longer trains); providing more telecommuting and other options for commuting (e.g., by decreasing parking subsidies and increasing non-driving incentives from employers); expanding the express highway network (i.e., with new toll lanes, to include express bus service); improving walk and bike access to transit; and completing the National Capital Trail network.

Asked what's particularly important for the public to consider during the present comment period, Yon Lambert, Alexandria's

T&ES director, said: "We can expect more tolling in the future and ... congestion will continue to grow. Vehicle-hours of delay [a measure] is forecast to increase by 47 percent in the next 25 years. Public comments about how to plan for these for these changes would be useful. In Alexandria, we have adopted a plan that focuses on providing high-capacity transit around our growth corridors. [City] Council regularly reaffirms this direction but we would welcome additional input."

TPB also seeks public comment on the FY 2019-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), a budget document including only federally funded projects within Visualize 2045's first six years. It serves mainly "to demonstrate to federal partners how federal funding is planned to be spent," said Laura Ambrosio, a TPB spokesperson.

For more information or to submit a comment, visit [www.mwcog.org/visualize2045/comment](http://www.mwcog.org/visualize2045/comment) and [www.mwcog.org/visualize2045/document-library](http://www.mwcog.org/visualize2045/document-library).



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## News



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISSMAN/GAZETTE PACKET

**Bishop Michael Burbidge, center, leads local and school dignitaries in breaking ground Sept. 18 for the new 40,000-square-foot academic center at Bishop Ireton High School.**

## 'The Future Is Now'

FROM PAGE 1

"In the 1960s it cost \$1 million to buy the land to build this school," said Dr. Thomas Curry, Bishop Ireton Head of School. "Today we are looking at 20 times that but with the generous support of the Diocese of Arlington funding sources, the goal of The Future Is Now campaign is \$6.5 million. And because of the generosity of our alumni, we have already raised \$4 million towards that goal."

Construction on the new building began last summer with the demolition of the Oblate House. Originally built as housing for the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales, who founded the Catholic preparatory high school in 1964, it evolved into administrative offices, classrooms and common areas.

The new four-story addition will be located adjacent to the current school building on Cambridge Road and will include an expanded cafeteria, media center and learning commons, STEM labs, as well as additional classrooms and collaborative learning spaces.

"The new wing is designed around the increasingly rigorous expectations for science and technology education," said Neil Flanagan of Maginnis + Del Ninno Architects. "The top floor is biology and physics labs. That also involves prep rooms and access to a private roof space for experiments they might need to run there."

The new building will have the ability to expand student enrollment up to 925. It will house a modern dining hall that triples the capacity of the current cafeteria.

"The first floor is almost entirely a large, high-ceilinged cafeteria that can house the full student body for the first time in decades," Flanagan said. "It has direct access to an outdoor patio, as well as the school chapel."

Other campus-wide initiatives include a redesigned front entrance, auxiliary gym, updated fine arts wing and additional parking spaces. Renovations also include high efficiency air conditioning and lighting.

"The school is designed using the Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS) program, which sets standards and guidelines for energy efficiency and healthy learning environments," Flanagan said. "It's similar to LEED, but specifically developed for schools."

The exterior of the new building, expected to be completed by the end of 2019, will be clad in red brick, natural finish aluminum composite panels, a vine-covered trellis and limestone at the prominent south end.

"A new entrance pavilion puts a clear front door on the school and brings it up to the security and privacy requirements we've come to realize schools need," Flanagan added.

The new science wing has freed up space for larger art classrooms. Additionally, the new mechanical plant opened up space for a new gym.

"This building is for you," said Curry to the student body representatives in attendance at the ceremony. "It represents a significant investment in our current and future students and I am eager to see all the positive changes this will have on the future of Bishop Ireton."

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# OPINION

## Serving 20,000 Low-Income Residents

BY BASIM KHAN, MD, MPA  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
NEIGHBORHOOD HEALTH

**A**t any of Neighborhood Health's 12 clinics in the City of Alexandria and Fairfax and Arlington counties, patients are served regardless of whether or not they have health insurance and regardless of their ability to pay.

It's been that way for 20 years since its founding by nurses from the Alexandria Health Department as a small clinic serving women and children in the Arlandria section of the city.

From that humble beginning, what has become Neighborhood Health today now serves 20,000 low-income children, men and women every year carrying out its mission: "To improve health and advance health equity in Alexandria, Arlington and Fairfax by providing access to high quality care regardless of ability to pay."

### COMMENTARY

Neighborhood Health not only provides family practice, internal medicine, and pediatrics services including acute illness care, routine physical exams, and preventive care but also women's health, behavioral health, dental care, medication assistance, lab services, and case management.

We provide a "medical home" for our patients, working as partners with their patients to help them improve their health and navigate a complicated health care system.

To achieve that goal, Neighborhood Health works to integrate care between different service lines such as primary medical care and mental health or pharmacy assistance. For example, if a patient screens positive for depression, the primary care provider introduces him or her to a counselor within the clinic. Or if a patient does not pick up a medication, the pharmacy assistance worker let's our primary care provider know. The patient's primary care provider, behavioral health counselor, medical

assistant, pharmacy assistance worker, referral coordinator, family services worker, and others are all part of a team working together for our patients. We also coordinate our patients' care with outside organization whether specialists or one of our multiple community partners such as the local community services boards, school system, or hospitals. We take responsibility for our patients.

There's great need for such services in the area for low-income residents, especially for those without insurance but also for those with insurance such as Medicaid and Medicare.

In 2016, Neighborhood Health provided healthcare services to 14,000 patients; by 2018, that number has increased to 20,000. This is a reflection of the need and our goal to make sure that it is met.

Neighborhood Health has also set a goal to increase the number of people it treats by more than 10 percent, or 2,500 new patients, next year which also represents a 60 percent growth from 2016.

To accomplish that goal, Neighborhood Health will need to hire more clinicians to meet the growing demand.

On Friday, Nov. 9, Neighborhood Health will be holding its "Neighbors for Health" gala at 6:30 p.m. at the Ritz-Carlton Pentagon City, 1250 South Hayes St., Arlington, with the proceeds to support its goal to serve 22,500 patients in 2019.

U.S. Rep. Don Beyer (D-8), a longtime supporter of Neighborhood Health, and his wife, Megan, are the gala's honorary chairs.

Congressman Beyer has a long history of supporting Neighborhood Health's mission. Back in 2001 he helped introduce our small clinic to community leaders and hosted several receptions at his dealerships.

As a U.S. representative, he continues to advocate for improving access to health care in Northern Virginia.

At the gala, Neighborhood Health will present its inaugural Health Equity Award to

26 members of the Virginia General Assembly representing Alexandria, Arlington and Fairfax County in gratitude for helping to pass medical expansion in the Commonwealth.

Medicaid expansion will benefit many patients without health insurance across Northern Virginia. Yet there will still be many patients without health insurance. And there are people with insurance who still face barriers to care, whether because doctors don't accept their insurance or they have high copays and deductibles or because of drug costs. There is still so much work ahead of us in order to ensure that everyone in our community has access to high quality and affordable health care.

The event will include a reception, silent and live auctions, seated dinner and music.

Sponsorships are available now. Neighborhood Health is also seeking donations to its auction such as sports or theater tickets, professional services, weekend getaways, restaurant meals, and more.

To purchase tickets, or for more information on sponsorships and donations, please visit [www.501auctions.com/neighborhoodhealthgala](http://www.501auctions.com/neighborhoodhealthgala) or email [gala@neighborhoodhealthva.org](mailto:gala@neighborhoodhealthva.org).

Over the years, Neighborhood Health has been recognized for its service to the communities it serves, including being named a recipient of the federal government's Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) Quality Award for the fourth year in a row.

Neighborhood Health administrators realize that all they have been able to accomplish could not have been done without the support of numerous community partners including local health departments, human services departments, community services boards, school systems, hospitals, and many others.

Strong partnerships are critical to Neighborhood Health's ability to meet the multiple and complex needs of our patients. We are thankful for the creativity, support and collaboration of all of our partners.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## End Run On Lights

To the Editor:

On Oct. 2, the Planning Commission will consider a text amendment to the Zoning Code entitled "Lighting for Congregate Recreational Facilities" that potentially could have adverse effects on virtually every neighborhood in Alexandria. In effect, it would permit 80-foot lighting structures on every playing field, public or private, over the entire city.

Usually a sweeping change to the Zoning Ordinances such as this one would involve considerable community outreach by the city and ample input by the homeowners and others affected by the change. I have served on city zoning advisory groups whose mandate was less potent than this proposed amendment to the ordinance.

In this case, it appears to be the tail wagging the dog. Over neighborhood resistance, the

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 14



### A Tribute

**The Department of Recreation, Nannie J. Lee Recreation Center paid tribute to the heroes that helped save lives as well as sacrificed their own on 9/11. Center participants created arts and crafts that represented what happened that day and engaged in activities that exhibited being brave, courageous, bold, and showing heroism — and love. For more information about programs or volunteering, contact the Nannie J. Lee Recreation Center office at 703-746-5535.**

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# City's Master Plan Behind Pace in Commercial Development

FROM PAGE 1  
space, etc. These date back as far as the 1990s, though the city has updated many of them.

The FY 2018 Status of Implementation Report, issued this summer, shows the new tracking database's results for selected small areas, or portions of small areas, in the so-called "growth crescent." The growth crescent refers to "areas within the city well served by transit where most development is expected to occur," according to the report.

For these areas, the report tracks progress to date in relation to five measures. "Community development" includes activities like "community outreach, economic development strategies, public art, historic preservation, and construction of public and in-

stitutional buildings," according to the report.

"Progress against the goals and tasks developed with the community for these long-range plans tends not to be linear, but rather responds to market conditions and city initiatives and investment over time," said Planning and Zoning's Carrie Beach. "Where commercial and residential development are lower relative to expectations, the city has invested in implementation of community development or open space goals, such as purchasing and/or improving open space, conducting preliminary studies, and establishing implementation advisory groups."

City Manager Mark Jinks says commercial development has been slow in part because the city's limited office sites around

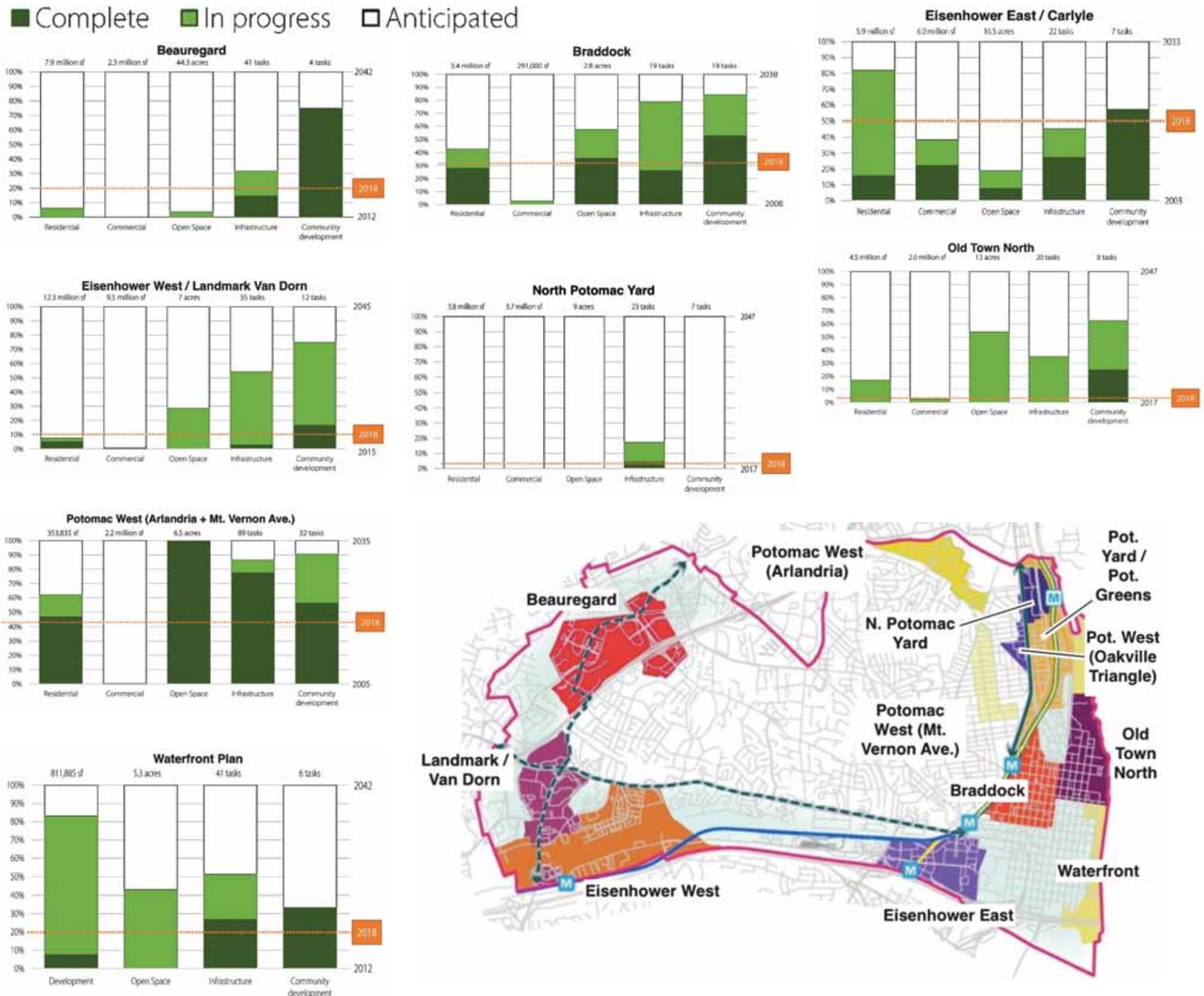
Metro, as well as available capacity and competition from places like Crystal City, Rosslyn and Tysons Corner.

"The ramifications of a slow growing commercial tax base means there has been more pressure to increase the city's real estate tax rate, as well as to reduce spending in many areas due to limited new resources," he said. "It has also meant that to compete for tax base growth, the city had to start to provide limited financial incentives to retain or grow new economic activity, such as the National Science Foundation (NSF), which received a partial real estate tax exemption in order to move their headquarters and 2,200 NSF employees to the city."

Stephanie Landrum, CEO of the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership (AEDP), said: "Securing new commercial

development in our transit-oriented neighborhoods is a priority ... to realize the vision in our small area plans for mixed-use, 24/7 communities and to balance revenue growth among residents and businesses. Over the last two years, we have seen commercial growth begin to take shape in both Potomac Yard and Carlyle/Eisenhower Avenue driven by full building pre-leases (National Science Foundation) and owner/occupier financing (National Industries for the Blind and the American Physical Therapy Association). Until we see office vacancy rates in all business districts throughout Alexandria, Arlington and D.C. drop, it will be difficult for developers to finance speculative office buildings."

For the full report, visit [www.alexandriava.gov/Planning](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Planning).







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## LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

School Board, abetted by the city Parks and Rec Department, is seeking to put 80-foot lights at the refurbished T. C. Williams football stadium. Under the present zoning structure, that move potentially could be blocked by a neighborhood petition and two “no” votes on council. Thus authorities are attempting an “end run” by changing the ordinance to affect every playing field in Alexandria and thus make it easier to get 80-foot lights at the stadium.

Proof of this idea is the next item on the Planning Commission agenda, involving improvements to the stadium. It specifies that if the Commission turns down the earlier text amendment, it then is requested to approve 60-foot lights at the stadium, where lights specifically have been forbidden by a provision of a Special Use Permit.

Trust in Alexandria government is the lowest it has been in my 50 years living here, fueled by such issues as the Potomac Metro entrance and Kerig Estates decisions. This attempt to gut the ordinance governing lighting on playing fields without any prior community input — a change with clear city-wide impacts — is certain to erode trust further. The Planning and Zoning Department should pull the item from the Planning Commission docket and first expose it to public scrutiny.

**Jack Sullivan**  
Alexandria

## Development’s Side Effects

To the Editor:

At the corner of Harvard and King streets, one block from the King Street Metro Station, demolition of the old Naval Reserve Building has been completed and now construction of the new Hyatt Hotel has begun. [Photo at right.] Deep digging has begun to provide one level of underground parking. Three trees on Harvard Street have been cut down, but the London Plaines tree has been saved and will be transplanted on Cameron Street.

Large trucks have been coming continuously down Harvard Street to pick up excess dirt. Harvard Street was just repaved but is already taking a battering from the trucks. The alley behind the homes on the western side of Harvard has also been closed and residents on that side can no longer park behind their homes. Also before closure of the alley, this was about the only way to get to Harvard

Street from Cameron Street. And I was among those that used that path, but not for the better. The last time I used it my car got caught on top of a tree stump and I was unable to get it off. The undercarriage and the door were damaged and the repair bill was \$1,400 which I paid.

If this wasn’t bad enough, the construction seems to be causing more destruction than construction. Two weeks ago, the construction crew hit a gas line in the street and some businesses were made to close down by the fire department. Houses lost their gas and the fire department needed to get inside to make sure the gas appliances were OK, as most of these residences are nearly 100 years old and their appliances still have pilot lights.

In addition, many of the trees on Harvard Street have gotten an unwelcome haircut. Many large branches have been ripped off these 50-plus year old trees by the truck traffic. Part of Harvard Street was dug up for a new utility line and the next thing we know is that my neighbor’s basement was flooding. For the past many weeks, we have had minor seismic disturbances not associated with any earthquakes .. just truck and site work. Remember these are century old buildings and who knows how many “quakes” these houses can take before something happens to their structural integrity.

Every morning when I go out for an early morning walk, what do I see ... a front porch and sidewalks covered with dirt and dust and a street full of cars needing a fresh wash and wax. In addition, debris is continuously left overnight on-site, just waiting for the next wind storm to throw it our way.

This is all as a result of the City Council approving this project earlier this year. The neighborhood residents protested and signed petitions to stop the project, but the council would not listen. Instead, they listened to the investors with deep, deep pockets. Now, the Planning Commission has another big development under consideration just across the street at 1601-1614 King Street; a 49-unit condominium with two levels of underground parking. So we could be in for this for almost endless years to come.

But ... we now have an opportunity to end this neverending insanity. In November, we will be electing the next City Council for this city. I urge you to vote and I urge you to use this opportunity to rid ourselves of the two remaining council members who have been instrumental in supporting this craziness: Ms. Del Pepper and Mr. John T. Chapman. We need to elect council members with fresh ideas, who want to defend and restore the historic nature of this city.

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 16



Construction at corner of Harvard and King streets.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



# City Moves to Developing New Affordable Units

FROM PAGE 3

**THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING** crisis in Alexandria began in the 1980s, a time when low-income people and elderly residents on fixed income were being driven out of the city.

Alexandria leaders became concerned that government employees and restaurant workers would be priced out of the city, leaving jobs and services unfilled. No one was more concerned about this than Vola Lawson, who became city manager in 1985 after more than a decade of implementing programs to aid low-income families and senior citizens.

“For low-income families, it is the worst of times,” said Lawson during a 1986 press conference with leaders from Fairfax County and Arlington. “This is a crisis of epic proportions.”

Lawson assembled a coalition that included Fairfax County Supervisor Tom Davis and Arlington County Board member Al Eisenberg to advocate for state funding. Meanwhile, she set up the city’s Affordable Housing Trust Fund and started taking voluntary contributions from developers. That led to a few preservation efforts, renovating a few old and dilapidated apartment buildings.

Within a decade, the fund was dead broke until Norfolk Southern forked over \$5 million as part of a settlement to develop the Carlyle neighborhood.

“This will put our trust fund back in business again,” said Mildrilyn Davis, who was

then director of the Office of Housing.

**FOR MANY YEARS**, the aim of the city’s affordable housing program was to help people buy homes.

Then the cost of housing exploded in the early 2000s, and city officials took a different approach. They created the Alexandria Housing Development Corporation and dedicated a penny of the property tax to affordable housing, pumping about \$3 million a year in a fund so the newly created nonprofit development corporation could start preserving or building new units.

They also hired McIlvaine, who worked with the Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing to build affordable housing units on top of a church in Arlington. Her first week on the job, she heard about an idea being floated by city officials to build affordable housing units over a new fire station in Potomac Yard.

“We’re going to become the housing on top of stuff Housing Office,” recalled McIlvaine. “I think that project helped people imagine that affordable housing could be places where it hadn’t been before.”

The Station at Potomac Yard, as the project became known, started a new era in the city’s affordable housing efforts — one that’s now in full swing with a series of large scale redevelopments. Churches all over Alexandria are being demolished and replaced with affordable units over new sanctuaries — building on the model that

McIlvaine helped create in Clarendon. And developers like Wesley Housing and AHC (formerly known as Arlington Housing Corporation) are working alongside the Alexandria Housing Development Corporation to transform the landscape of affordable housing in Alexandria.

“In the ‘80s and ‘90s, affordable housing in Northern Virginia was mostly preservation,” said Nina Janopaul, president and CEO of the Arlington Partnership for Afford-

able Housing. “What’s changed today is that a typical garden apartment unit in Northern Virginia is in such hot demand and investors are buying them up putting in granite countertops and stainless steel appli-

SEE AFFORDABLE, PAGE 25



## Jackson Crossing

\$2.5 million of affordable housing money

Developer: AHC

\* 78 units at 60 percent AMI

This building, across from the Potomac Yard shopping plaza, was constructed on land the city acquired from an old gas station and a handful of homeowners. It opened with much fanfare in 2016, when 500 families were on a waitlist for 78 units. The Campagna Center operates a preschool in the building.



## Chatham Square

\$3.5 million

Developer: Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority

52 units of public housing on site

99 market-rate units

48 public housing units offsite

The public housing complex known as the Berg was demolished and replaced with a mix of market-rate units and public-housing units, financed with a \$3.5 million loan to ARHA.



## Fairlington Presbyterian Church

\$7.6 million of affordable housing money (pending approval)

Developer: Wesley Housing

\* 81 units at 40 percent AMI to 60 percent AMI

The church sold a deteriorating parking lot to developer Wesley Housing for \$4 million, and now City Council is considering using almost \$8 million from the affordable housing fund to build 81 units of affordable housing. Because the project is still under consideration, the affordability levels of units have yet to be determined.



## Ramsey Homes

\$3.6 million of affordable housing money

Developer: Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority

\* 15 units at 30 percent AMI

\* 11 units at 50 percent AMI

\* 26 units at 60 percent AMI

In 2016, the City Council approved the demolition of a run-down public housing complex on Route 1 despite protests that some of the buildings should be preserved for historic value to the African-American community. The buildings have now been demolished, and construction is underway. The project is anticipated to be completed in early 2020.



## Church of the Resurrection “The Spire”

\$9 million of affordable housing money

Developer: AHC

\* 12 units at 40 percent AMI

\* 45 units at 50 percent AMI

\* 56 units at 60 percent AMI

The Episcopal Church of the Resurrection will be demolished and replaced with a new building that includes 113 affordable rental units and a new smaller sanctuary for the church. A final site plan is still in the works, though, and residents of neighboring Goodwin House are concerned about parking and architecture.



## The Station at Potomac Yard

\$7.9 million of affordable housing money

Developer: Alexandria Housing Development Corporation

\* 44 units at 60 percent AMI

\* 20 units at 80 percent AMI

Atlanta-based construction company Pulte Homes donated one acre of land and \$14 million for the project, which combines a fire station and retail space with 64 units of affordable housing. The building operates as a condominium with AHDC owning the residential and retail condos and the city owning the fire station condo.



## Gateway Apartments

\$6.2 million of affordable housing money

Developer: Alexandria Housing Development Corporation

year: 2018

\* 8 units at or below 40 percent AMI

\* 29 units at or below 50 percent AMI

\* 37 units at or below 60 percent AMI

This 74-unit rental building is part of a new complex of buildings at King Street and Beauregard Street along the city’s future West End transitway. It includes market-rate apartments, offices and retail including a new Harris Teeter. Earlier this month, the City Council approved using new money from the restaurant meals tax for a \$700,000 loan increase to address escalating construction costs.



## Carpenter’s Shelter “The Bloom”

\$8.8 million of affordable housing money

Developer: Alexandria Housing Development Corporation

\* 10 units at 40 percent AMI

\* 39 units at 50 percent AMI

\* 48 units at 60 percent AMI

The Carpenter’s Shelter will be demolished and replaced with a new building that includes 97 affordable rental units above a new homeless shelter. The building includes 10 supportive housing units with case management support for people transitioning out of the shelter into affordable housing. Earlier this month, the City Council approved using the new restaurant meals tax to finance a \$1.7 million increase in the loan to address construction cost escalation.



## St. James Plaza

\$5.8 million of affordable housing money

Developer: AHC

\* 10 units at 40 percent AMI

\* 36 units at 50 percent AMI

\* 47 units at 60 percent AMI

St. James United Methodist Church sold its building and property to AHC, which demolished the church and is building an affordable rental building on one half the site. On the other half of the site, McLean-based Craftmark Homes is developing 33 market-rate townhouse. The three-acre site includes an onsite preschool operated by the Campagna Center.



## Alexandria Crossing and Old Town Commons

\$5.6 million of affordable housing money

Developer: Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority

\* 218 public housing units

\* 241 market-rate units

\* 8 workforce units

Glebe Park public housing complex was demolished and redeveloped into a mixed income community known as Alexandria Crossing, which has 84 public-housing units, 10 market-rate units and eight workforce units. James Bland public housing complex was also demolished. It became Old Town Commons, which includes 134 public-housing units and 231 market-rate units.



# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 14

We need the likes of Mo Seifeldin, Canek Aguirre, Amy Jackson, and Elizabeth Bennett-Parker.

**James Melton**  
Alexandria

## Taxpayers Or Cash Cows?

To the Editor:

If any taxpaying resident needed

proof that you are nothing more than a cash cow to the overlords ruling Alexandria, then simply savor the revelation our city has decided to circumvent current zoning ordinances to allow 80-foot stadium lights at all athletic fields at every school field — public and private, elementary, middle and high — and in all parks.

No lengthy outreach to the citizens it serves through community discussions; no justification reached by soliciting views of the of neighborhood associations; no

cost projections presented to the public. The city manager apparently decided these light poles are necessary. If this doesn't make you feel like a cash cow, then here are other examples:

\* The Potomac Yard Metro: Justin Wilson — your next mayor unless a write-in candidate emerges to defeat him — wants a metro in Potomac Yard badly, and ASAP; not later when the city has some of its mandatory costly infrastructure projects behind it.

Apart from the timing, here's

what else is wrong: Of several sites, the one selected with negligible public input will destroy irreplaceable wetlands protected by the Federal government. Does this bother you?

It should if you care about the city actively soliciting the views of the citizens it serves, preserving fragile wetlands and realizing a metro will not reduce traffic nor produce wealth. If a metro station could do this, then our existing metro stations would have long since eradicated traffic congestion

and reduced our growing city debt.

\* T.C. Williams Stadium Lights: Most people don't know that years ago the city enticed an African American community to move from their homes so T.C. Williams high school could be built. Among the lures used to persuade this community were new homes nearby the new athletic stadium, and a verbal promise there would never be stadium lights.

Without the lights, the displaced African Americans were promised they would never be subjected to noisy night-time athletic events thereby allowing them to enjoy the tranquility of their homes after their day's work.

Fast forward: Our today rulers, foremost the new school administrator and his board, decided this promise made is not a promise worth keeping. But this time, the affected African Americans will not be bullied. They're suing the city.

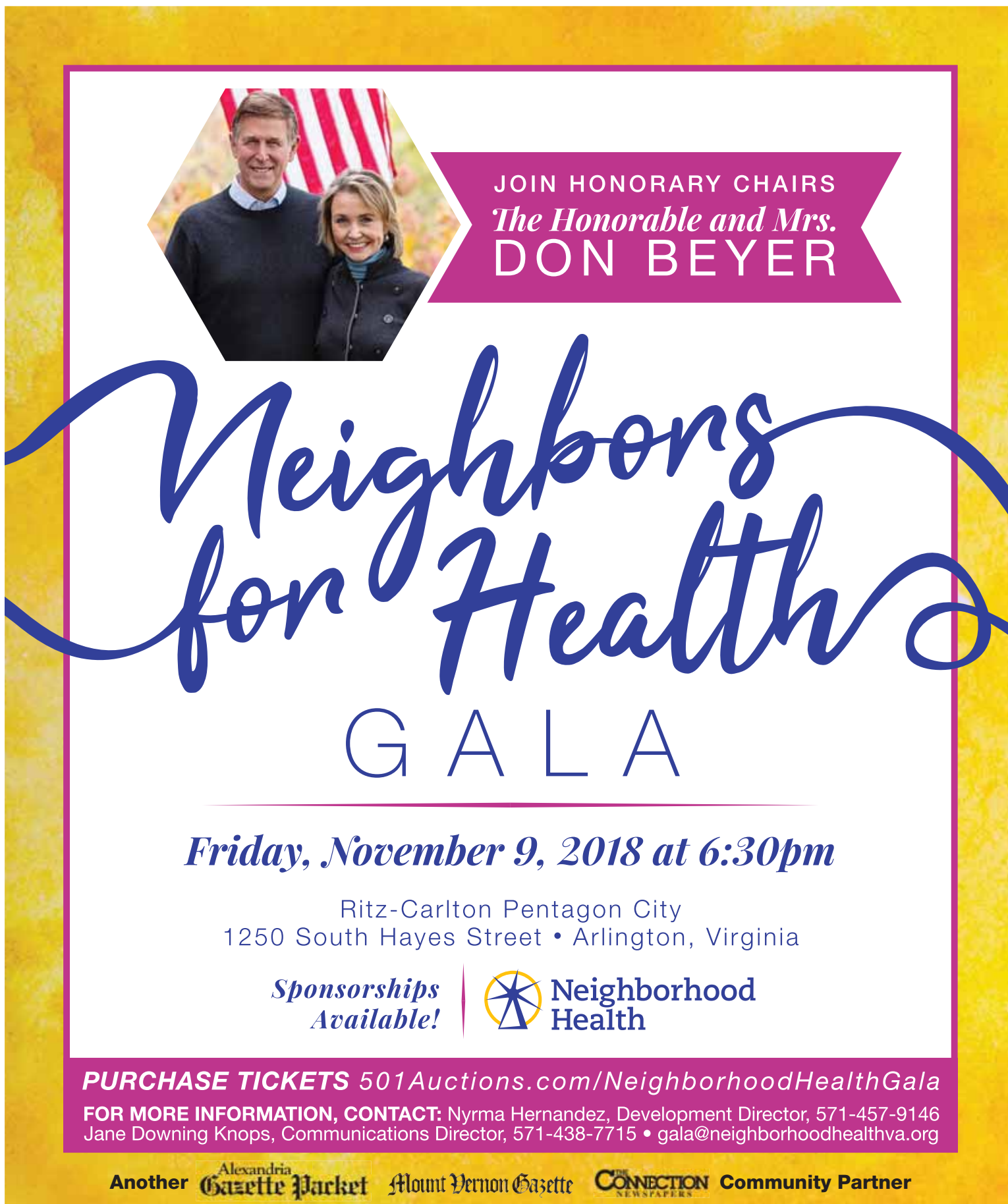
What's shameful is the new school administrator should be focusing his energies on improving T.C. Williams anemic academic achievements. After all, our taxes are intended to educate our children; not to light up an athletic field.

\* Karig Property: Another shameful abuse of the public trust. This one is so egregious that those affected by the city's capricious mismanagement of this four-acre property are not going quietly into the night. Like the African American community fighting stadium night lights, the Karig neighbors are also seeking redress from the court.

At the heart of the dispute is whether the Karig property merits protection from development due to having a stream. Streams and the land they traverse are protected by law. Spoiler alert: According to specialists, including a consultant hired by the city, the Karig property has a stream. But this fact was not reported by city employees at either a Planning Commission or at a City Council hearing. Result: the city approved development of the Karig property.

And what of your mayor-in-waiting Justin Wilson and city manager? Since no revenue can be produced for city coffers by wetlands nor can a stadium without lights be rented for use at night, you can quickly deduce where they stand. With this duo in power, expect to zip your lip and open your wallet. You are a cash cow, nothing more, for their costly visions, massive light poles and destroyed wetlands.

**Jimm Roberts**  
Alexandria



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**DON BEYER**


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Jane Downing Knops, Communications Director, 571-438-7715 • [gala@neighborhoodhealthva.org](mailto:gala@neighborhoodhealthva.org)

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## SPORTS

# TC Running Back Eaton a Bright Spot in Lopsided Loss

**Titans lose to Robinson, will host Patriot on Saturday.**

BY JON ROETMAN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**A**nthony Eaton's talents were on display against Robinson on Sept. 13, when the T.C. Williams running back scored a pair of touchdowns on the ground and made multiple plays in the passing game.

But unlike the season opener, when Eaton found the end zone six times against Osbourn Park, the performance of No. 5 wasn't enough to carry the Titans to victory.

The Rams scored the final 31 points, shutting out T.C. Williams for the final 30-plus minutes during a 45-12 victory at Robinson Secondary School.

The Titans matched the Rams touchdown for touchdown during their first two drives and trailed 14-12 when Eaton battled his way into the end zone on a fourth-and-goal carry from the 3-yard line with 6:37 remaining in the second quarter. It was all Robinson from there, however, as the Rams took control with a physical ground game.

"[It was] a combination of [Robinson] doing a great job with their offensive scheme and, offensively, we had a turnover and failed to convert on a few 4th downs,"

TC head coach Jimmy Longerbeam wrote in an email with regards to why the Rams were able to pull away. "This gave them additional offensive possessions."

Trailing 7-0, the Titans came out throwing during their opening possession. TC attempted a pass on its first seven plays, with quarterback Jack Rossi completing his first five attempts for 58 yards.

Facing third and 10 from the Robinson 20-yard line, TC coaches called for an outside zone running play to the right. Eaton took the handoff and raced into the end zone.

"We did a good job blocking the edge and Anthony has good vision and above average speed," Longerbeam wrote. "He was able to outrun everybody to the end zone."

Trailing 14-6, TC opened its second possession with a 53-yard deep pass from Rossi to Eaton.

"Catching is something I enjoy and am constantly working to improve on," Eaton wrote in an email. "It makes me more of an all-around back."

Eaton, a 6-foot, 185-pound junior, finished with four receptions for 82 yards.



**Anthony Eaton scored two touchdowns during T.C. Williams' loss to Robinson on Sept. 13.**

yards, TC faced fourth and goal at the 3. Eaton found the end zone with his fifth consecutive rushing attempt, cutting the Robinson lead to 14-12.

The Titans, however, would get no closer.

Robinson rushed for more than 350 yards and had five different players score at least one rushing touchdown.

"We got unfocused as a team," Eaton wrote, "and were not clicking the way we are capable of."

Rossi completed 14 of 27 passes for 160 yards.

"I think he had some good plays," Longerbeam wrote. "We just have to get better at every position. The thing about the QB is, they tend to get too much credit when we're doing well and too much criticism when things aren't going well offensively. In order for the offense to be real efficient, it takes all 11 players to work together to be successful."

The defeat dropped TC's record to 2-2, including a loss to Tuscarora the week before. The Titans will host Patriot at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 22.

"We've gone back to the basics this week," Longerbeam wrote. "Stressing fundamentals. We have to have ball security and hopefully create some turnovers that will give us extra possessions."

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## Navigating the Tween Years

Child development experts offer suggestions for a difficult period of development.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

One of the most unsettling times in a parent-child relationship can be the period of adolescence when children are growing into adulthood. During this period say mental health professionals, teens may exhibit defiance and disrespect while parent might experience hurt and question the quality of their parenting abilities.

This period of time in the lives of both parents and adolescents can be fraught with confusion, pain and disappointment. Understanding the reasons behind the sudden shift is one of the keys to navigating this life change. "One of the most important developmental tasks during adolescence is for the child to discover who they are apart from their parents in preparation for eventually living as an adult," said Melissa K. McCeney, Ph.D., professor of psychology at Montgomery College. "They are working to define their own values and goals, and part of that process involves questioning authority."

"It's a natural part of separation from parents," added Linda Gulyn, Ph.D., professor of psychology at Marymount University. "In fact most behaviors described as rude or disrespectful are the teen's way of expressing her desire to be her own person; not an extension of the parent." Understanding what a child of this age might be feeling and experiencing can make parents more empathetic prepare them to help guide their children through this developmental period. "Adolescents also tend to be very idealistic and absolute in their thinking, which may lead them to become critical of parents who can't possibly live up to unrealistic standards," said McCeney. "Brain development during adolescence can make teens less sensitive to how other people are feeling and more sensitive to their own feelings. Consequently, they may behave in self-centered and inconsiderate ways without even realizing it."

During this period, some parents may question their parenting skills or style. "These things will happen regardless of parenting style because they're a normal part of the developmental process," said McCeney "Parenting style could affect how difficult this transitional period is, though. Children whose parents are overly permissive or demand immediate compliance with no discussion under threat of punishment are more likely to become teens who are very rude and disrespectful. Parents who have consistently had high expectations for their children within the context of a warm and nurturing relationship have already laid the groundwork for more constructive conflict resolution."

Gulyn suggests that parents exhibit authority, but avoid extremes. "Always set limits and boundaries,

but do it in a way that you maintain a warm relationship with your child," she said. "Research shows that authoritarian, that is strict and punitive, and permissive, having no rules or boundaries, result in the most disrespectful and difficult rebellious behaviors."

When adolescents rebel, the way a parent responds can set the tone for the eventual outcome. "In my opinion, the parent needs to diffuse that moment with empathy or at least an expression of understanding how it must be for the teen," said Gulyn. "[For example,] 'I know it's frustrating trying to keep all those homework assignments straight ...'"

"I also believe the teen needs feedback that his rudeness hurts," continued Gulyn. "[For example,] 'Wow, that really made me feel bad when you talked to me that way.' You are the parent. You need to help your teen develop empathy and understand the consequences of their behaviors."

Encourage children to think about the effect their behavior might have on others, suggests Jerome Short, Ph.D, associate professor of psychology at Marymount University. "Parents should ask their children, 'How would you feel if someone did that to you?' or 'How do you think that person feels after you did that?'," suggests Short. "These questions increase a focus on empathy and compassion. Parents should make it clear that they value kindness and respect and want their children to value those principles too."

Reinforcement is more effective than punishment, advises McCeney, but she underscores the reality that actions have consequences, and sometimes they're unpleasant. "When punishment seems appropriate, try to stick with natural consequences as much as you can," she said. "For example, a teen who is being hateful at the dinner table

might need to eat alone. If your child is insulting to you while you drive him to a party, perhaps you should turn around and go back home instead."

McCeney advises against consequences without warning. "If you go the punishment route, though, it's important to make sure your teen knows in advance exactly what the consequence will be and how they need to change their behavior in order to avoid it," she said. "For example, instead of making an unexpected screeching U-turn, say, 'What you just said to me was really rude, and I don't see why I should do you a favor if you're not going to be nice. If you speak disrespectfully to me again, we'll turn around and go home.' Then follow through as necessary. If you know your kid is likely to act up in a particular situation, lay out the rules ahead of time," continued McCeney. "If they tend to be rude to you to show off to their friends, let them know that if it happens at tomorrow's movie night at your house, they won't be able to have company over next week-end. Then they can make their own informed choices."

### Addressing Rude Teen And Tween Behavior

- ❖ Model appropriate behavior. If your child yells at you and you respond by raising your own voice, they will seethe at your hypocrisy. Don't allow them to tempt you to stoop to their level.
- ❖ Choose your battles. If they actually do their chores, it won't hurt "not to notice" that they rolled their eyes and grumbled under their breath while they did them.
- ❖ Enforce appropriate boundaries. If your child is being rude and disrespectful, refuse to engage no matter how hard they push. Say something like, "I'll be happy to discuss this with you when you can speak to me respectfully," and then calmly walk away.
- ❖ Say yes when you can. Grant more independence as your child demonstrates that they can be trusted with it. Help them to understand that handling conflict respectfully is a sign of maturity and that you'll respond to it as such.
- ❖ Show them that you still care. Continue to be affectionate toward them and connect with them however you can despite the fact that they're not always behaving in the most lovable ways at this time. Often, teens feel lonely and vulnerable under their prickly exterior. Be generous with hugs, and remember that this is only a season. It will pass.



# CRIME

The following incidents were reported by the Alexandria Police Department.

## THURSDAY, SEPT. 13

The Alexandria Police Department is investigating a felonious assault at Henry and Madison streets. The adult male victim has a non-life-threatening injury and will not explain its cause.

## THURSDAY, SEPT. 6

The Alexandria Police Department is investigating a robbery in the 600 block of Four Mile Road. Two men assaulted and stole cash from another man. There were no serious injuries.

## BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 5

learn more about the project, review proposed plans and provide input. VDOT staff will be available to answer questions. A presentation will begin at 7:15 p.m. Provide comments at the meeting, or send them to VDOT by Oct. 1, 2018. Email or mail comments to Mr. Edwin Woo, P.E., Virginia Department of Transportation, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030. Visit [www.virginiadot.org/newsroom/northern\\_virginia/2018/give\\_input\\_on\\_duke133612.asp](http://www.virginiadot.org/newsroom/northern_virginia/2018/give_input_on_duke133612.asp) for project details.

## FRIDAY/SEPT. 21

### In-Person Absentee Voting Begins.

8 a.m. at Voter Registration Office, 132 N. Royal St. Contact Anna Leider, [anna.leider@alexandriava.gov](mailto:anna.leider@alexandriava.gov), 703-746-4050.

**Meet with the Mayor.** 2-4 p.m. in the Mayoral Office on the second floor of City Hall, 301 King St. Mayor Allison Silberberg will be hosting her monthly "Meet with the Mayor." She will meet with each resident for 10 minutes about any issue or idea that they would like to discuss. No appointment is required. It is first come, first served. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov/Council](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Council) for more.

## FRIDAY-SATURDAY/SEPT. 21-22

**Car Free Days 2018.** Telework, bicycle, walk, take transit or carpool/vanpool (car-lite). Everyone who takes the free pledge for one or both days will be entered into a raffle. Registrants will also have the opportunity to participate in several local area events including: PARK(ing) Day, Clarendon Day, The Great Frederick Fair, Try Transit Week, and more. Take the free pledge to go car free or car-lite for a day at [www.CarFreeMetroDC.org](http://www.CarFreeMetroDC.org).

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 22

**Alexandria Candidate Forum.** 2-4 p.m. at William Ramsay School Auditorium, 5700 Sanger Ave. The West End Civic, Condo and Homeowners Associations announces a Decision 2018 Candidate forum. The venue is handicapped accessible and parking is available. All Alexandria City Council candidates will participate. Peggy Fox, of WUSA9, will moderate forum. This forum is free and is for all City of Alexandria residents. Email [llbrtt@comcast.net](mailto:llbrtt@comcast.net) or call 703-212-5836 for more.

## SUNDAY/SEPT. 23

**Reduce Waste.** 3-5 p.m. at Peace Lutheran Church, 6362 Lincolnia Road. Rev. Stephanie Allen, founder of Zero Waste Church, will discuss her experience leading a congregation to reduce their waste footprint. This is an interfaith event and all are welcome to attend. Free. Email [info@faithforclimate.org](mailto:info@faithforclimate.org) or visit [www.faithforclimate.org](http://www.faithforclimate.org)

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# ENTERTAINMENT

## WOOFS! Gives Shelter Dogs a Place to Learn and Grow

BY BARBARA S. MOFFET

ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE OF ALEXANDRIA

Asiago, Cheddar, Feta, Gorgonzola, Gouda, Havarti, Mascarpone, Mozzarella, Muenster, Provolone and Ricotta might sound like a stroll down a grocery aisle, but it was actually a panoply of puppies competing in the “Great Puppy Games” earlier this summer at WOOFs! Dog Training Center.

The puppies are the 11 offspring of a hound mix named Brie, sent by the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria (AWLA) to WOOFs! for some special care in her last weeks of pregnancy. The birth of not one, not two, but 11 puppies provided an opportunity for WOOFs! to hone its training skills for young dogs, a special emphasis of the center. “One of my personal interests is getting puppies started off on the right foot,” said Dr. Laura Sharkey, founder of WOOFs! “We focus on socializing them in the 6- to 10-week-old period, meeting other dogs and people.”

Along with the usual work of training and boarding dogs for paying clients, WOOFs! is an Animal Guardian of the AWLA, donating thousands of hours each year to foster dogs who need special attention and care. “We might not have been able to take in Brie if WOOFs! hadn’t agreed to foster her,” said Echo Keif, AWLA Community Outreach and Adoptions Coordinator. But after their birth at WOOFs! — and the special training for the Puppy Games — the 11 dogs journeyed to the shelter for adoption. All have now gone to new homes.

Some dog owners don’t realize that train-



PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY, AWLA WOOFs!

**Trainers pose with their canine charges as the Great Puppy Games wraps up.**

ing can begin for puppies as young as three weeks, Sharkey said. WOOFs! starts its nursery school with basics like paper training, coming when called and paying attention to what humans are saying to them. Training sessions for puppies are brief, she said, because of their short attention spans. Besides, she pointed out, their tiny bellies can only hold so many treats.

Training should be fun for both puppies and adult dogs, Sharkey said. “If any angst or frustration appears, something is wrong with the training and it needs to be evaluated. The dogs should think it’s all a game.”

It certainly was fun and games for Cheeses Eleven. Showing off such skills as following their trainer, coping with distracting objects and agility, Asiago emerged as the Big Cheese with assistance from trainer Jane Saunders; siblings Mozzarella and Gorgonzola also emerged as leaders of the pack. Sharkey ushered puppy Mascarpone through the course, and senior trainer Erica Pytlovany presided over the trainers and their canine companions in front of an audience of friends, family and AWLA followers.

Dr. Sharkey will speak about raising dogs



**An AWLA trading card featuring Dr. Laura Sharkey’s champion-in-training, Mascarpone. The card tracks the skills he learned during the Great Puppy Games.**

— and puppies — at a special AWLA Speaker Series event on Thursday, Sept. 27, at 7 p.m. at the AWLA, 4101 Eisenhower Ave. More information can be found at [AlexandriaAnimals.org/RaisingRover](http://AlexandriaAnimals.org/RaisingRover).

*The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, which operates the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter on contract with the City of Alexandria, is an independent, local, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The AWLA is committed to ending animal homelessness, promoting animal welfare, and serving as an educational resource for the City of Alexandria community. More information is at [AlexandriaAnimals.org](http://AlexandriaAnimals.org).*

### CALENDAR

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

#### ONGOING

**“The Painted Rocks at Revolver Creek” by Athol Fugard.** Through Sept. 30 at MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St., Alexandria. “The Painted Rocks at Revolver Creek” by Athol Fugard, directed by MetroStage Artistic Associate Thomas W. Jones II, will open the 2018-19 season at MetroStage. Visit [metrostage.org](http://metrostage.org).

**Geometrics Kiln Club Show.** Through Sept. 30, at Scope Gallery, 105 North Union St., Studio 19, Torpedo Factory, Alexandria. Earthy Encore Spotlights Shapeshifting in Clay. Monday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., open Thursday, Sept. 13 until 9 p.m. and Friday, Sept. 14 until 10 p.m. Call Scope Gallery at 703-548-6288 or visit [www.scopegallery.org](http://www.scopegallery.org).

**Art Exhibit: “Eat, Drink, and Be Merry.”** Through Sept. 30, at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. A national ceramic show that celebrates dining and food with a regional art exhibit echoing these themes. Visit [DelRayArtisans.org/event/eat-drink-be-merry](http://DelRayArtisans.org/event/eat-drink-be-merry).

**Dollhouse Exhibit.** Through Sept. 30, Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Alexandria. Exhibit “Our Alexandria” Dollhouse

Collection. The exhibit captures some of the forgotten businesses, people, and institutions that made African American families strong — church, school, and family. Other exhibits are also on site. Suggested admission \$3 per person. Visit [alexandriava.gov/museums](http://alexandriava.gov/museums) or call 703-746-4356.

#### THROUGH SEPT. 30

**Diaper Drive.** At Pilates ProWorks, 1103 Queen St., Alexandria. All of the diapers collected will be donated to the Great D.C. Diaper Bank, an official partner of the National Diaper Bank Network. Pilates ProWorks’ diaper drive is a part of a larger brand-wide initiative, “Restore Your Core,” which emphasizes the importance of empowering mothers to practice self-care. Visit [www.pilatesproworks.com](http://www.pilatesproworks.com).

#### THURSDAY/SEPT. 20

**Taste of OTN.** 4-8 p.m. at Montgomery Park, Old Town North Alexandria, 901 N. Royal St., at intersection of Montgomery Avenue, Alexandria. The Annual Taste of Old Town North celebrates local culture and arts with free food tastings, live music, wellness demos. Visit [oldtownnorth.org/taste](http://oldtownnorth.org/taste) or call 917-969-6668.

**Author Michael Lee Pope.** 5-7 p.m. at The Old Town Shop, 105 South Union St., Alexandria. Pope is an



### Live Music: Fox Vernon

With release of his five-track debut EP, Ghost, Fox Vernon will be joined by drummer Mike Smirnoff, Dave Mallen and others. Tuesday, Sept. 20, 8 p.m. at Evening Star Cafe, 2000 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Visit [www.eveningstarcafe.net](http://www.eveningstarcafe.net).

award-winning journalist who lives in Old Town Alexandria. He’s written the books: Hidden History of Alexandria, DC; Ghost of Alexandria; Shotgun Justice; and Wicked Northern Virginia. Call 703-684-4682.

#### Kayak Cleanups at Four Mile Run.

5-7:30 p.m. The event starts out at The Conservatory Center at Four Mile Run Park, 4109 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Parking details will be provided to those who RSVP. The Four Mile Run Conservatory Foundation will continue to deploy its fleet of kayaks to collect litter along the streambank of Four Mile Run. Visit [www.fourmilerun.org](http://www.fourmilerun.org).

**Film Screening.** 7-9 p.m. at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 228 S. Pitt St., Alexandria. St. Paul’s is hosting the D.C. area premiere of “In the Executioner’s Shadow” and a Q&A with the filmmakers. This documentary casts a penetrating look at the consequences of the death penalty through three powerful stories. Free. Visit [bit.ly/executionersshadow](http://bit.ly/executionersshadow).

**Understanding Annuities.** 7 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road, Alexandria. Learn what an annuity is and how it is funded. There are several types of annuities and they are different.

**Musician Fox Vernon.** 8 p.m. at Evening Star Cafe, 2000 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. With release of his five-track debut EP, Ghost, Vernon performs with Mike Smirnoff, Dave Mallen and others. Visit [www.eveningstarcafe.net](http://www.eveningstarcafe.net).

#### SEPT. 20-23

**Old Town Boutique District Shop**

**& Stroll.** At various boutiques throughout Old Town, Alexandria. Take a stroll through historic Old Town Alexandria and explore some of the best boutiques in the area. Browse and shop and use the app to show each location visited to be entered in a grand prize drawing that includes \$1,000 worth of gift cards. Additionally, buy a stylish event bag for more savings and goodies. Visit [www.oldtownboutiquedistrict.com](http://www.oldtownboutiquedistrict.com).

#### FRIDAY/SEPT. 21

**STEAM Concepts.** 10-11:55 a.m. at Huntley Meadows, 3701 Lockheed Blvd., Alexandria. Youngsters ages 4-6 explore STEAM investigations through active, hands-on investigations and experiments in nature with the guidance of a park naturalist. Children will learn how to use binoculars, magnifying glasses and field microscopes to deepen their observations and investigations. This program meets weekly for six weeks. The cost of the series is \$108. Call 703-768-2525 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows).

**Movie: Black Panther.** 7:30 p.m. at Market Square, 301 King St., Alexandria. Part of the City of Alexandria’s Movies Under the Stars. Attendees are encouraged to bring a beach chair or sit on the bench seating and enjoy an outdoor movie shown on a three-story tall inflatable



## ENTERTAINMENT

# Mount Purrnon Aims to Give Cat, Café Lovers a Treat

BY HOPE NELSON

**S**oon, Alexandrians may be able to enjoy a side of cat cuddles with their coffee and pastries. Mount Purrnon, spearheaded by Kristin Cowan and Adam Patterson, would blend all the comforts of a café with all the fuzziness of a dozen felines.

The cat café — which would be the first in Northern Virginia — has been a longtime dream for the duo.

“We went to the (cat café) in Charleston called Pounce Back and had a great time,” Patterson said. “After that, (Cowan) said, ‘I’ve got to do this.’”

After a springtime fundraising campaign, reality has begun to set in: locations, permits and all.

“We did a Kickstarter campaign back in May and we got it funded,” Patterson said. “Now we’re just in the process of looking for a location, and once we get a location that’s when we can apply for the permits and the ABC license.”

The popularity of cat cafes has surged in recent years; Patterson says there are now more than 80 locations within the United States. Within the region, the most popular café is Crumbs and Whiskers in Washington, which now sports a sister location in Los Angeles. And the trend continues to grow, with cafes in Denver and more.

The vision for Mount Purrnon is twofold: To serve

food and drink in one room and to offer plenty of kitty quality time in the other. And, of course, to get the resident cats adopted. Think of the café as sort of a public foster home — with snacks.

“You can go between (the rooms) if you want, but you don’t have to,” Patterson said. “We’ll probably have about 12 cats at a time, and they’ll all be up for adoption.”

Mount Purrnon is also addressing any food safety issues before they arise: All snacks and treats will be prepackaged and made off-site to avoid any cross-contamination.

And speaking of the food: Cowan and Patterson aim to offer an array of cookies, cupcakes, cheese plates, fruit and more. Wash it down with coffee, juice or something stronger — Mount Purrnon aims to sell beer and wine, as well — for a balanced meal.

Mount Purrnon’s ideal location would be along King Street in Old Town, Patterson said.

“We’re trying to find a good place that has a big window where people can walk by and see them,” he said.

As dreams become reality, Cowan and Patterson are ready for whatever comes next, Patterson said.

“We’re both very, very excited,” he said. “It’s a new adventure.”

Mount Purrnon’s target opening date is early 2019.

*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).*

## CALENDAR

screen in front of City Hall. Admission is free. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov](http://www.alexandriava.gov).

### FRIDAY-SATURDAY/SEPT. 21-22

**Swim for Dogs.** Friday 4-7 p.m. at Charles Houston Recreation Center Pool, 901 Wythe St., Alexandria. Treat your pooch to a late summertime dip at one of the City of Alexandria’s annual dog swims. Dogs under 50 pounds can enjoy a pool to themselves at the Itty Bitty Doggie Dive. Dogs of all sizes can enjoy the Big Dog Day Swim on Saturday, Sept. 22, 10 a.m.-12:45 p.m. at the Old Town Pool, 1609 Cameron St., Alexandria. Tickets are required to attend. Free. Visit [alexandriava.gov/Aquatics](http://alexandriava.gov/Aquatics).

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 22

**Mosby Civil War Bus Tour.** 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Stuart - Mosby Historical Society; tour leader will be Don Hakenson, Eric Buckland with special guest Tom Evans. The bus will leave Truro Parish (10520 Main St., Fairfax City). Will be visiting Mosby’s Grave, Clover Hill (supposedly a safe house for Nick Carter), Wolf’s Craig (the home of General Turner Ashby), The Mountain Home in Front Royal. Cost for Stuart-Mosby Historical Society members is \$65; non members is \$75. Reserve a seat by sending contact info to Don Hakenson at [dhakenson@verizon.net](mailto:dhakenson@verizon.net).

**Mount Vernon Flea Market.** 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at 8717 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Flea Market will take place every fourth Saturday of the month through September. Vendors will sell items such as: homemade goods, lavender sachets, jewelry, soap, antique and vintage items; books, CD’s and DVDs, comic books

and more. Refreshments will also be on sale. Hosted by the Mount Vernon Masonic Lodge No. 219. Rain or shine. Visit [www.facebook.com/mountvernonfleamarket/](http://www.facebook.com/mountvernonfleamarket/).

**Save the Streams.** 9-11 a.m. at Jerome “Buddie” Ford Nature Center, 5750 Sanger Ave., Alexandria. Interested in learning more about the health of local streams? They will be using the Virginia Save Our Streams methodology to assess Holmes Run by classifying macroinvertebrates. The City of Alexandria’s Department of Transportation and Environmental Services (T&ES), Stormwater Management Division and the Jerome “Buddie” Ford Nature Center, invite residents to participate in a stream monitoring workshop. Space is limited and registration is required, email [joni.calmbacher@alexandriava.gov](mailto:joni.calmbacher@alexandriava.gov) to register.

**Fall Garden Day.** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Visit with a host of local plant and craft vendors selling everything to satisfy fall gardening needs. There will also be a silent auction, bake sale, live music, food and a kids’ activities tent. Call 703-642-5173 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/green-spring](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/green-spring).

**Relay for Pre-K.** 9 a.m.-noon at St. Stephen’s and St. Agnes Upper School Track, 1000 St. Stephen’s Road, Alexandria. The Child & Family Network Centers (CFNC) announces the launch of its inaugural ‘Relay for Pre-K.’ Registration to walk is free. The three-mile walk will begin at 10 a.m., with registration beginning at 9 a.m. Attendees are also invited to enjoy food, drinks, live entertainment, and more around the field. Participants who raise more than \$100 will receive an event t-



Michael Lee Pope

## Local Author Thursday

Michael Lee Pope is an award-winning journalist who lives in Old Town Alexandria. He has reported for the Alexandria Gazette Packet, WAMU 88.5 News, the New York Daily News and the Tallahassee Democrat. He’s written the books: Hidden History of Alexandria, DC; Ghost of Alexandria; Shotgun Justice; and Wicked Northern Virginia. Thursday, Sept. 20, 5-7 p.m. at The Old Town Shop, 105 South Union St. Alexandria. Call 703-684-4682.

shirt. Visit [www.cfnc-online.org](http://www.cfnc-online.org) or call 703-836-0214.

**Telling their Story: Museum Specialty Tours.** 10 a.m. at Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St., Alexandria. Tour the halls where Washington, Lafayette, Jefferson, Madison and Burr partied and made history. Consider the ideas debated in the rooms where it happened... for some, but not for all. \$12/person. Visit [www.gadsbystavern.org](http://www.gadsbystavern.org).



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**Walking with Washington.** 10 a.m.-noon at Alexandria Visitor's Center, 221 King St., Alexandria. Explore sites associated with George Washington in his hometown of Alexandria. This guided walking tour of historic Old Towne covers people and events in Washington's life and in American history, with stops at Ramsay House, Market Square, the Carlyle House, Wise's Tavern, Duvall House/Tavern, Gadsby's Tavern, Washington's townhouse, The Lord Fairfax House, "Light-Horse" Harry Lee's house and Christ Church. Sponsored by the City of Alexandria's George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee. Free, no reservation required. Visit [www.washingtonbirthday.com](http://www.washingtonbirthday.com).

**Archaeology Day at Gunston Hall.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at 10709 Gunston Road, Lorton. George Mason's Gunston Hall presents Archaeology Day, a day dedicated to digging up the mysteries of the past. Activities for all ages, including sifting for ancient artifacts, mending archaeological objects, discovering what remains after 200 years, and dressing like an archaeologist. This event is included with Gunston Hall's general admission. Visit [www.gunstonhall.org](http://www.gunstonhall.org).

**Classic Car Show.** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at The Lyceum's parking lot, 201 South Washington St., in Old Town Alexandria. On display will be Packards, Austins, Oldsmobiles, and other Orphans, from the 1930s-1950s. Orphan cars are any marque of vehicle built by an out-of-business manufacturer. Visit [packardsva.org](http://packardsva.org) or call 703-424-5871.

**Historic Homes Tour.** 10 a.m.-3 p.m. A walking tour featuring some of the beautiful homes in Old Town Alexandria, proceeds will benefit Inova Alexandria Hospital. Sponsored by The Twig, Junior Auxiliary of the hospital. \$40 in advance; \$45 tour day. On tour day, tickets may be purchased at the Alexandria Visitor Center, at The Twig Thrift Shop at 106 N. Columbus St. or at The Athenaeum at 201 Price St. Email [HomesTourBeane@gmail.com](mailto:HomesTourBeane@gmail.com), call 703-338-0691 or visit [www.thetwig.org/Homes-Tour](http://www.thetwig.org/Homes-Tour).

**Blue Sky Puppet Theatre.** 10 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. at Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St., Alexandria. Silly Goose and Val perform. The City of Alexandria's Office of the Arts has collaborated with the National Capital Puppetry Guild for a series of monthly family-friendly shows. \$5. Visit [alexandriava.gov/webtrac](http://alexandriava.gov/webtrac) and search keyword "puppet."

**Old Town Waterfront Fitness + Wellness Festival.** Noon-4 p.m. at Waterfront Park, 1A Prince St., Alexandria. Festival gives attendees the opportunity to experience firsthand some of the best local fitness studios and wellness companies. Waterfront Park will be overflowing with local fitness studios and wellness businesses. The first 400 participants will be given a swag bag filled with free classes, discounts, branded products and samples from some of the top fitness and wellness companies in the area. \$29. Visit [www.discoverthedistrictevents.com](http://www.discoverthedistrictevents.com).

**Trash Cleanup.** Noon-3 p.m. at Dyke Marsh and along the Mount Vernon Trail. Check in at Belle Haven Park or the Dyke Marsh Haul Road entrance. Sponsored by the Friends of Dyke Marsh ([www.fodm.org](http://www.fodm.org)) and the National Park Service ([www.nps.gov/gwmp](http://www.nps.gov/gwmp)). Sponsors will provide gloves, bags and tools. This event will occur unless there are heavy rains and/or lightning.

**ASTEAM Fall Family Carnival.** 12-4 p.m. at Charles Houston Rec Center, 901 Wythe St., Alexandria. This event is a social amusement platform for leveraging technology infused games and immersive hands-on experiences

## Symphony Opens 75<sup>th</sup> Season

BY MELINDA KERN  
ALEXANDRIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Alexandria Symphony Orchestra presents its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary season this year with the first concert weekend of its subscription series on Saturday, Sept. 29, 8 p.m., at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center and on Sunday, Sept. 30, 3 p.m., at the George Washington Masonic Memorial.

September's program mixes grand with intimate symphonic works, anchored with Beethoven's patriotic Symphony No. 7 preceded by Michael Torke's transcendent "Javelin." Maestro Ross and the ASO welcome violin soloist Alexander Kerr for Dvořák's Romance in F minor and Saint-Saëns' Introduction and Rondo capriccioso.

Raised in Alexandria and a graduate of T.C. Williams High School, Kerr is a masterful violinist who has collaborated with countless artists from Joshua Bell to Sarah Chang. He currently serves as concertmaster of the Dallas and Indianapolis Symphony Orchestras.

The 2018-2019 season marks the introduction of James Ross as the ASO's new music director, who brings a wealth of international experience and innovative programming to the ASO. Maestro Ross is also the orchestra director of the National Youth Orchestra – USA at Carnegie Hall and conductor with the Orquestra Simfònica del Vallès in Barcelona. Ross serves on the conducting faculty at the Juilliard School and recently completed a 16-year tenure as professor and director of Orchestral Activities at the University of Maryland.

Besides the new maestro, ASO patrons will enjoy an improved concert experience this season with a renovated concession station at Schlesinger



PHOTO BY CHelsea SANDERS

Violinist Alexander Kerr

Concert Hall. At 2:15 p.m. prior to each Sunday performance at the Masonic Memorial, Maestro Ross will present an interactive talk called "As the Baton Swings." The talk will include insights about the program, geared toward younger attendees and novice symphony-goers. Additional pre-concert activities and celebratory experiences are also scheduled throughout the season at both venues.

The Alexandria Symphony is a fully-professional orchestra drawing from the Washington, D.C. metropolitan region's wealth of musical talent. Many musicians perform with other orchestras and top military bands. The ASO performs Saturday evenings at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center and Sunday matinees at the George Washington Masonic Memorial. Adult subscriptions start at \$68, and single tickets are \$20-\$80 for adults, \$5 for youth (18 and under), and \$10 for students (with ID). The ASO also offers senior, military, and group discounts. For tickets and more information, visit [www.alexsym.org](http://www.alexsym.org) or call 703-548-0885.

geared towards encouraging young people to become engaged, knowledgeable and skilled in the ASTEAM (Aviation, Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) disciplines within the power of play. Highlights of the carnival include: forensic science, cyber security, and rocketry exploration; creative arts and virtual reality activities; robotic demonstrations; lego building; radio-controlled cars; drones; chess. Visit [www.nvul.org](http://www.nvul.org) or call 703-836-2858.

**Write Like a Woman Networking Workshop.** 1:30-3:30 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. Facilitated by Poet and Author KaNikki Jakarta, "Write Like A Woman Networking Workshop" welcomes women writers ages 18-100. Meeting periodically, the workshop centers on uplifting and inspiring through writing. Each workshop focuses on different writing styles and allows the participants to enhance their own writing skills and share their work for listening or critiques. The meetings are for amateur and professional writers. Every session includes writing exercises and networking. RSVP at [admin@nvfaa.org](mailto:admin@nvfaa.org).

**Sips & Secrets: A Speakeasy Night.** 7-10 p.m. at Lee-Fendall House Museum and Garden, 614 Oronoco St., Alexandria. Sips and Secrets: A Speakeasy Night is an annual 1920s-themed gala fundraiser to support the Lee-Fendall House Museum. Enjoy a night of Prohibition-era fun, including drinks, dancing, and a silent auction. All proceeds from this

event will fund urgently architectural repairs and stabilization for the house's historic 233-year-old foundations. \$35-\$85. Visit [www.eventbrite.com/e/sips-secrets-a-speakeasy-night-tickets-44825724950](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/sips-secrets-a-speakeasy-night-tickets-44825724950).

**MV Underground Masquerade.** 7 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. A black tie and mask event featuring a moonlit masquerade on Mount Vernon's iconic East Lawn, including hors d'oeuvres, an open bar, and live music and dancing. Enjoy private tours of the mansion, including a rare peek into the underground cellar, as well as 18th century fortune telling and fireworks over the Potomac River. Admission: \$159; \$90 for Mount Vernon Underground Members. Visit [www.MountVernon.org](http://www.MountVernon.org).

**Charles Williams Cabaret.** 7:30-9 p.m. at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria. Vocalist Charles Williams, with Betty Bullock on piano, will be performing The Great American Songbook, including selections from Cole Porter, George Gershwin, Irving Berlin, Rogers and Hart, Duke Ellington. Visit [www.mvuc.org](http://www.mvuc.org). \$20. Tickets are available at [MVUCevents.brownpapertickets.com](http://MVUCevents.brownpapertickets.com).

**SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 22-23 King Street Art Festival.** Rescheduled due to Hurricane Florence. Saturday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.;

Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at King Street in Alexandria, from Washington Street to the waterfront. Free admission. The street is transformed into an outdoor art gallery with original fine artwork by more than 200 artists from around the country. Enjoy live music, and interactive art activities, and the Torpedo Factory Art Center's Beer & Wine Torpedo Garden, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. both days. Visit [www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com/artfest](http://www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com/artfest) or call 703-746-3301, or [www.ArtFestival.com](http://www.ArtFestival.com).

**Ice Cream Bowl Fundraiser.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday; 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday. at the King Street Art Festival, Market Square, corner of King and N. Fairfax streets. Purchase one of more than 1,400 handmade bowls created by the artists of The Art League's Ceramics Department and enjoy a scoop of ice cream. Proceeds benefit The Ice League's Ceramics department. Participants in the Ice Cream Bowl Fundraiser may enter a free drawing to win ceramic artwork and an Art League gift certificate. \$15 per bowl. Visit [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org).

### SUNDAY/SEPT. 23

**Run! Geek! Run!** 8:30 a.m. The race will take place in Alexandria, with the starting line between George Washington Middle School and the Braddock Road Metro stop. Proceeds from the race will benefit the Alexandria Seaport Foundation. Come either run or walk this flat course. Register at [rungeekrun.com/register](http://rungeekrun.com/register).

**Apothecary Museum Geek Tours: A Magical Apothecary.** 11 a.m.-noon at Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 105 S. Fairfax St., Alexandria. Learn about the muggle botanical science that inspired the potions and herbology of J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter series, and make a magical sleeping potion. Adults and children ages 8 and older welcome. Call 703-746-3852 or visit [www.alexandriava.gov](http://www.alexandriava.gov).

**AHA Garden Party.** 4-7 p.m. at Murray-Dick-Fawcett House, 517 Prince St., Alexandria. At Home in Alexandria will hold a Garden Party at the historic Murray-Dick-Fawcett House in Old Town to benefit the organization's mission. Attendees will be invited to tour the public rooms of the home and enjoy a buffet, fine wine and live music in the garden. The event is open to the public with advance ticket purchase at [www.athomeinalexandria.org/donate](http://www.athomeinalexandria.org/donate). Tickets are \$75. Call 703-231-0824.

**Live Music: Joe Jencks and Nicole Belanus.** 7 p.m. at George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria. A Joe Jencks concert is an occasion for singing, a contagious rising up of voices, an act of joy and defiance. Nicole Belanus is a singer-songwriter with acoustic and folk-rock influences. Tickets are \$18 in advance at [www.focusmusic.org/buy-tickets](http://www.focusmusic.org/buy-tickets) and for members, \$20 at the door. Email [Herb@FocusMusic.or](mailto:Herb@FocusMusic.or) or call 703-380-3151.

### MONDAY/SEPT. 24

**"Fore" the Kids Golf Tourney.** 1 p.m. shotgun start, at Springfield Country Club, 8301 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. Annual "Fore" the Kids Golf Tournament to benefit the Dunbar Alexandria-Olympic Branch of Boys Girls Clubs of Greater Washington. Registration and lunch on patio at 11 a.m., shotgun start at 1 p.m. and reception and award ceremony at 6 p.m. Register at [bidpal.net/alexandriagolf2018](http://bidpal.net/alexandriagolf2018).

**Oktoberfest.** 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Port City Brewing Company, 3950 Wheeler Ave., Alexandria. Sponsored by The Campagna Center. Featuring local brews, authentic bratwurst and German fare, and an evening of oompah-POW, all for a great cause. The Campagna Center's New Neighbors English Language Learner and Family Literacy Program helps immigrants become self-sufficient members of the community. Visit [www.campagnacenter.org/events/new-neighbors-oktoberfest](http://www.campagnacenter.org/events/new-neighbors-oktoberfest).

**Composting: What to Do with All Those Leaves.** 7 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road, Alexandria. Learn how to start composting at home, what to put into a compost pile, how to easily maintain it so the materials break down properly, and how to apply it in the garden. Free. Advance registration is requested at [mgnv.org/category/public-education-events/](http://mgnv.org/category/public-education-events/).

**ReReading "My Antonia."** 7 p.m. at Duncan Branch Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave., Alexandria. Join in to (re)read of "My Antonia" by Willa Cather. Discussion will be lead by Dr. Janie Mitchell in celebration of the 100th anniversary of publication in September 1918. "My Antonia" is one of the most significant American novels of the 20th century. Get a copy from Alexandria Library and come prepared to discuss this seminal work on immigration, religious difference, gender, class, and environmental protection. Visit [alexlibraryva.org](http://alexlibraryva.org).

**Banned Books Read Out.** 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. Join Honorary Host Alexandria Mayor Allison Silberberg, Alexandria Library Director Rose



# ENTERTAINMENT

Dawson and others who will read from banned books to celebrate the freedom to read. Participants may read 3-5 minute selections from a banned or challenged book or just come to listen. To read, RSVP with a selection to [veronica@nvfaa.org](mailto:veronica@nvfaa.org).

## TUESDAY/SEPT. 25

**Healthy Food Lecture and Cooking Demo.** 2 - 3:30 p.m., Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St., Alexandria. Join Madison Reeder, a registered dietitian, as she explains which trends are best to incorporate in our diets and which are best to avoid. Each session includes a cooking demonstration and food samples. To register, call 703-836-4414, ext. 110.

**Twilight & Tipple Tuesday Tours.** 6-9 p.m. at Woodlawn & Pope-Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Highway. A rare opportunity to experience Frank Lloyd Wright's Pope-Leighey House by twilight. This tour is a chance to see one of Wright's houses illuminated against a night sky, bring a new dimension and radiance to the typical tour experience. Visit [www.woodlawnpopeleighey.org](http://www.woodlawnpopeleighey.org).

**Partners in Art.** 7-9 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans gallery, 2704 Mt Vernon Ave. Join a collegial group of artists to share goals and get feedback on artwork. Monthly meetings include discussions on exhibit opportunities, the creative process and the local art scene. Artist can bring 1-3 works – complete or in progress – for feedback. All skill levels and media welcome. Donations (\$1-3) appreciated. Visit [DelRayArtisans.org/partners-in-art](http://DelRayArtisans.org/partners-in-art).

**Adult Knitting Workshop for Beginners.** 7 p.m. at Kate Waller Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen Street, Alexandria. Learn the basics of the knit stitch and practice new skills by making a washcloth. Keep the finished project or donate it to be made into a scarf. For those new to knitting or anyone wanting a refresher. Ages 16 and up. All supplies will be provided. Registration is required. Call 703-746-1751 to register.

**Author Talk: Katie Bianco.** 7 p.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St., Alexandria. Come meet local author Katie Bianco as she presents the new edition of her guidebook to Washington, D.C. Books will be available for purchase and signing. Visit [alexlibraryva.org](http://alexlibraryva.org).

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 27

**Tee-Off Against Prostate Cancer.** 6-9 p.m. at TopGolf Alexandria, 6625 S. Van Dorn St., Alexandria. Join alone or with a team for an evening of fun, food, and people to support this cause. All participants will receive a Lifetime membership to TopGolf as well as appetizers and drink tickets. Individual Ticket - \$60 Team (5 tickets) - \$250 Bay PCA Fact Sponsor - \$750 Deck Sponsor - \$1,500. Email [shawn@zerocancer.org](mailto:shawn@zerocancer.org) or call 202-334-9058.

**U.S. Navy Concert Band.** 7-9 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. The United States Navy Band Chamber Group from Washington, D.C., is the Navy's premier musical organization. This chamber music recital series will feature a diverse array of traditional and contemporary music including works by Kerry Turner, Lowell Shaw, and Katharina Thomsen. RSVP at [admin@nvfaa.org](mailto:admin@nvfaa.org).

**Selling Your Home.** 7 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road, Alexandria. Learn techniques to negotiate and get the best price for a home while minimizing the hassle associated with selling. Offered by Bruce McBarnette, a real estate agent associated with Keller Williams in Loudoun County. Register at



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At Home in Alexandria will hold a garden party at the historic Murray-Dick-Fawcett House in Old Town to benefit the organization's mission. Attendees will be invited to tour the public rooms of the home and enjoy a buffet, fine wine and live music in the garden. Sunday, Sept. 23, 4-7 p.m. at Murray-Dick-Fawcett House, 517 Prince St., Alexandria. Advance tickets required; \$75. Call 703-231-0824 or visit [www.athomeinalexandria.org/donate](http://www.athomeinalexandria.org/donate).

[kmaier@alexlibraryva.org](mailto:kmaier@alexlibraryva.org).

## FRIDAY/SEPT. 28

**Garden Talk: Planting Trees & Shrubs.** 1:30-2:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. (16-Adult) Learn how to select trees and shrubs that thrive in Northern Virginia. Understand how to handle bare-root, balled, wrapped and container plants. Receive guidance from VCE master gardeners on planting, feeding and caring for new trees and shrubs. \$10/person. Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes) using code 290 489 3501 or call 703-642-5173.

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 29

**5K Fundraiser.** 7:30 a.m. at Fort Hunt Park in Alexandria. For Arts on the Horizon, a non-profit theatre for children ages 0-6. Families are invited to run or walk to support Arts on the Horizon's arts education programs and performances. Registration is \$25. Visit [www.artsonthehorizon.org/5k](http://www.artsonthehorizon.org/5k)

**Pet Blessing.** 9 a.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church, 2911 Cameron Mills Road, Alexandria. Each pet will be individually blessed by Pastor Grace Han in the courtyard under the oaks on Cameron Mills Road. Call or text 703-408-4008.

**Plants & Design: Shade Garden Intensive.** 9 a.m.-noon. (Adults) We love the relief shade offers from the hot sun, but lament how challenging it is to have a shade garden. What can a gardener do with shade? Topics: Made in the (Dry) Shade and Great Plant Combinations for Shade Gardens. \$39/person. Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes) using code 290 482 3401 or call 703-642-5173.

**Fall Festival.** 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St., Alexandria. Join Beatley Central Library as it celebrates its 6th annual Fall Festival and Open House. Visit [alexlibraryva.org](http://alexlibraryva.org).

**A Mansion House Whiskey Tasting.** 6:30-9 p.m. at Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St., Alexandria. Taste whiskeys paired with delectable food, harkening back to the days when the Mansion House Hotel stood on the property. This event includes an evening tour of the Carlyle House, four whiskeys, and heavy hors d'oeuvres. Local historian Rich Gillespie will share stories of historic Virginia and guide you on

your whiskey tasting journey. Admission: \$75 per person 36 and over; \$35 ages 21-35. Call 703-549-2997 or visit [www.novaparks.com](http://www.novaparks.com)

**ASO'S New Season.** 8 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center. The Alexandria Symphony Orchestra opens its 75th Anniversary Season and welcomes violinist Alexander Kerr. Season subscriptions start at \$68. Single-ticket prices range \$20-\$80 for adults; \$5 youth and \$10 student tickets. Visit [www.alexsym.org](http://www.alexsym.org) or call 703-548-0885.

## SUNDAY/SEPT. 30

**Kayak Cleanups at Four Mile Run.** 9 a.m.-noon. The event starts out at The Conservatory Center at Four Mile Run Park, 4109 Mt Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Parking details will be provided to those who RSVP. The Four Mile Run Conservatory Foundation will continue to deploy its fleet of kayaks to collect litter along the streambank of Four Mile Run this fall. Visit [www.fourmilerun.org](http://www.fourmilerun.org).

**Book & Author.** 2-5 p.m. at Beth El Hebrew Congregation, 3830 Seminary Road, Alexandria. Authors Ronald Balson, The Trust, Dina Gold, Stolen Legacy, and Steve Israel, Big Guns, will speak and sell their books with proceeds to benefit Beth El Youth and Brandeis National Scholarships. Refreshments will be served. \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door. Email [debbie.e.spitzer@gmail.com](mailto:debbie.e.spitzer@gmail.com).

**Beethoven: Symphony No. 7.** 3 p.m. at George Washington Masonic Memorial. Featuring James Ross, conductor and Alexander Kerr, violin. The concert begins with Michael Torke's joyful and majestic work Javelin, co-commissioned by the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Committee. The program continues with two works featuring solo violin, including Dvořák's Romance in F Minor and Saint-Saëns' Introduction and Rondo capriccioso. The concert concludes with Beethoven's Symphony No. 7. For tickets, visit [www.alexsym.org](http://www.alexsym.org).

## SEPT. 30-OCT. 31

**Pumpkin Patch.** Monday-Friday, 11 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. at Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, 3606 Seminary Road. All net profits support the church's outreach activities. Visit [www.immanuel-on-the-hill.org](http://www.immanuel-on-the-hill.org).

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

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**News**

**Let Games Begin**

FROM PAGE 6

have a vision and to dream big."

Super Bowl champion Darrell Green and Stanley Cup champion Alex Ovechkin, a founding member of the St. James, were on hand for the opening day festivities.

"This is a great place to spend time with the family," Ovechkin said "It's a place to help raise sport, be healthy and just have fun."

Five years ago, Ashton and Dixon, a 1993 graduate of Episcopal High School, first approached the City of Alexandria with a proposal to build the complex on the 15-acre Hensley Park land located between Eisenhower Avenue and the Capital Beltway. The 2013 bid was withdrawn less than two months later when it was discovered that a 40-year-old covenant prevented the construction of such a facility at that site.

In a statement, then-Mayor Bill Euille wished the men well "in finding a suitable location for their innovative facility." That location turned out to be a 20-acre campus at the intersection of I-395 and I-495 in Fairfax County.

Opening day showcased the facilities at The St. James, which includes a FIFA regulation-sized turf field, four full-length regulation basketball courts that convert into nine volleyball courts, two NHL regulation-sized ice rinks, a 50-meter Olympic regulation-sized competition pool, six batting cages and pitching machines, a squash and golf center, gymnastics center, a climbing and bouldering wall, a water park and a 50,000 square-foot health club.



PHOTO BY JOHN BORDNER/GAZETTE PACKET

**Tierney Pittman, 10, of Alexandria, practices her gymnastics at the St. James sports complex in Springfield.**

Also on site are a medspa and a retail store featuring performance-oriented activewear. Celebrity chef Spike Mendelsohn will open a cafe in November and a MedStar Health and Sports Medicine Center is slated to open in the spring.

Following their time together in college, Ashton pursued a career in finance and Dixon a career in law. Five years ago, they collaborated on their vision for The St. James.

"We participated in youth sports and now we are parents of kids participating in youth sports," Dixon said. "We are the customer and we tried to create an environment that is special."

The St. James, a 24-hour membership based facility, expects to open a second flagship destination in the northern suburbs of Chicago in early 2021 and is working to bring The St. James to additional markets around the country.

"Today is incredibly gratifying," Ashton said. "We had a vision to provide a deep array of services to the DC region – to bring together all ages and all walks of life. Today shows that is possible."

For more information, visit [www.thestjames.co](http://www.thestjames.co).

**Obituary**

**Obituary**

**Virginia Kelly Luisada, 73**, of Alexandria, VA died in Georgetown Hospital, Washington, DC on September 8 following a long illness. Known as Ginger to family and friends, she was born in Carbondale, PA on November 25, 1944, daughter of the late Joseph and Virginia Kelly. She graduated from Benjamin Franklin High School, class of 1962 with special recognition as Class Poet and from Marywood College, Scranton, PA where she received both bachelor and master degrees in English. Ginger's greatest passions in life were British literature, nature-both animal and flora-and traveling.

She began her career as an English teacher in Honesdale, PA, later teaching in Chicago, Illinois, and Fairfax County, VA where she shared her great love of literature and poetry with students. At Herndon High School she was head of the English Department and later joined Fairfax County Public School's Human Relations team in the Office of Equity and Compliance. There she was an investigator and later a counselor with EASE, the Employee Assistance Program until retirement. For the last sixteen years she worked at the Northern Virginia Institute of Psychiatry in Springfield, VA and helped her husband's patients obtain insurance benefits denied by insurance as well as tending to all the wide-ranging patient concerns.

Her travels took her around the globe to Ireland, China, Japan, and safari in Africa. She rode next to lions and rhinos, was able to pet a cheetah and an eagle, and walked on the Great Wall. She is survived by her husband Dr. Paul V. Luisada of Alexandria, a daughter Elizabeth Luisada and her husband Scott Willis, and grandson Ian Bright Willis of Crystal Lake, PA, two sisters, Ellen Kelly Holland of Alexandria and Marion Kelly of Mason Neck, VA, four nieces and nephews, Kelly Elizabeth Cramer, Watertown, MA, John Kevin Cramer, Alexandria, VA, Kathleen Ellen Hedberg, Washington, DC, and David Thompson, Washington, DC, and three grand nieces and a nephew. The Luisada's have resided for the last 48 years in Alexandria, VA.

A funeral service celebrating her life was held at Good Shepherd Catholic Church, 8710 Mt Vernon Hwy., Alexandria, VA at 12:30 on Monday, September 17, 2018; Interment will be at Our Mother of Sorrows Catholic Cemetery, Carbondale, PA on September 19, 2018. Condolences may be sent to Dr. Paul Luisada, 2616 Sherwood Hall Lane, #206, Alexandria, VA 22306. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to WET A UK at [weta.org](http://weta.org) under Memorial Gifts, or by phone at 703-998-2724.

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# Affordable

FROM PAGE 15

ances and doubling the rent. So you can't buy one for less than \$200,000."

**EVERY CAMPAIGN CYCLE**, the issue of affordable housing is at the top of the agenda for elected officials. They all agree that the issue is one of the most important topics facing the city. But when faced with how to actually spend Alexandria's affordable housing money, opinions can be sharply divided.

Take Jackson Crossing, for example. When members of City Council were considering a proposal from the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority, Allison Silberberg initially voted against it during her time as vice mayor after hearing concerns from neighbors that the building didn't have enough parking.

"Let me tell you, I was right," said Silberberg. "That neighborhood is now complaining about people parking on the street and going to that building."

Silberberg's reluctance to support Jackson Crossing as well as another affordable housing project, St. James Plaza, became an issue in the recent Democratic primary for mayor. Vice Mayor Justin Wilson attacked Silberberg for initially voting against Jackson Crossing and St. James Place — a project that initially had a pool that would have been off limits to residents in the affordable units. That idea was dropped, although Wilson brought up Jackson Crossing and St. James Place many times during the campaign in which he unseated her as the Democratic nominee for mayor.

"In order to build a project that essentially subvert the laws of gravity as it relates to the private housing market, you have to make a series of compromises," said Wilson.

"That means approving projects that are more dense than we probably would have otherwise, approving projects that have less open space than we otherwise would have, approving projects that preserve less around historic fabric than we otherwise would have."

**RECENT YEARS** have seen a dramatic shift in the amount of spending the city is pumping into affordable housing projects, and Alexandria has a number of large-scale efforts in the pipeline.

The penny of the tax rate that was once set aside for affordable housing has now been reduced to seven tenths of a penny, although restaurant diners will now be forking over millions of dollars to help the city meet its goal. In many cases, churches are playing a key role in providing land and support. Three of the projects now being developed are on land that was acquired from churches.

"We've got multiple projects with houses of worship right now in various jurisdictions," said Shelly Murphy, CEO of Wesley Housing.

"Many of the churches, they may be older congregations and they may need an infusion of money to help them continue to operate or to change the way they are operating."

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## A Tail Not of Woe



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

You know what's impossible – or next to impossible? Trying to write a funny non-cancer column while on hold with the Oncology Department waiting for calculations to be made by their pharmacist which will determine if my creatinine levels (kidney function) are low enough to allow me to get my infusion today.

No big deal, really. It's only a matter of life and hopefully my avoiding death.

And to complicate this waiting/holding "interminableness," one of our five cats, "Twinkle," is walking back and forth across my desk, rubbing my writing hand with her head – while I'm trying to write no less, as she steps repeatedly on my writing pad.

Oh. One more thing, she keeps knocking down the wireless land-line phone that I've placed on my desk – which I have on speaker, close enough to hear but far enough, I thought, to keep her at bay. It never ceases to amaze me how cats seem to know where you don't want them go and invariably that's almost always where they seem to end up.

Now back to my original situation: Waiting for the pharmacist to calculate my results.

After nearly 30 minutes on hold, with "Twinkle" having been occupied elsewhere during the last 10 minutes or so. (After I implored her to "Give me some space, please?" she jumped off the desk.) Finally, I have received word that I'm approved for my infusion. And now that I'm no longer on telephone-hold, I doubt I'll be seeing any more of her.

Oh. I was wrong. Here she is again.

This time however, she's brought along "Biscuit," one of the two oldest "buff-colored" brothers we rescued in September '06. But I'm more tolerant of their interference now as I've been given the infusion OKAY. (Not a thrill really, but, as mentioned in previous columns – and confirmed by my oncologist in a reply-email to me, this third dose of chemotherapy in the last seven weeks might have a bearing on the results of my upcoming Sept. 26 CT scan. That sound you heard was me exhaling.)

Another peculiar feline behavior: they seem to know when their behavior is not as bothersome/interfering as it might otherwise be so they refrain a bit. (A bit.)

So now I have nothing to wait for except Godot (who never shows). My results will show up though, on or about Sept. 28, more than likely via email from my oncologist. Important to consider that the 28th is a Friday and given that lines of communication don't flow as often on the weekends, we'd really rather know before the weekend so that we can get on with our lives.

And, as I'm sure you can appreciate, this is no laughing matter and receiving results – good or bad – in a timely fashion does enable us to get on with our lives.

For the moment, however, it's still about waiting and hoping, but no planning – yet. Discussing scenarios before the actual facts are known has never been my oncologist's way. When we know definitively, then we'll act definitively. We've had some preliminary discussions about alternatives going forward, but until further details are known, it's all premature.

For the moment then, my existence is about managing expectations, trying to remain positive and letting go.

I mean, when the scan is finished, the results will be what they will be. I don't imagine there's much I can do about it now. When those results are known, then we'll go to plan "B," or revert to current plan "A."

My life is not likely to change significantly either way in the short term so all I can do is maintain my status quo. There's no panic.

Anxiety? Of course. Anticipation? Yes, in a weird way. I would like to know what treatment/potential side effects and all are in store for me living forward but it's still "early days." Maybe the cats do know something. We've heard it rumored that cats have a sixth sense about sickness and death.

Oh, oh. Here's comes "Biscuit," he's been hanging around me an awful lot lately, very uncharacteristic. Should I be concerned or just appreciative of the attention?

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



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Lovely large home at top of cul-de-sac. Fenced lot with custom deck. Totally renovated NEW kitchen - granite counter tops and stainless appliances. Baths renovated. New flooring. Huge basement & over-sized garage with large storage area. Vicki Binkley 703.994.0778 [www.VickiBinkley.com](http://www.VickiBinkley.com)



**Arlington | \$1,725,000**  
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