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Alexandria Gazette Packet

FALL FUN
PAGE, 20

25 CENTS

SERVING ALEXANDRIA FOR OVER 200 YEARS • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER SEPTEMBER 27, 2018



PHOTO BY JAMES CULUM/GAZETTE PACKET

Creating Art

Six-year-old Dakota Burmeister paints with artist Sidney Carter along King Street on Saturday, Sept. 22 during the 16th annual Alexandria King Street Art Festival. The event was supposed to be held the previous weekend and was postponed due to Hurricane Florence. More photos, page 14.

Improved Grades

Under new state rating system, more ACPS schools to receive accreditation this year.

BY DAN BRENDEN
GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) reports that several of its schools will receive improved accreditation ratings from the state this year, thanks in part to revised, more nuanced accreditation standards.

Each year, the Virginia Department of Education (DOE) rates public schools, depending largely on how students perform on annual Standards of Learning (SOL) tests. SOLs “establish minimum expectations for what students should know” in English (including reading and writing), math, science and history/social science, according to the DOE.

The DOE is expected to publish full accreditation data for the 2018-19 academic year on Thurs-

day, Sept. 27. This data will include schools’ SOL performance from the 2017-18 academic year, but adjusted from the raw pass/fail figures reported last month, according to federal rules.

Based on preliminary information, ACPS reports that 14 of 16 schools will receive full accreditation this year, up from 12 last year. Statuses will improve for William Ramsay Elementary School, Francis C. Hammond Middle School and Jefferson-Houston K-8 School. Jefferson-Houston and T.C. Williams High School will remain subject to DOE review. But, for the first time in several years, no ACPS campus will be denied accreditation outright.

The state’s revised rating system takes effect this year. Whereas the old system included a spectrum of partial or conditional ratings, the

SEE GRADING, PAGE 8

‘Without Systemic Changes ...’

ACPS fiscal forecast shows widening budget deficits.

BY DAN BRENDEN
GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) forecasts a \$18 million operating budget deficit for FY 2020, widening to as much as \$95 million over five years.

“We like to start with the five-year fiscal forecast to set the framework” for upcoming budget cycles, said Dominic Turner, ACPS’s director of budget and financial systems, at a Sept. 6 meeting. The FY 2020 budget season will kick off publicly when ACPS Superintendent Gregory Hutchings proposes his 10-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) on Nov. 8.

“The bright side here is, we’re at a half-a-million dollar better position than we were as this time last year. But, as you can see, without systemic changes ... in the out-years, our deficit worsens,” said Turner. “If we continue to use the maximum allowable fund balance to balance our budget, we’re going to put ourselves in a not-so-good fiscal condition. We won’t be able to react to any unforeseen emergencies, because we won’t have a fund balance to use.”

ACPS staff based their forecast on various assump-

tions. Revenue assumptions include that local, state and federal sources will maintain FY 2019 per-pupil appropriations, even as enrollment continues to grow; and also the maximum use of fund balance allowable under ACPS School Board policy. Expenditure assumptions include annual enrollment-driven staffing increases of 2 percent; annual salary increases of 2.6 percent; annual health care rate increases of 13 percent; annual inflation of 2 percent; operating impacts of last year’s FY 2019 – FY 2028 CIP projects.

The forecast helpfully communicates that capacity expansion requires not only up-front capital costs, but also increased operating costs, said School Board Chair Ramee Gentry.

Starting in FY 2023, staff included a range of operating impacts for an as-of-yet undefined high school capacity expansion project. High and low estimates depend on whether ACPS decides to build an additional brick-and-mortar campus or to expand an existing one. Hutchings will unveil a more specific proposal on Nov. 8.

“This month, we will be engaging principals to

SEE ‘WITHOUT SYSTEMIC’, PAGE 4

Pretty in Pink

Events planned for Breast Cancer Awareness month.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Volia Lawson was a force to be reckoned with. A breast cancer survivor who had a double mastectomy, she founded

the city’s Walk to Fight Breast Cancer in 1994 while she was still undergoing her own treatment and serving as city manager.

For nearly 20 years, the Walk raised funds to provide more than

SEE BREAST CANCER, PAGE 16

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Full ASTEAM Ahead

Nonprofit aims to excite youths about career fields leading to economic self-sufficiency.

BY DAN BRENDEN
GAZETTE PACKET



PHOTO BY DAN BRENDEN/GAZETTE PACKET

Youth Technology Network's Bobby Blackwell sets up a radio-controlled miniature drone for youths to pilot.

More than 400 youths and their families enjoyed creativity-boosting activities and food at a community event in Old Town on Saturday, Sept. 22.

The Fall Family Carnival, hosted by the Northern Virginia Urban League (NVUL), an Alexandria-based nonprofit, sought to expose minority, low-income and at-risk children and parents to the world of ASTEAM — aviation, science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics. The event, held at the Charles Houston Rec Center, incorporated a variety of what NVUL calls “technology infused games and immersive hands-on experiences.” These included, for example, LEGOs, radio-controlled car racing, radio-controlled drone flying, rocketry, robotic demonstrations, virtual reality activities and chess.

For people to lift themselves out of poverty, they need an “income-oriented skill,” said Tracey Walker, chair of the NVUL's board of directors. Walker, who works for an audit, tax and consulting firm, says she



Northern Virginia Urban League (NVUL) Board Chair Tracey Walker (left) and DEILAB's James Morey (center) and J.T. Doyle (right).

PHOTO BY DAN BRENDEN/
GAZETTE PACKET

sees a difficulty getting minorities into the “pipeline” for such career fields such as accounting and cyber technology. While the carnival is college-oriented, it aims to reach youths earlier in the education-to-career pipeline, “getting [them] curious again about science” and orienting them toward ASTEAM related majors, she said.

The creative minds that solve STEM problems can also be cultivated through the arts, according to Nadine Draughn of Ramalingam Productions Performing Arts Studio, a company participating in the

event. Additionally, the arts help children learn to “articulate themselves” and “get their points across,” she said.

Other organizations participating in the carnival include Artesian Enterprises; Athletes Innovate; Cyber Green Group; DEILAB; Destiny Aviation Services; Harris Engineering Group; Katrina Lynn Educational Services; Patriots Technology Training Center; Propel Productions; Race Tech; Smart Learning Solutions; Vertigo Entertainment; and Youth Technology Network.

For more information, visit www.nvul.org.



Tommy and the Bahamas band performs at Supper Under the Stars Sept. 21 at Waterfront Park. The event was sponsored by the Old Town Business and Professional Association.

Supper Under The Stars

The Old Town Business and Professional Association and the King Street Gardens Park Foundation held the annual Supper Under the Stars event Sept. 21 at Waterfront Park. Beach music band Tommy and the Bahamas provided entertainment for the evening, which attracted more than 75 people to the waterfront for an evening of dining and dancing.

— JEANNE THEISMANN



David Martin and West End Business Association President Indre Bauza at Supper Under the Stars Sept. 21 at Waterfront Park.



Chadwick's owner Trae Lamond, in back, with David Martin, Kellye Clarke, OTBPA President Catherine Foltz, Amy Jackson, Kendra Carey, Roger Parks and Lucelle O'Flaherty Sept. 21 at Supper Under the Stars at Waterfront Park.

PHOTOS BY STEVEN HALPERSON/TISARA PHOTO



Rick and Ann Dorman dance to the tunes of Tommy and the Bahamas Sept. 21 during Supper Under the Stars at Waterfront Park.



Charlotte Hall, Roger Parks and Kendra Carey at Supper Under the Stars at Waterfront Park.



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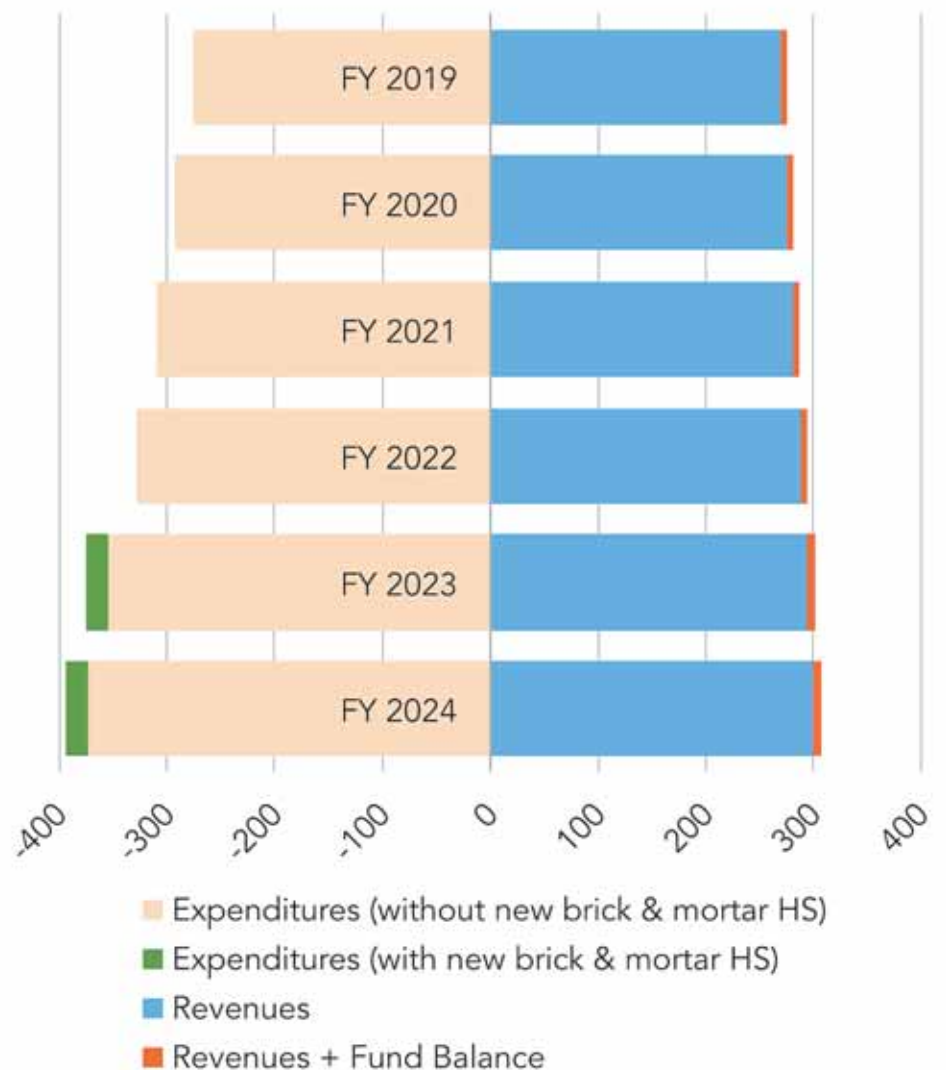
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News

ACPS Operating Fund Fiscal Forecast (\$ million)



Without increasing per-pupil expenditure or finding additional cuts and efficiencies, ACPS projects budget deficits widening to as much as \$95 million over five years.

‘Without Systemic Changes ...’

FROM PAGE 1

better understand each school's individual needs," said Turner. "These efforts are to help curb or eliminate our need to ask the city for more and more revenue each year." In particular, ACPS will consider "ways to contain our healthcare cost. This is a huge impact on our on budget."

Hutchings also suggested exploring "innovative" incentives, rather than only boosting the budget, to attract and retain staff — for example, partnerships with developers to discount teacher rents, or vouchers

for staff to use Metro or the city's DASH bus system. The School Board expressed interest in pursuing such options, but not in lieu of a higher per-pupil funding allocation from the city.

Looking for alternatives might become a "stalling tactic," said School Board Member Cindy Anderson. "We want an increase and we want to pursue these other things, as well. Always the 'and' [rather than 'or']."

School Board member Chris Lewis wants to discuss the subject with city council "sooner rather than later."

Chertoff to Speak at Agudas Achim

Lecture series honors Rabbi Jack Moline.

Meryl Chertoff, executive director of the Aspen Institute's Society and Justice program, will be the featured speaker Oct. 14 at the 4th annual Rabbi Jack Moline Lecture at Agudas Achim Hebrew Congregation.

Chertoff's presentation is titled "Pluribus or Unum: Allyship and Resilience Counter an American Crisis." She will speak about how houses of worship and community-based groups can work together to create trust and partnerships that bridge division and build social capital needed in times of crisis.

Chertoff also directs the Inclusive America



Meryl Chertoff

Project on religious pluralism in America. Additionally, she is an adjunct professor of law at Georgetown Law, where she teaches about state government.

The lecture series honors Rabbi Jack Moline's three decades of service and leadership to Agudas Achim Congregation.

The lecture is free and open to the public and will begin at 4 p.m. RSVP by Oct. 11 to <http://bit.ly/moline-lecture> or 703-998-6460. Agudas Achim Congregation is located at 2908 Valley Drive.

— JEANNE THEISMANN

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BULLETIN BOARD

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

THROUGH DEC. 31

Backflow Preventer (BFP)

Assistance Program. The City of Alexandria has reinstated its sewer Backflow Preventer (BFP) Assistance Program for homeowners in designated areas that historically experience basement back-ups or flooding. The City Manager approved the additional backflow preventer effort in the wake of torrential rainfall July 17-22. The program reimburses homeowners for up to 50 percent of the cost of installing a BFP device by a licensed plumbing contractor, up to a maximum of \$2,000. The current program period is from July 1-Dec. 31. Alexandria homeowners should call the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services at 703-746-4014 or visit www.alexandriava.gov/tes.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 27

Community Health Meeting. 6:30-8:15 p.m. at the Dr. Oswald Durant Memorial Center, 1605 Cameron St. Residents are invited to make community health a priority by attending the second Community Health Meeting. The community health assessment process represents a grassroots effort to identify and address key health issues affecting Alexandrians. Light refreshments will be served, and live translators will be provided for Spanish, Arabic, and Amharic speakers. The meeting is free and open to the public; RSVP online. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Health.

Carlyle Design Review Board

Meeting. 7 p.m. at City Hall, Chet and Sabra Avery Conference Room 2000, 301 King St. Contact Gary Wagner, gary.wagner@alexandriava.gov, 703-746-3818.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 29

Training Series for Condominium and Community Associations.

10 a.m.-noon at Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. The City of Alexandria and Alexandria-based law firm Mercer Trigiani will sponsor a series of workshops related to condominium and community associations during FY2019. Topic for Sept. 29 is Community and Condominium Association Basics. For more information or to register, call the City's Office of Housing at 703-746-4990 or email brandi.collins@alexandriava.gov.

Alexandria City School Board

Candidate Debate. 1-4 p.m. at Ellen Coolidge Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. The Arlington League of Women Voters and the Alexandria Association of University Women are sponsoring a debate for Alexandria City School Board candidates. This is an opportunity to question candidates and learn their positions on important issues. District A Debate, 1-2 p.m.; District B Debate, 2-3 p.m.; and District C Debate, 3-4 p.m. Space is limited. Tickets free with online reservation at www.eventbrite.com/e/alexandria-city-school-board-candidate-debate-tickets-48343835714. Bring ticket to be admitted. Visit www.lwv-arlingtonva.org for more.

The 2018 Athenaeum Member

Appreciation Party. 7-9 p.m. Enjoy a last sip of summer at the 2018 Athenaeum Member Appreciation Party. This year, the Athenaeum invites members and

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 26

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Meet the 'Heart of Alexandria'

Volunteer Alexandria hosts annual volunteer recognition event.

Volunteer Alexandria is set to hold its annual Volunteers are the Heart of Alexandria event on Oct. 10. The event commends volunteers for their outstanding service to the city. A select few volunteers that have gone the extra mile to give back to the locality will receive an award during the event for their dedicated efforts.

The recently announced winners are: James Durham, recipient of the Marian Van Landingham Lifetime Achievement Award; Jane Powell, recipient of the Joan White Grassroots Volunteer Service Award; Odalis

del Cid Reyes, recipient of the Youth Volunteer Service Award; Celia Boertlein, recipient of the RSVP Northern Virginia Award; and Marjorie Windelberg, recipient of the Emergency Preparedness Award.

"It is important for us organizations to appreciate and recognize our volunteers. They serve as the very heart and soul of this city," said Marion Brunken, executive director of Volunteer Alexandria. "It's due to their generosity that the spirit of volunteerism is alive and well in Alexandria."

All members of the community are welcome to register for the event at <https://www.volunteeralexandria.org/volunteers-are-the-heart>.

www.volunteeralexandria.org/volunteers-are-the-heart. It will include live music, auctions, food, a selection of both beer and wine. The event starts at 6 p.m. and concludes by 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 10, at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Volunteer Alexandria will also spotlight all volunteers who have served 150-plus hours.

Register or learn more about the Volunteers are the Heart of Alexandria event by visiting <https://www.volunteeralexandria.org/volunteers-are-the-heart>.



PHOTO BY SHIRLEY RUHE/GAZETTE PACKET

Beth Baynes of Alexandria plays in the NVSO mixed doubles pickleball competition, Sept. 24.

Pickleball Mixed Doubles At NVSO

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
GAZETTE PACKET

Heavy dark clouds and rain drops didn't dampen the enthusiasm of the participants in the Northern Virginia Senior Olympics (NVSO) pickleball mixed doubles competition on Monday, Sept. 24.

Walkers circled the track surrounding the pickleball courts located in the middle at Thomas Jefferson Community Center where the competition was taking place. Four age brackets competed, ranging from five teams in the 60-64 year old class to three teams in the 80-89 year old class.

A table of volunteers, wearing black T-shirts emblazoned with a bright green NVSO logo, checked in the participants and point them to their courts. "Did you see that shot?" as enthusiastic supporters yelled encouragement from metal chairs on the sideline, cheering on relatives or waiting their turn to play.

"Did you forget to bring the bananas?"

"What time do you play?"

"I haven't seen you since last year. How you been?"

Chuck Toftoy and Betty de la Cruz faced off against Horace Reyer and Elise Brooks, all from Arlington, in the second round of the 80-89-year-old category. On a nearby court Beth Baynes, Alexandria, and Tom Garcia, Arlington, played in the 9 a.m. slot.

The NVSO will continue until Sept. 26 with more pickleball, croquet, mini-golf, handball and bunco with rain date track events and tennis mixed in. This year's competitive events are being held in 29 locations across Northern Virginia.

Wadler To Be Awarded at Women's Conference

Alexandria's Naomi Wadler will receive the Clara Mortenson Beyer Women and Children First Award for her advocacy in support of gun violence prevention.

Wadler, 11, organized youth protests at her school in the wake of the mass shooting in Parkland, Fla. earlier this year. She also addressed crowds at the March For Our Lives in Washington D.C.

The award will be presented Saturday, Oct. 13, at U.S. Rep. Don Beyer's fourth annual women's conference and forum, "Breaking Through: Women Work For Change."

"I am thrilled to welcome Naomi Wadler back to speak to constituents about her experience as an activist, and to impart her wisdom to people who want to work for change," Beyer said. "I doubt that anyone who heard her speak at my town hall in March has forgotten her inspiring words about the need to stop gun violence. Naomi



WADLER FAMILY

Naomi Wadler

is a prodigy of advocacy, and I look forward to continuing to learn from her next month at our Annual Women's Conference in Arlington."

"I hope that this award will bring more attention to the stories of African American girls who are shot every day without making the news," Wadler said. "The last time I spoke at an event with Congressman Beyer, I was moved and inspired

by Fred Guttenberg, who lost his daughter at the Parkland shooting and then began speaking out about guns. I am very glad to have this chance to talk about the need for action to make things better."

Beyer first met Naomi Wadler at his Alexandria town hall on gun violence, held weeks after the Parkland shooting. That night, Beyer and guests Guttenberg and U.S. Rep. Ted Deutch, who represents Parkland, took questions and comments from constituents, including Wadler.

Landrum Recognized for AEDP Leadership

Stephanie Landrum, president and CEO of the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership, has been selected into the Washington Business Journal's 2018 class of Women Who Mean Business honorees.

An Alexandria native, Landrum is the only woman to lead one of the region's 10 largest economic development agencies. She is one of 25 women in the region to be se-

lected for the recognition out of close to 400 nominations.

Honorees were selected based on criteria including commitment to community service, strong lead-



Landrum

ership skills and continuing success in their field.

Landrum, who holds a bachelor's in urban planning and an MBA from the University of Virginia, will be honored at the Washington Business Journal's annual Women Who Mean Business dinner on Oct. 11 at the Ritz Carlton in Washington, DC.

— JEANNE THEISMANN

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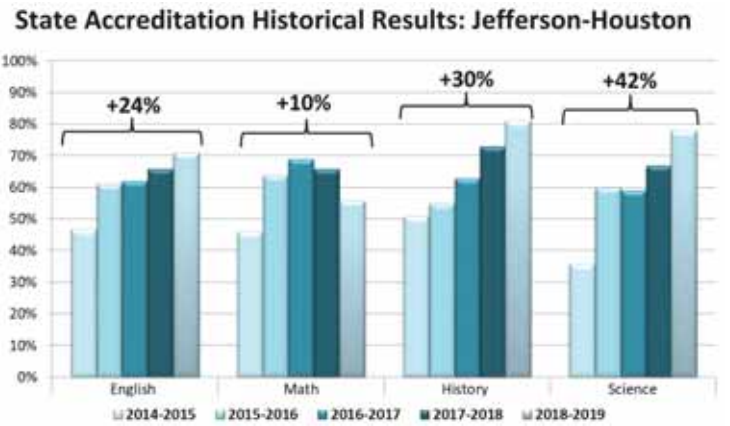
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News

Adjusted Standards of Learning (SOL) testing results show improvements in student performance, even though English and math pass rates still fall short of state standards. Under the state's new rating system, showing improvement counts toward accreditation. SOL figures are "adjusted" from raw pass rates reported last month. This is because, in determining accreditation, "allowances are made for certain transfer students, students who speak little or no English and students who pass retakes of tests after receiving remedial instruction," according to the Virginia Department of Education.



Grading the Graders

FROM PAGE 1

new system has only three options: accredited, accredited-with-conditions and denied.

Schools can now receive accreditation not only if they're "at or above standard," but also if they're "near standard or improving" at a "sufficient" pace, according to the DOE. This allows "a more balanced evaluation of schools serving at-risk students," which previously "were subject to being perceived as 'failing' even if most students were making progress toward proficiency."

The old system considered only SOL pass rates and, for high schools, graduation rates. The new system takes into account a broader array of factors, including achievement gaps between demographic subgroups; absenteeism; and, for high schools, the drop-out rate and a measure of college, career and civic readiness.

Last year, Ramsay and Hammond were "partially accredited: reconstituted." That means they missed the state's benchmarks for full accreditation four years in a row, and so had to enter into state-approved remediation plans. In the 2016-17 academic year, Ramsay missed the standardized testing pass rate benchmark for science by 23 percentage points; Hammond missed the benchmark for English by five points. But, based on subsequent testing results and under the revised system, both schools will achieve full accreditation this year.

Jefferson-Houston was previously denied accreditation, missing the state's benchmark for English by nine points, for math by four points, and for science by three points. But this year it'll bump up to an accredited-with-conditions rating, having met the standard for most indicators, except for certain demographic achievement gaps.

T.C. Williams High School was previously partially accredited, missing the state's benchmark for math by eight points. It's still falling short in math, as well as with regard to achievement gaps and graduation and dropout rates. It will receive an accredited-with-conditions rating.

Numerous factors contribute to school improvements, according to Pierrette Peters and Michael Routhouska, Hammond and Ramsay's principals since 2015. In particular, they've endeavored to provide tailored rather than standardized supports to students and families.

"We really formalized data-collection practices, and from that we make all our decisions," said Routhouska. ACPS tracks students against both academic and behavior measures. Students experiencing the most difficulty receive increasingly more personalized "interventions" from school staff, according to ACPS's Multi-Tier System of Supports (MTSS). Interventions might involve extra instruction in small groups or one-on-one, or time with a counselor. Edu-



Julia "J.J." DeNunzio, seventh-grade student at Francis C. Hammond Middle School.

Sumaira Hanifi, eighth-grade student at Francis C. Hammond Middle School.

cators regularly and collaboratively evaluate student data, working together to structure the best supports.

Interventions also look to the home.

Because of the schools' diverse student bodies, "we have to reach out to families in different ways," said Peters. For example, she employs Spanish- and Arabic-speaking parent liaisons, "who do a lot of ground-work with parents," including touching base weekly. Another staffer aims to improve educational environments outside the classroom for students experiencing the most difficulty — for example, by sending "students home with books ... so that the families can also help support reading instruction." ACPS offers an eight-week program that "works with parents to teach them parenting skills." Last year, Peters "met with all parents of students who had two or more Fs." Ensuring student success also involves "teaching parents," she said.

Similarly, Routhouska says his school is starting this year to conduct "home visits." He also works to decrease mid-year moves, which disrupt student learning. For instance, he's personally called property managers to help negotiate rents to keep families in place.

Sumaira Hanifi, an eighth grader who moved with her family from Afghanistan not long ago, expressed appreciation for ACPS's approach. She says teachers have worked hard with her to improve her English skills, which may now surpass her native language skills. She says she's now able to help her mother learn the language, as well.

Julia "J.J." DeNunzio, a seventh grader, says she's become more confident with math and more interested in books, and credits "good teachers" as key to student success.

Beginning Thursday, Sep. 27, find updated accreditation reports from the DOE at www.schoolquality.virginia.gov. For more information about the state's revised rating system, visit www.doe.virginia.gov/boe/accreditation.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

The Virginia Railway Express (VRE) will hold a series of public hearings to solicit comments on a proposed fare increase that will average approximately 3% over current fares. The VRE Operations Board will act on the FY2020 Budget, which includes the proposed fare increase, on December 21, 2018. If adopted, the fare increase would take effect the first week of July 2019.

See locations below to attend a public hearing near you.

Date and Time	Location
Tuesday, October 30, 2018 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.	Crystal City Marriott Jefferson Room 1999 Jefferson Davis Hwy. Arlington, VA 22202
Tuesday, October 30, 2018 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.	Burke Centre Conservancy The Commons CC 5701 Roberts Parkway Burke, VA 22015
Thursday, November 1, 2018 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.	Holiday Inn Capitol The House Room 550 C Street SW Washington, DC 20024
Thursday, November 1, 2018 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.	Stafford County Government Center Board Chambers 1300 Courthouse Road Stafford, VA 22554
Wednesday, November 7, 2018 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.	Germanna Community College Fredericksburg Campus—Room 105A 10000 Germanna Point Drive Fredericksburg, VA 22408
Thursday, November 8, 2018 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.	Union Station Starlight Room — Near Gate D 50 Massachusetts Ave NE Washington, DC 20002
Thursday, November 8, 2018 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.	Manassas City Hall City Council Chambers 9027 Center Street Manassas, VA 20110
Tuesday, November 13, 2018 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.	VRE Headquarters Suite 202 1500 King Street Alexandria, VA 22314
Tuesday, November 13, 2018 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.	PRTC Second Floor Board Room 14700 Potomac Mills Rd Woodbridge, VA 22192
Thursday, November 15, 2018 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.	Rappahannock Regional Library Room 2 1201 Caroline Street Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Visit vire.org/publiccomment for more information. Written comments will be accepted through **Friday, November 23, 2018**. Written comments can be mailed to: Public Comment, 1500 King Street, Suite 202, Alexandria, Virginia 22314. Comments may also be submitted via email to publiccomment@vire.org or via fax at (703) 684-1313. The public hearings are conducted in locations accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals with disabilities who require special assistance or need to request a sign language interpreter, please contact Lucy Gaddis by e-mail at lgaddis@vire.org or call at (703) 838-5433 or TTY (703) 684-0551 at least ten business days prior to the public hearing you're planning to attend. For information about the VRE Operations Board visit vire.org/about/board.

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OPINION

Seeing Diversity as a Gift

BY DR. GREGORY C. HUTCHINGS, JR.
SUPERINTENDENT
OF SCHOOLS



The mission of Alexandria City Public Schools is to ensure that Every Student Succeeds. But what does success look like?

In ACPS we have students from 118 different countries who speak 120 different languages. We have students who come to us without any prior formal education and students who enter kindergarten already able to read, write and solve math problems. Success looks different for each of our students. Every year, some of our students go on to study at Ivy League colleges such as Yale and Princeton. This year, one student whose family fled a civil war in Eritrea has won a full-ride scholarship to the Juilliard School, where she will study under some of the best musicians in the world.

One of the concepts that should not define student success, however, is poverty. We have this idea that is perpetuated through our own higher than usual Free and Reduced School Meal data that poverty is somehow an excuse for failing Standards of Learning tests or failing to graduate or reading two grade levels behind. It is not.

In fact, there are stories of success across

ACPS that actively counter this. Yet we so often ignore these in favor of using poverty as a reason why we do not always achieve the results we want. Some of our schools with the poorest student populations — those who rely on food handouts to get enough to eat over the summer — are doing the best in math. Teachers are finding ways to teach these students in a way that is culturally responsive and they are finding that they are responding beyond all expectations.

Some of our elementary schools with the highest Free and Reduced Price Meal percentages are accredited year after year with their students. Poverty should not be an excuse. It is something to counter and to work with, to be aware of, and to acknowledge just as we might acknowledge any other factor in a child's life, but it should not be the primary defining factor of success. °

Sometimes poverty means that a child has been uprooted from their country of origin because their parent worked for the U.S. military during the Iraq War and they were forced to flee at risk of their lives. Sometimes, they could not stay because their family was on the wrong side of politics in an African country at war. But what they bring to our country makes us richer as a nation.

Success for some of our students may not mean passing a fifth-grade SOL test for a student who has recently arrived in the country, but our children still see their own success and in many cases, these are even more powerful achievements.

This week, ACPS published Measuring What Matters as a way to share with our community the incredible talent our young people have that may manifest in many different ways. Standards of Learning (SOL) data is only one measure of a student's academic success. Opportunities and successes outside of the classroom are just as important as the experience inside of the classroom. In ACPS, we pride ourselves on preparing our students for the world, whether it is college, a career, or joining the military. Every child deserves an opportunity to be supported and engaged in a high quality learning environment. And every child deserves to have their successes acknowledged. You can pick up a copy of Measuring What Matters in a library or at City Hall, or by going online to www.acps.k12.va.us.

There is no other school division where students can experience such a rich global environment as the one we offer at ACPS. Our students graduate being able to fully engage in our dynamic world. Time and time again, our students come back and tell us they were better prepared for the college experience or the work environment thanks to their ACPS experiences.

We need to stop making poverty an excuse and set high expectations for all of our students regardless of their life situation. Most importantly, we must start celebrating our diversity in Alexandria City Public Schools as a gift that prepares our students to become global citizens who are culturally competent, caring, resilient and ready for the world!

their achievements, but, going forward, do everything we can to keep their successors out of harm's way.

Alan Chodos
Alexandria

Get Out and Vote

To the Editor:

As a nearly 25-year resident of Alexandria and a long time member of the Alexandria Democratic Committee, I pay close attention to political future of the Port City. I have heard that some voters don't always go to the polls for local and state elections because they believe that Alexandria is so strongly Democratic that they don't need to vote. In 2018, the cost of being wrong about that is too high to take the risk. The decisions City Council makes aren't partisan. Sewers and potholes aren't Democratic or Republican issues. But Democratic elected officials make decisions based on our shared values, and that impacts our daily lives.

Even though our elected officials are Democrats, we still have to vote to protect basics like Civil Rights, environmental sustainability, and education. Since we all agree on our foundational principles, we can spend our time pushing forward, working to expand Civil Rights, write better environmental policy, and fully fund ACPS.

We must also reaffirm Alexandria's commit

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 11

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reconsider Football

To the Editor:

Last year I quit watching football. Cold tur-

key. Players bashing their brains out for the temporary amusement of the spectators just seemed wrong.

Of course my personal decision does nothing to stem the carnage. The data show serious permanent brain injury in athletes at all levels, from the NFL down to high-school teams and even younger. I grew up a long

time ago in an era that was generally much less safe for kids than it is today. There were no seat belts in cars, no helmets for bike riders, no playground equipment made of soft plastic with rounded edges. Somehow we survived, but, to this day, I'm glad I never played tackle football. It's hard to reconcile society's increasing fixation on child safety with its enthusiasm for a sport that does so much lasting damage to the players' brains.

Which brings me to the local brouhaha over lights at Parker-Gray Stadium. There are many important issues: Will the lights violate a promise made to the neighborhood residents? Would the funds be better spent on improving academics, especially since test scores in Alexandria continue to lag nearby jurisdictions?

But to me the overriding concern is the brain damage inflicted on the athletes. There are no technological fixes. The violence of the game itself is inseparable from what makes it exciting to play and to watch.

In pursuit of student safety, ACPS should seriously consider the extreme, but justified, step of phasing out the football program at T. C. Williams. Let's remember the Titans the way we remember our combat veterans. Honor



PHOTO BY LAURA MAE SUDDER

Snapshot

"Lucy" and "Romeo," Tom Bluestein's two rescue dogs from "Oldies but Goodies," receive a Monday morning treat from the Enchanted Florist's "Bone Box."

Alexandria
Gazette Packet

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

ment to inclusivity in the face of Trumpism. We want to send a clear message that we do not ascribe to the politics of the current occupant of the White House — not just to our foes, but also to the most vulnerable members of our community.

Every major political figure starts somewhere, often in local politics. When we elect people to represent us locally, we are giving them training, experience, and credentials to possibly pursue higher office. That's a big responsibility. We need to be sure that the seeds we plant here, in Alexandria, are Democratic. This is how we create a bench of future leaders.

Having Democrats in City Hall means pushing forward a progressive agenda that includes national issues that can be implemented on a local scale: equal pay, gender inclusion, traffic/infrastructure/clean transportation, senior care, housing affordability, educational equity, green space, eco-friendly building, police transparency, and gun violence prevention. Every election matters, so get out and vote this year.

Gail Gordon Donegan
Alexandria

Voting Suggestions

To the Editor:

On Sept. 22, in-person absentee voting began. Here are six reasons to vote a complete, straight Democratic ticket:

❖ Alexandrians can vote for nine Democratic nominees, and each is individually worthy of your support — Kaine for Senate, Beyer for House, Wilson for Mayor, and six vetted candidates for City Council: Aguirre, Bennett-Parker, Chapman, Jackson, Pepper and Seifeldin.

❖ Collectively, the Democratic slate for council brings valuable diversity in every respect: 50 percent women, two seasoned hands and four newcomers, and a racial and ethnic mix that includes blacks, whites, Latinos, and a refugee from Sudan.

❖ Democratic Council nominees were vetted by the voters in a competitive primary. Other council candidates are self-appointed or were picked in backroom deals with no voter input.

❖ Six members will be elected to council, even if you don't vote for six. Failing to fully use your vote risks letting a non-Democrat

win a seat.

❖ At the Congressional level, we can't afford to be complacent. Both Kaine and Beyer are "looking good" for re-election, based on polls. But two years ago, so was Hillary.

❖ At all levels, this election is seen as a referendum on the Trump Administration. Low turnout, narrow Democratic victories, or (God forbid!) victories for some Republicans in this Democratic bastion would send the opposite message.

I urge Democrats and fair-minded independents to vote, and make all of their votes count, for the good of the city and the nation.

Tom Osborne
Alexandria

Local Issue For Ratepayers

To the Editor:

Until recently I was like many Northern Virginians who are unaware of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline and its detrimental effects on our state. This 600-mile pipeline will carry "fracked gas" from West

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 25



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Saving Lives by Becoming a Stroke Smart City

BY ALAN STILLMAN

Odds are you know someone who has had a stroke or is a caregiver to a stroke patient. In fact, stroke affects 80 percent of all families and is a leading cause of death and disability. The lifetime risk of stroke is 1 in 5 for women, 1 in 6 for men. Those odds increase even more for those with certain risk factors like smoking and high blood pressure.

COMMENTARY

Strokes exact a heavy toll on individuals and families. In October 2017, Mayor Allison Silberberg proclaimed a city-wide health campaign to protect our community from the devastation caused by stroke. The goal of Stroke Smart Alexandria (SSA) is to educate every person who lives, works and regularly spends time in Alexandria on how to spot a stroke and how critical it is to stroke survival to call 911 immediately.

Life-saving treatments are available to stroke victims but they are all time-sensitive. A clot-buster called t-PA, for example, can be given to restore blood flow to the brain. However, it must be administered within 3-4 hours of onset of stroke symptoms.



Unfortunately, less than 10 percent of people who are eligible for t-PA get to a hospital within the time window. Even more advanced treatments are available these days, but because the vast majority of people do not know how to spot a stroke and the importance of calling 911 as soon as the symptoms are recognized, many stroke victims tragically missed the chance for recovery, even survival.

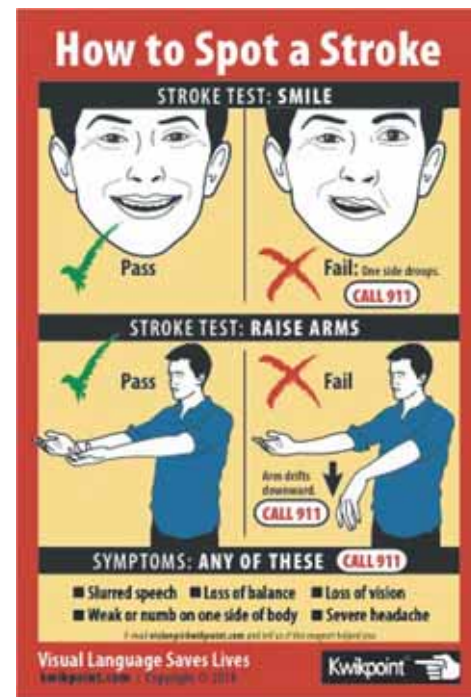
Alexandria is fortunate to have one of the best primary stroke centers in the country. INOVA Alexandria Hospital has been awarded the Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval for stroke care, and recognized for its outstanding specialized stroke treatment by the American Stroke Association (ASA). While our local hospitals have made impressive improvements in reducing the door-to-needle time, it is now up to us, Alexandrians, to lower the onset-to-911 time to help those struck down get the best chance of survival and recovery.

To educate Alexandrians to recognize the signs of a stroke, Stroke Smart Alexandria is making available free educational materials around our city. Pictured at right is a specially designed visual tool to help everyone learn and remember the signs of a

stroke. The tool is available in the forms of tear-and-waterproof wallet cards, stickers, refrigerator magnets, and posters, available for free at the following locations: City Hall; INOVA Alexandria; Giant Pharmacies and Neighborhood Pharmacy; Libraries; Recreation Centers; Starbucks with bulletin boards; Senior Services of Alexandria, and City Clinics; Christ Church Alexandria; Goodwin House; Immanuel on the Hill; and Watergate at Landmark.

Because most people who are suffering a stroke have difficulty calling 911 themselves, it is important to educate the people around you on how to spot a stroke. Every Alexandrian is encouraged to learn and remember the signs of stroke, and to distribute the stroke visual tool to friends and family. By spreading the word, you may just save your own life or someone else's.

In his TED Talk, Alan Stillman, a 30-year resident of Alexandria, shares his personal story of watching helplessly his grandmother Rose suffer a stroke, and being left alone in the world at a young age without a family after eventually losing Rose. Knowing the personal cost of the disease, he started the Spot-a-Stroke, Stop-a-Stroke, Save-a-Life campaign to raise stroke awareness among the public. His TED Talk can be viewed at tinyurl.com/SpotStroke.



Beginning with Stroke Smart Alexandria in his hometown, Stillman hopes to eventually get the ear of Gov. Ralph Northam and take the campaign to the state level. If you have ideas on how to spread the word or want to help, contact Stillman at Alan@kwikpoint.com

John A. Seaton — ‘A Giant of a Man’

BY CHAR MCCARGO BAH

The Seaton family was one of Alexandria's 19th century success stories. They were free people of color by early 1800. Lucinda Seaton, mother of John Andrew Seaton, obtained her freedom from President George Washington.

John and his brothers, George, Jr. and Adolphus, were high achievers during a time when many African Americans were slaves. John was a giant of a man who made giant achievements. During the Civil War, he enlisted in the Quartermaster's Department in Alexandria, and then he enlisted in the colored Union troops. After the war, John was appointed by Sen. John F. Lewis to a position at the U.S. Department of Treasury and then another position for the U.S. Capitol police.

In 1871, John was appointed Alderman for the fourth ward in Alexandria City Council, was the first colored man in the State to be honored. John accompanied the body of U.S. Rep. Charles Sumner in 1874 from Washington, D.C. to Boston. He also accepted a position in 1875 as a police guard in New York for the Equitable Life Assurance Company at their new building in Manhattan. His salary was \$2,200 a year; this salary was unheard of for a colored man in his era.

John and his siblings had amassed a number of properties throughout Alexandria and Fauquier, Va., the District of Columbia and

Manhattan, N.Y. It was noted in The New York World newspaper on June 20, 1887, that John A. Seaton, an employee at the Equitable Building was a builder that had built a nice cottage in Fauquier, Va.

John was born around 1837 in Alexandria — at that time Alexandria was part of the District of Columbia — to Lucinda Seaton. He had several siblings: George, Lucinda, Laura, Martha, Mary Ann and Adolphus. He grew up in the neighborhood of Washington and Franklin streets. Due to the success of John and his siblings, their neighborhood was known as “Seatonville.” He was a giant of a man, 6 feet 6 inches tall and he weighed 275 pounds. On Feb. 23, 1860, John married his first wife, Virginia Whiting. After the death of Virginia, on March 18, 1877, he married his second wife, Alice McGuire. John and Alice Seaton divorced in January of 1890. On April 4, 1890, John married his third wife, Elizabeth Grant. John had two sons that survived him, one from his first marriage, John A. Seaton, Jr., and a son from his second marriage, Adolphus Seaton.

John was respected by all the people who knew him. He was involved in the education of former slaves during the early period of the Reconstruction era. He was also a member of the Universal Lodge, No. 1. A.F. and A.M., of Alexandria, Va., Lieutenant Commander of Fletcher Consistory, Scottish Rite Masonry, 32-degree Mason and a Noble of Magnus Temple of the Mys-



COURTESY OF AXA

John A. Seaton (1837 - 1898)

tic Shrine of Mount Olivet Baptist Church in New York City.

In April 1898, Hon. John L. Seaton died at his summer residence in Fauquier County, Va. A midnight service was held over his body by the Scottish Rite Masonry. He was buried on his farm in Bealeton, Fauquier, Va.

John Seaton has a descendant by his second wife, Alice McGuire Seaton. Alice's great-grandnephew, James Henson, Sr., lives in Alexandria on the site of the old Seaton School for Boys (renamed to Snowden School). John's brother, George



COURTESY OF NY PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The 1870s Equitable Life Insurance Company Building. The initial “AXA” is the initials of the Equitable Life Insurance Company.

C. Seaton built the Seaton Boys School after 1865. The school served Colored boys from 1870 through 1919. Indeed, John's physical appearance and his devotion to helping his community earned him the title, “A Giant of a Man.”

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

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Art Galore

Artists from across country participate in art festival.

BY DAN BRENDL
GAZETTE PACKET

Two hundred artists from around the nation showed off their creations at the 16th annual King Street Art Festival, held on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 22-23.

The event, hosted by Howard Alan Events, featured a variety of art types, including painting, sculpture, metalwork, woodwork, glasswork, clothing, jewelry —



Fine art photography by Washington state's Lijah Hanley

and sometimes hybrids thereof. All told, the art on display was valued at over \$15 million, according to Visit Alexandria.

Total effect on revenues is unknown. The city government doesn't estimate attendance



Wood turnings by Georgia's Matthew Hatala

or economic impact, according to Andrea Blackford, a city spokesperson. But neither does it subsidize the event. Rather, the spon-

sor must pay permitting fees and reimburse the city for personnel and other costs, such as for the police officers who cordoned off King Street. In past years, the latter reimbursement has amounted to over \$30,000.

PHOTOS BY DAN BRENDL/GAZETTE PACKET



Steel sculptures by Tennessee's Rommel and Courtney Ricaurte



Clay sculptures by Maryland's Tanya Tyree



Paintings by North Carolina's Richard Wilson



Copper water sculptures by Maryland's Yos Belchatovski

Artist Janine Monroe of Atlanta, Ga.



PHOTOS BY JAMES CULLUM/GAZETTE PACKET

Artist Cat Clausen shows off one of her Abraham Lincoln paintings, of which she has painted over 200 since 2005.



The 16th annual Alexandria King Street Art Festival offered booths stretching six blocks from the intersection of Washington and King streets to King and Union streets.

PHOTO BY JAMES CULLUM/GAZETTE PACKET



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1-800-273-TALK
prsinc.org/calltextlive



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISSMAN/CAZETTE PACKET

Vola Lawson, shown with members of the Alexandria Rotary Club at the 2013 Walk to Fight Breast Cancer, was a breast cancer survivor and founder of the walk that raised funds to provide mammograms to low income city residents. Lawson died in 2013 and a memorial fund in her name will raise funds through several events scheduled throughout the month of October.

Breast Cancer Awareness

FROM PAGE 1

8,000 uninsured and under insured Alexandria women with free mammograms and other diagnostic screenings. Following Lawson's death in December of 2013, the Vola Lawson Breast Cancer Memorial Fund was created to honor Lawson and continue to support the mission of providing critical care to city residents.

"We have a lot of exciting events planned to raise awareness and funds for breast cancer care," said Pat Miller, an organizer of the events. "Due to budget cuts the annual city walk was permanently canceled in 2014 but the community has come together to honor Vola and support the fund, which continues to provide cancer prevention education and free mammograms for low income women."

According to the Center for Disease Control, breast cancer is the most common cancer in women, for all races and ethnicities. It is the leading cause of cancer deaths among Hispanic women and the second most common cause of death from cancer among white, black, Asian/Pacific Islander and American Indian/Alaska Native women.

CDC statistics show that about 237,000 cases of breast cancer are diagnosed in women and about 2,100 in men each year in the U.S. About 41,000 women and 450 men in the U.S. die each year from breast cancer.

"Early detection is key to treating breast cancer," Miller said. "A mammogram can help do this but unfortunately many low income women cannot afford one. That's why the Vola Lawson Breast Cancer Memorial Fund was created — to cover the costs of mammograms and other screenings so that all women can receive early care when needed."

Events scheduled to raise money for the Vola Lawson Breast Cancer Memorial Fund include:

❖ Couture for a Cure – Oct. 4, 7-9 p.m., Springfield Town Center at Springfield Mall - Breast cancer survivors, community members, physicians and advocates will take to the runway in a fashion show event. Sponsored by the Association of Alexandria Radiologists, admission is free.

❖ Breast Cancer Awareness Walk – Oct. 13, 8-11 a.m., Oakland Baptist Church, 3408 King St. Fellowship and light refreshments at 8 a.m., walk starts at 9 a.m. \$10 donation. Sponsored by the historic Oakland Baptist Church, contact Nechelle Terrell 571-426-0569.

❖ Los Tios Restaurant Night – Oct. 16, 2615 Mount Vernon Ave. Dine at Los Tios and a percentage of the evening's profits will benefit the Vola Lawson Fund. Contact Anuja Miner anujam43@gmail.com.

❖ Del Ray Farmers' Market – Oct. 13 and Oct. 20, Breast Cancer Awareness T-shirts, 2311 Mount Vernon Ave. Awareness T-shirts will be on sale. Sponsored by the Alexandria Friends of the Commission for Women, contact Jacinta Greene greenejacinta@gmail.com.

❖ Yates Automotive Give Your 2 Cents Program – throughout the month of October, Yates Automotive 317 E. Braddock Road. Yates will donate two cents of every gallon of gas purchased to the Vola Lawson Fund.

❖ Mammogram Screening – throughout the month of October and ongoing, free screenings provided with a referral from Neighborhood Health, 2 East Glebe Road. Call 703-535-5568 to schedule an appointment for a referral.

To donate to the Vola Lawson Breast Cancer Memorial Fund, visit <https://www.razoo.com/story/Volalawson> or send a check payable to the Vola Lawson Breast Cancer Fund to: ACT for Alexandria, 201 King Street, Suite 200, Alexandria, VA, 22314. All donations are tax-deductible.

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"We have a lot of exciting events planned to raise awareness and funds for breast cancer care."

— Organizer Pat Miller



FILE PHOTO BY JOHN BORDNER/GAZETTE PACKET

Shoppers enjoy the Old Town Farmers Market in Market Square. Visit Alexandria announced Sept. 24 that visitor spending in Alexandria grew to a record \$826 million last year, a \$36 million increase from the previous year.

Show Me the Money

Visitor spending hits record high of \$826 million.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria, named the number one Best Value U.S. Travel Destination in 2018 by Money magazine and one of the South's Prettiest Cities 2018 by Southern Living, is reaping the rewards in tourism dollars. According to new data from the Virginia Tourism Corporation, visitor spending in Alexandria grew to a record \$826 million last year, a \$36 million increase from the previous year as announced by Visit Alexandria at its annual meeting Sept. 24.

"This is a pivotal year for Alexandria as we face unprecedented competition," Visit Alexandria President and CEO Patricia Washington said in a statement. "This challenge unites us and energizes us to work smarter, relying on big data to drive our marketing decisions and to continue to improve the quality of experiences and programs our city has to offer."

Tax receipts from visitors, defined as people who travel from 50 or more miles to Alexandria, also rose from \$26.6 million in 2016 to \$27.4 million in 2017. This year, the city became the first jurisdiction in Virginia to charge a tax on Airbnb rentals, creating another source of visitor revenue for the city.

As visitor spending grew, the average hotel occupancy rate fell in fiscal year 2018 to 72.5 percent compared to 73 percent in 2017.

Revenue per available room dropped to \$111 from \$113 the previous year. The hotel occupancy rate remains higher than the DC regional average of 71.3 percent.

Tourism initiatives still to come this year include the opening of the King Street waterfront park in October.

The Portside in Old Town Festival will kick off the opening Oct. 12-14 with activities to include free tours of the tall ship Godspeed, a waterfront beer garden from Port City Brewing Company and a pop-up Pizzeria Paradiso.

THE CONTINUING SERIES is part of the King Street Corridor Initiative, a programming, beautification and marketing campaign funded by the city and private partners. Additional programming at the new waterfront park will lead up to the summer 2019 arrival of Tall Ship Providence, a permanent attraction for the city.

Washington also emphasized the city as a destination for meetings, touting Alexandria's proximity to the nation's capital. She noted that the group will continue to look to regional visitors, who account for 43 percent of consumption taxes, as sources of visitor spending. When combined, regional and destination visitors pay 71 percent of consumption taxes in the city, which is based on 2016 Visa credit card data.

Looking ahead to 2019, Visit Alexandria will seek ways to tackle challenges arising from the opening of the new Wharf DC as a competing waterfront destination and the shutdown of Alexandria's Metro stations from Memorial Day to Labor Day 2019. See www.visitalexandriava.com

CRIME REPORT

The following incidents were reported by the Alexandria Police Department.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 22

❖ The Alexandria Police Department is investigating a felonious assault at King and 28th streets. An adult victim was transported to the hospital with non-life-threatening

injury. The Fairfax County Police Department helicopter assisted.

❖ The Alexandria Police Department is conducting a death investigation in the 2300 block of Mill Road, the Hoffman Town Center parking garage.

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SPORTS

TC Defense Forces Six Turnovers in Loss to Patriot

Titans hoping to solidify quarterback position heading into bye.

BY JON ROETMAN
GAZETTE PACKET

T.C. Williams defensive back Ricardo Ross intercepted a pass on the fourth play from scrimmage during Saturday's home game against Patriot but fumbled the ball back to the Patriots during the return.

Later in the first quarter, Ross snagged another interception, but this one was wiped out by a penalty.

On the very next play, Ross intercepted Patriot quarterback Chris Sonnenberg for a third time and returned the ball to the Patriots 9-yard line.

"I had to tell my team I owe them one," Ross said. "I went out there the next play and got it."

Ross, a junior safety, was part of a defensive unit that forced six turnovers, including five in the first half, and kept the T.C. Williams football team in the game. However, a struggling offense in search of consistency from the quarterback position and multiple special teams miscues played a major role in the Titans' 24-7 loss to Patriot on Sept. 22 at Parker-Gray Stadium.

TC has lost three straight games after starting 2-0, but the defense's performance on Saturday gave the Titans something to build on for the future.

"I thought the defense played, really, really well," TC head coach Jimmy Longerbeam said. "We had our backs up against the wall some and they did a great job taking the ball away."

The TC defense piled up takeaways, but the Titans were unable to capitalize.

Ross intercepted a pass on the game's fourth play but lost a fumble during the return. On the very next play, Patriot fumbled the ball and TC recovered in Patriots territory.

TC drove down to the 20-yard line but ended up missing a 37-yard field goal attempt.

TC forced another turnover on Patriot's net possession — Ross' second interception — and took over at the Patriots 9-yard line. But after three plays totaled a loss of one yard, a different Titan kicker came on the field and missed a 27-yard field goal attempt.

Patriot took a 7-0 lead on its next possession and led for the remainder of the con-



PHOTO BY JEFF MCQUILKIN

T.C. Williams junior Robert Longerbeam started at quarterback against Patriot on Saturday, Sept. 22.

test.

Ross credited TC coaches and film study for helping him to be in the right place to intercept a pair of passes.

"Ricardo's kind of turned a corner," Longerbeam said. "What you saw today is what we thought he was. ... As a ninth grader, he intercepted three balls in a game. He's got a great knack for the ball and he's got really, really good football instincts."

Mohamed Aly also intercepted a pass for the TC defense. The Titans recovered three Patriot fumbles, as well.

Offensively, TC continued its quarterback-by-committee approach while searching for a replacement for former starter Diondre Charlton.

Robert Longerbeam, a junior, started at

SEE TC DEFENSE, PAGE 19

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SPORTS

TC Defense

FROM PAGE 18

quarterback against Patriot and completed 5 of 11 passes for 37 yards, and threw an interception on fourth and goal from the 7-yard line during TC's first possession of the second half. He carried the ball 16 times for 51 yards and scored TC's only touchdown on a 5-yard run on fourth down with 42 seconds remaining in the final quarter.

Longerbeam has experience at the position but hasn't played much in recent seasons due to injury.

He looked like "[a] kid who hadn't been quarterback for two years," Jimmy Longerbeam, Robert's father, said. "He made some good runs, didn't pitch it sometimes when he should have. Threw some balls into the ground. He was a quarterback as a ninth grader and broke his wrist. Last year, he broke his [right, throwing] wrist and had a plate put in, so he didn't play at all after the first game.

"... He just looked like a kid who hadn't played."

Jack Rossi, a senior who started the previous week against Robinson, also played against Patriot. He completed 8 of 16 passes for 58 yards and carried four times for 13 yards. Rossi was the varsity backup quarterback last season.

Ross, who caught three passes for 40 yards on Saturday, has also seen time at quarterback this year.

TC has a bye this week, giving Titans coaches two weeks to select a starting quarterback for their next game against West Potomac on Oct. 5 and, hopefully, for the



Dennis Johnson (45) was part of a T.C. Williams defense that forced six turnovers against Patriot on Saturday.

remainder of the season. BY JEFF MCQUILKIN

"Right now, it's been quarterback by committee," Jimmy Longerbeam said. "The good thing about it is we've got basically two weeks to get that spot solidified. ... We're hoping somebody will distance himself in the next two weeks. That's the goal."

TC running back Anthony Eaton carried eight times for 33 yards and caught one pass for nine yards on Saturday.

The Titans will play their next three games on the road, starting with their Gunston District opener at West Potomac at 7 p.m. on Oct. 5. After games at Hayfield (Oct. 12) and Edison (Oct. 19), TC will return home for its final two games of the regular season against Mount Vernon (Oct. 27) and Annandale (Nov. 3).

Prue Named TC Basketball Coach

Georgetown University and Morgan State assistant coach Darryl Prue has been named as the new head coach for the T.C. Williams High School Boys Basketball Team.

Prue, himself a star on the D.C. metro basketball circuit in the 1980s, currently coaches for Team Takeover, an Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) program in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. He was introduced on Monday, Sept. 24 by Georgetown University coach John Thompson III.

Prue's appointment is the latest in a series of hires this school year for T.C. Williams, whose athletic program is under the directorship of James L. Parker. The new director of Athletics and Student Activities is recruiting staff to boost the school division's reputation as a training ground for top-tier athletes. TC aims to expand the number and types of programs and opportunities offered at the high school level and increase funding through public-private partnerships.

A two-time First-Team All-Met forward at Paul Laurence Dunbar High School, Prue guided Dunbar to a No. 1 national ranking by USA Today in his junior season. He was

named a Third-Team All-American by Street and Smith, and as a senior averaged 23 points per game coupled with an incredible 17 rebounds per contest.

Prue was recruited by Thompson at Georgetown University, but opted to attend West Virginia State University instead. At West Virginia he was honored as the Co-Rookie of the Year in the Atlantic 10 as a freshman and earned Second-Team All-League honors his sophomore year and First-Team recognition his final two years. Prue was named an Honorable Mention All-American his junior year. He went on to play for 11 years on the international basketball circuit, winning three league championships.

Since his playing days ended, he has worked on the staffs at Georgetown University and Morgan State University. He now coaches for Team Takeover. He has also been a personal trainer for several NBA players, including Roy Hibbert of the Indiana Pacers and Greg Monroe of the Detroit Pistons.

Prue starts in the role this week.



Prue

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FALL FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

ACCT Presents 'The Count of Monte Cristo'

Charles Morey's adaptation of Alexandre Dumas' novel features betrayal, obsession, and redemption.

BY STEVE HIBBARD

Aldersgate Church Community Theater (ACCT) is presenting "The Count of Monte Cristo" from Sept. 28 to Oct. 14. Betrayal, obsession, and redemption provide the backdrop for this Charles Morey adaptation of Alexandre Dumas' novel. While unjustly imprisoned, Edmond Dantes befriends a neighboring inmate who bequeaths him an enormous treasure. Dantes escapes and returns to society disguised as the Count of Monte Cristo with plans to enact his revenge on those who betrayed him. But as Dantes becomes consumed with his quest for vengeance, he finds himself losing his humanity and any hope of reconciling with the love of his life.

Director Eleanore Tapscott said the play is an epic tale of suffering and retribution with themes of hope, justice, vengeance, mercy, forgiveness, and reformation. "At a time when it seems that the selfish and greedy can sow hate, division, and pillage the environment without impunity, we need a tale in which the bad people get their comeuppance," she said.

"The play is a story about power, the price many pay to obtain power, and the ruthlessness with which that power can be used, certainly providing proof to the saying, absolute power corrupts absolutely. I don't think the Count is wrong for wanting to exact revenge on those who treated him with such injustice, but there is a danger when the pursuit of revenge becomes so all-consuming," she said.

She added: "Vengeance is a harsh mistress,' as one of the play's characters reminds us, and such all-encompassing thirst for revenge should not be done at risk of losing one's humanity. I'd like the audience to consider Dumas' own words: 'romance, revenge, obsession and justice abound. Yet in the end only truth, hope, and love will prevail.'"

Producer Marg Soroos said they like to do classic stories at ACCT. "One of our council members suggested 'The Count of Monte Cristo.' It took some time to find a script

that was true to the Dumas work and acceptable for our stage. We are thrilled to find the Charles Morey script fit the bill perfectly. This show has not been performed in our area so it will be a new experience for seasoned theater goers," she said.

She added: "This is a story of death and rebirth, repentance, renewal and transcendence. We would love to have the audience decide for themselves if Dantes 'killed himself,' 'begun his life anew,' or has been 'renewed in spirit.' This is up to each theatergoer to decide for himself. The essential arc of Edmond Dantes' life goes from revenge to obsession to forgiveness to transcendence is to be clear and compelling. This version should be where theater patrons can talk about the ending as they exit the theater."

Cal Whitehurst is playing the role of Gerard de Villefort, a prosecuting attorney for the French Royal Government and one of the conspirators who send Edmond Dantes to prison on a false charge of treason. "He sees himself as a moral man who has spent his career serving justice; but he carries within him not only the secret of his unjust imprisonment of Dantes, but an even deeper and darker one as well," he said.

He added: "One challenge to performing in this production of 'The Count of Monte Cristo' is acquitting myself gracefully in the dance segments, which serve both to set the play in 19th century France and to illustrate the various characters and their relationships to each other. In addition, the play is an adaptation of a highly melodramatic novel; and de Villefort has some very strong actions and intense emotions, which require me to strike a balance between believability and a dramatic style that is true to the Dumas work."

Jim Pearson is playing the role of Eugene Danglars, who he calls a 'nasty piece of work.' "By turns charming and abusive, he is a bully to those below him and a sycophant to those above," he said.

He said the challenge was "Finding the arc of the character from small-time embezzler to grand living and plotting has been an emotional journey. Danglars' relationship with his wife is truly complex as well."



PHOTO BY HOWARD SOROOS

Tim Caron (Edmond Dantes/Count of Monte Cristo) and Nic Barta (guard) star in ACCT's production of "The Count of Monte Cristo."

Timothy Caron is playing the role of Edmond Dantes, an honest, hard-working and somewhat naive man pushed into a horrible situation. "Years later, when he escapes this personal hell, having learned that it all unfolded because of the greed of some selfish acquaintances, he's (understandably) driven to punish them. Under the guise of 'The Count of Monte Cristo,' a now wealthy and well-educated Edmond is able to execute grand designs against each of them — but with little restraint on the extremity of his actions," he said.

Nic Barta is playing the role of Benedetto, a man who has had to survive on his own his whole life. "He never knew his real family and went through life never truly trusting people. When he meets the Count, he's taken aback by how different he is. When he's employed by the Count he's given a direction no matter how small it may be. He gets taste of what higher class life could be and begins to like it. Benedetto is a man lost in the harshness of the world. He's a very tragic character," he said.

He said the dance choreography was tricky to get the hang of. "I don't consider myself a good dancer, so learning the waltz

from square one was quite the challenge. I had to learn to relax and be persistent in learning the steps," he said.

Tameka Taylor plays the role of Hermione Danglars, who is very socially and class conscious. "She's feisty and has had many love affairs. Hermione's marriage to her husband Eugene Danglars is not one of love and respect but one of convenience. She adores her daughter Eugenie and enjoys being the Belle of the ball and the talk of the town, however this 'talk' is not always in her favor," she said.

She added: "Revenge and justice are two very separate things. Revenge is one-sided, motivated anger, self-interest, jealousy ... etc. It also can bring about more revenge. It never results in peace, but only conflict of mind, body and soul with all involved."

❖ ❖ ❖

Aldersgate Church Community Theater is presenting "The Count of Monte Cristo" from Sept. 28 to Oct. 14. Show times are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$12-\$15. The venue is located at Aldersgate Church, 1301 Collingwood Road, Alexandria. Visit www.acctonline.org.

CALENDAR

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

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 www.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.

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 www.delrayartisans.org/event/eat-drink-be-merry.

Exhibit: "Natural Reaction."

Through Oct. 7, gallery hours at The Art League Gallery, 105 North Union St., Studio 21, Torpedo Factory, Alexandria. Sculptor and printmaker Brian Kirk courts chemical reactions to create ephemeral, phantom-like prints from rusting metal. A marriage of art and science, Kirk's rust prints bloom in hues of lush amber, ochre,

and apricot. Born of rigid metal, from saw blades to steel wool, the prints that emerge are organic, almost cellular. Visit www.theartleague.org or 703-683-1780.

Photography Exhibition: Michael Borek.

Through Oct. 14, gallery hours at Multiple Exposures Gallery, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. "Aimless Walk Reprise" presents 22 photographs taken by Michael Borek in his native Czech Republic. Over the last 10 years, Borek continued to return to photograph an old blue-collar neighborhood in Prague, where

he grew up. Visit www.multipleexposuresgallery.com.

Exhibition: 'Juxtaposed.' Through Oct. 21, at Target Gallery at The Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. New exhibition explores the Art of Contradiction and investigates opposing or conflicting themes through art. The exhibition features 25 artworks by 12 artists from all over the country. Juxtaposed was juried by Megan Rook-Koepsel, a D.C.-based independent curator.

Art Exhibit: Makers in the Mansion. Through Oct. 22 at

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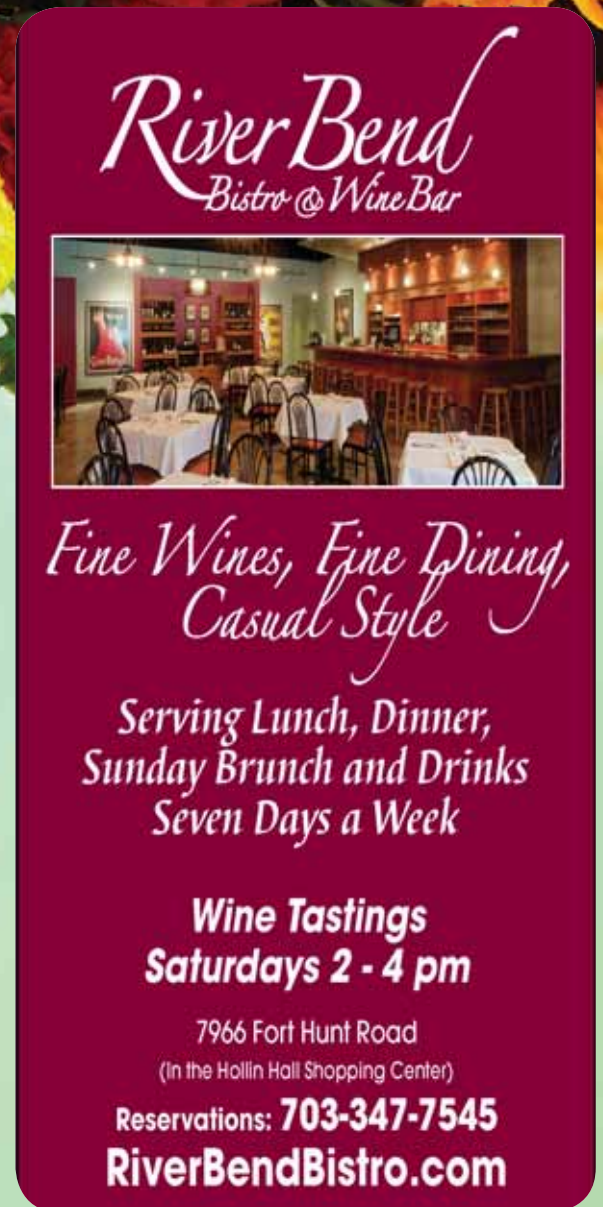
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WFUMC Farmers Market. Tuesdays through Oct. 23, 4-7 p.m. at Washington Farm United Methodist Church, 3921 Old Mill Road. Orchard Country Produce, from Gardners, Pa., will operate a Farmer's Market from the west parking lot of WFUMC. They also operate from the St. Luke's parking lot on Fort Hunt Road on Saturday mornings. They have a very wide offering ranging from fresh vegetables to meat and desserts. Admission is free. Visit www.washingtonfarmumc.org or call 703-780-4696.

Exhibit: 'Autumn Gold.' Through Oct. 29, featuring Nina Tisara's intricate mosaic art at Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, 310 King St., Alexandria. RSVP to ninat@ninatisara.com.

Row by Row Junior. Through Oct. 31, local quilt shops like Artistic Artifacts (4750 Eisenhower Ave.) are welcoming children participating in Row by Row Junior to their shops. It's the junior version of the summertime travel event for quilt making fans known as Row by Row Experience. Kids visit shops in person, collect a free sewing pattern, and find inspiration in colorful, creative world of sewing. At home, families can find free tutorial support and activities online by visiting www.rowbyrowexperience.com or www.artisticartifacts.com for local quilting.

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.

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. Contact Shawn Supers at 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.

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. Registration is requested at



Step-by-step pork belly tacos prepared by Chef Steve Rosenthal at Tequila and Taco.

PHOTOS BY
SHIRLEY RUHE
ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE PACKET

Meet Chef Steve Rosenthal

... at Tequila and Taco.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE

Steve Rosenthal measures out garlic and onion powder, oregano, mustard seed, and other herbs and spices into 8 small purple cups. "I weigh everything," he says. Rosenthal is making the rub for the pork belly tacos at Tequila and Taco on John Carlyle where he has been the executive chef since it opened in May 2019. He says this is his favorite dish and the customer favorite as well.

IN THE KITCHEN

Rosenthal empties each small dish into a large aluminum bowl and mixes in brown sugar and Kosher salt, tossing it around and mashing the sugar with his hands. "I make sure I get all of the little clumps of sugar out." This will make enough for about two quarts of the rub he spreads on the pork belly before baking it for six hours at 225 degrees. The rub mixture will last about a week.

He turns to the sauce that will be squirted on the top of the finished taco. "It consists of three ingredients: rice wine vinegar, dark brown sugar and gochujang (brown rice red pepper paste.) This has a spice to it but I meld it out with vinegar and sugar." He says he uses about equal portions of each ingredient." Rosenthal says he makes all of his sauces using his own recipes. "I try to make everything homemade that I can and out of fresh ingredients."

Each table in the restaurant has a plastic bottle of his Serrano, Fresno and Habanero sauces. Habanero is the favorite. "I make it by soaking orange habaneros in white vinegar for two weeks and then simmering it with roughly chopped carrots and Spanish onions and freshly squeezed oranges." He won't reveal any more. "It's my secret recipe."

Rosenthal pulls a 10-pound pork belly out of the cold storage and pulls off the plastic wrap. He places it on a large cookie sheet with the meat side up. "I

pull off the loose fat and sprinkle an 8-ounce cup of rub mixture over the meat. I rub it in there real nice to get the flavors goin' inside."

He flips the pork belly over and sprinkles an additional 8-ounces of rub on the other side. "I make sure I get the whole thing covered, all the little areas." Rosenthal has slivered seven cloves of garlic. "I always slice the butts off first." He bruises several sprigs of thyme with the back of his chef's knife and then peels slices of lemon peel and chops finely to make zest.

Rosenthal sprinkles half of the garlic, thyme and lemon zest in the bottom of a large pan, then places the pork belly on the top and adds the other half. "Now I'll wrap the whole pan in plastic and let it sit overnight to marry the flavors. "I use one of these pork butts every day.

"Now let's go make ourselves some tacos."

Rosenthal flips three white corn tortillas on the grill that has been wiped with canola oil. "I only use canola oil. There are too many allergies out there now." He has sliced rectangles of pork belly which he sinks in a 7-gallon vat of oil to get them GBFD (Golden Brown Fluffy and Delicious.)

Rosenthal has flipped over the tortillas and removes them from the grill onto a cloth towel and presses down to remove any extra oil. He places tacos in a three-tiered metal holder and adds two crunchy pork belly slices to each. "Now a little bit of shredded radish and a healthy squirt of gochujang sauce. Now a nice little slice of avocado and a little bit of scallions." He slips the tacos onto a rectangular blue plate with just enough room for two lime wedges.

Rosenthal says cooking is fun and relaxing. "There is something comforting about cooking food. I like to watch people take a bite of something I made and they don't say anything but I get that little head nod." His says his whole family cooked but he learned to cook from his mom. His favorite? "Oh wow, one of my favorites was her zucchini bread. She made it all summer long. It brings me back to my childhood."



kmaier@alexlibraryva.org.

SEPT. 27-APRIL 2

Still Life Alive. 9-5 p.m. at River Farm, 7931 East Boulevard Drive, Alexandria. Patricia Uchello One Woman Art Show, featuring 100 original oil paintings of flowers, fruit, landscapes and seascapes. Uchello's work has been collected by IBM, the International Monetary Fund and more. Email pmuchello@aol.com or visit www.patriciauchello.com.

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 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

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 and will receive a Certificate of Blessing with the pet's name calligraphied by the artist. Blessing happens 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 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.

Teen Fall Poetry Project. 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave., Alexandria. A new Fall Alexandria Teen Poetry Circle will be established to showcase the literary talents of Alexandria's teens. Launching on Sept. 29, submission deadline for consideration in the Fall Alexandria Teen Poetry Circle is Oct. 30, 2018. Selected poets for the Teen Poetry Circle will be informed in November. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Arts, search Poet Laureate Program.

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-

FALL FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

4 Dates to Circle in October

BY HOPE NELSON

Multicultural potlucks, a pizza and beer pairing, a waterfront festival and Halloween fun — October does indeed have it all. Here are some of the month's best picks.

Pass the Plate Potluck at Woodlawn's Pope-Leighey House, Oct. 4

Delve deeply into a "cross-cultural, heritage-inspired" dinner featuring foodways historian and cookbook author Michael Twitty. Guests are asked to bring a dish that spotlights their own family history and culture, with the idea that by the time dinner is served, a diverse, multicultural tableau will have formed. The main course will be a recipe from Twitty's cookbook, "The Cooking Gene." Once you're done with dinner, visit Woodlawn's current exhibit, "Makers in the Mansion." 9000 Richmond Highway. 6-9 p.m. \$40.

Pizza and Beer Guided Pairing at Port City Brewing, Oct. 10

Among its other accolades, October is National Pizza Month, and Port City intends to celebrate this time with fanfare. Join the brewery and one of its visiting food trucks, Killer Tomato Pizza, for a five-course pairing featuring Killer Tomato's pies and Port City's brews. Who knows? You just might find a new favorite to feature at your next football (or Halloween) party. 3950 Wheeler Ave. 7-9 p.m. \$30.

Portside in Old Town at King Street Waterfront, Oct. 12-14

The festivities of the weekend don't center on eating, but don't fret; food and drink are still on the menu during Alexandria's autumnal celebration. While taking in the tallship Godspeed and enjoying some of the cultural and historical exhibits on offer, be sure to stop for a break and a bite to eat. Pizzeria Paradiso will bring an outdoor pizza oven along and will remain at the ready to quell any hunger pangs the festival might have caused. (Children can learn to make their own pizza on Sunday, Oct. 14, from noon to 1 p.m. at a special demo.) When you've had your fill of pizza, venture next door to Port City's beer garden to wash it all down. King Street Waterfront. Activities daily Oct. 12-14. Free; vendors may charge.

Hole in the Wall Halloween at Captain Gregory's, Oct. 31

Join the other guests at Captain Gregory's for a spooky evening filled with themed cocktails and festive eats. The intimate speakeasy will be transformed into Halloween Headquarters, so don't forget to wear your best costume in order to raise your chances of winning a prize. Your ticket entitles you to three cocktails — plus food and festivity, of course. 804 N. Henry St. 7-10 p.m. \$75.

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

CALENDAR

2997 or visit 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. Also Sunday, Sept. 30 at 3 p.m. at George Washington Masonic Memorial. Throughout the year, the ASO will mark the celebration of its anniversary with special appearances and events with new Music Director Maestro James Ross and members of the ASO. Season subscriptions start at \$68. Single-ticket prices range \$20-\$80 for adults; \$5 youth and \$10 student tickets. Visit 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.

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.

Beethoven: Symphony No. 7. 3 p.m. at George Washington Masonic Memorial. Featuring James Ross, conductor and Alexander Kerr, violin.



"Cuddle" by Suzan Ok

Atomic Dog and Consequential Cat

Exhibit honoring canine and feline friends. Through Sept. 30 at Del Ray Artisans' Gallery Without Walls, VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital, 2660 Duke St. Visit www.DelRayArtisans.org/event/dog-and-cat/.

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.

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 at the community, regional

and international levels. The pumpkins are grown on the Navajo Indian Reservation near Farmington, New Mexico. Visit www.immanuel-on-the-hill.org.

THROUGH OCT. 1

Hats Up Exhibit. At The Fiberworks Studio, Torpedo Factory Arts Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. The show features a variety of one-of-a-kind hats created by studio members Zita Simutis and Tamara Embrey, just in time for fall. Visit torpedofactory.org/partners/fiberworks/.

OCT. 1-28

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FALL FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

Gallery, 105 North Union St., Studio 19 of the Torpedo Factory, Alexandria. A Ceramic Guild Show offering a timeless tale of clay art focused on starters and sweets. Enter a fairyland of treasures as frosted cupcakes transform into shaker and creamer sugar sets and tapas trays bring hand painted dragons and fantastic flora and fauna to life. Call Scope Gallery at 703-548-6288, visit www.scopegallery.org, www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope.

TUESDAY/OCT. 2

"Hats Off to Autumn." Show runs Oct. 2-Nov. 4, 2018. at Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, Studio 29, 105 North Union St., Alexandria. Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery announces the opening of its juried show, "Hats Off to Autumn." Themed work will be eligible for recognition by the jurors. Non-themed work may also be exhibited. 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. daily and weekends, and 10:30 a.m.-9 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month. Call 703-548-0935 or visit www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 3

2018 Oktoberfest. 6-9 p.m. at Port City Brewing Company, 3950 Wheeler Ave., Alexandria. Sponsored. This annual fundraiser supports Senior Services of Alexandria's programs and services for Alexandria seniors, including their Senior Nutrition Program (which includes Meals on Wheels and Groceries to Go), Friendly Visitor Program, AniMeals on Wheels, and educational programming. See seniorservicesalex.org/2018-oktoberfest/.

THURSDAY/OCT. 4

Yacht Haven Garden Club Meeting. 10 a.m.-noon at Mount Vernon Yacht Club, 4817 Tarpon Lane, Alexandria. The Yacht Haven Garden Club meeting will be Plants and Tricks for the Garden. Speaker will be Dan Scott from American Horticulture Society. New members welcome. Email: Pmuchello@aol.com or call 703-304-0156.

BHNV Fundraising Gala. 6-9 p.m. at Crowne Plaza Old Town Alexandria, 901 North Fairfax St., Alexandria. Bethany House of Northern Virginia is hosting its 7th Annual Garden of Light Gala. \$100 per person or \$900 for a table of 10. Email ojohnson@bhmv.org or call 703-658-9500. Visit www.bhmv.org/garden-of-light.

Pass the Plate Potluck. 6-9 p.m. at Woodlawn & Frank Lloyd Wright's Pope-Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Highway, Alexandria. Featuring culinary foodways historian and cookbook author, Michael Twitty, as well as the artisans of the current art exhibit, Makers In The Mansion. Each guest, or group of guests, as part of their participation will be asked to bring a dish which highlights their own family story. Email woodlawnevents@savingplaces.org. Visit eventbrite.com, search "Pass the Plate."

Fashion Show. 7-9 p.m. at Springfield Town Center, 6500 Springfield Mall, Springfield. Join the Association of Alexandria Radiologists for the Fourth Annual Couture for a Cure Breast Cancer Awareness Fashion Show, dedicated to the battle against breast cancer. To donate, visit alexandriaradiology.com.

FRIDAY/OCT. 5

Cocktails by Candlelight. 6-9 p.m. at George Mason's Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Mason Neck. Kick-off



Artist Tamara Embrey sewing and wearing one of her whimsical hat creations.

Hats Up

The show features a variety of one-of-a-kind hats created by studio members Zita Simutis and Tamara Embrey, just in time for fall. Through Oct. 1 at The Fiberworks Studio, Torpedo Factory Arts Center, 105 N. Union St, Alexandria. Visit torpedofactory.org/partners/fiberworks/ for more.

the weekend at Cocktails by Candlelight event an after-hours event where visitors learn to make and sip on period cocktails in Gunston Hall's hearth kitchen. Converse and be merry around the fire with friends and loved ones, and enjoy a candlelit tour. Tickets are sold online (bit.ly/2NhKLDk) or at the door for \$35, \$25 for Friends of Gunston Hall. All attendees must be 21 or older.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 5-7

Mount Vernon's Fall Wine Festival & Sunset Tour. 6-9 p.m. at Mount Vernon Estate. Celebrate the history of wine in Virginia with exclusive evening tours of the Mansion and cellar, appearances by "George and Martha Washington," and live blues on the east lawn overlooking the scenic Potomac River. Visitors can bring a blanket and relax on the lawn as they sample wines from 20 Virginia wineries. Tickets are Friday, Oct. 6: \$42. Saturday, Oct. 7: \$48. Sunday, Oct. 8: \$38. Private reserved tables, which can seat up to 12 guests and include a fruit and cheese platter, three bottles of house wine and VIP table service are available starting at \$1,100. Tickets and tables are available at MountVernon.org.

SATURDAY/OCT. 6

Family Dig Day. At Shuter's Hill, grounds of George Washington Masonic National Memorial. Reservations are \$10 per person. If a session is filled, contact the museum at 703-746-4399 or archaeology@alexandriava.gov to be added to a waitlist. Advance registration is required for all programs; space is limited. The programs are family friendly, but children under 16 must be accompanied by a participating adult. Visit www.alexandriaarchaeology.org.

Gratitude Walk Live. 8:30-10:30 a.m. at West Potomac High School Track, 6500 Quander Road, Alexandria. Mission is to challenge individuals to walk a mile or a lap in honor of

someone they are grateful for or in memory of (parents, etc....). No cost and they will give 30 free tickets to individuals for lunch at the local buffet at 11 a.m.

Sneak Peek: "Sailing on a String." 10 and 11:30 a.m. at the Lab at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. Sneak peeks showcase a work-in-progress and allow families to contribute to the creative process. Audiences are invited to join in after each performance to provide feedback about their experience. Tickets \$4. Purchase tickets at www.artsonthehorizon.org/sailing-on-string.html.

Civil War Artillery Day. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum, 4301 W. Braddock Road, Alexandria. The program features reenactors from the 1st Connecticut Heavy Artillery, a Union regiment that was stationed at Fort Ward during the Civil War. Call 703-746-4848.

Story Time for Little Historians. 11 a.m. at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. "Why the Sun & Moon Live in the Sky," retold and illustrated by Niki Daly. Enjoy cultural stories and creative craft activities that introduce world history and folklore. Afterwards, explore the museum exhibits to learn about local Black history. All ages welcome, but most suitable for children 4 and older. Admission is \$3 per person. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Call 703-746-4356.

Slave Memorial Wreath Laying Ceremony. 11 a.m. at George Washington Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Alexandria. The Black Women United for Action (BWUFA) and the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association invite visitors to the 28th Annual Slave Memorial Wreath Laying Ceremony. The ceremony is open to the public without cost, rain or shine. Donations, checks, payable to: Black Women United for Action, 6551 Loisdale Court, Suite 400, Springfield, VA 22150. Visit blackwomenunitedforaction.org and use PayPal button.

Victorian Pharmacy Workshop. 1-3 p.m. at Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington St., Alexandria. Learn about Victorian apothecaries and make an herbal remedy with The Schod Family Apothecary historic interpreters Kent and Melissa Schod. Admission includes a ticket to visit the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum at a later time. Recommended for ages 12 and older. \$15 per person; required purchase of tickets at shop.alexandriava.gov.

St. Aidan's Oktoberfest. 3-7 p.m. at 8531 Riverside Road, Alexandria. Live music from the Mount Vernon German Band, specialty sausages and beer, homemade treats, and silent auction. Kinderfest from 3-5 p.m. includes games, cakewalk, face painting, and more. Rain or shine. Call 703-360-4220 or visit www.staidanepiscopal.com.

Opening Reception: Seeing the Light. 4-7 p.m. at Broadway Gallery, 5641-B General Washington Drive, Alexandria. "Seeing the Light: Virginia Landscapes and Beyond," is a solo exhibition by Bradley Stevens. His style is contemporary realism—rooted in classical training, yet boldly depicting the modern world with his penetrating eye. Reception is open to the public, and light refreshments will be served. Exhibit runs Oct. 6-Nov. 6. Visit www.broadwaygalleries.net.

Old Dominion Bocce Tournament. At Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria. Old Dominion Bocce team invites the community for a day of bocce, great food, beverages (courtesy of Stone Brewing Co.) and music. The event is open to teams of all skill levels. Visit www.preventcancer.org.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 11

Virginia to North Carolina, passing through our Blue Ridge Mountains — some of the most breathtakingly beautiful and oldest growth forest, despoiling it and its fish and wildlife habitats.

Dominion Power has been treating this as a “local issue” affecting only those jurisdictions it runs through. Yet we, the Dominion ratepayers are going to pay the bill for this monstrosity of last century

energy technology and the irreplaceable loss of beauty in our state.

I recently went to a hearing in Union Hill, Va. on the air pollution permit for the pipeline compressor station.

The station is planned for an area that is home to many African-American descendants of freed slaves and native peoples as well as Yogaville, a lovely and pristine place of healing and education. heir health and their very lives are

endangered.

There is good evidence that our existing natural gas infrastructure is more than sufficient to meet expected future demand. So why do it? Consider the word “profits.”

Virginia should be a leader in renewable clean energy.

At the very least we need a statewide conversation on energy infrastructure planning. Don't let this one pass under your radar. For

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 26

Legals

Sealed proposals for the City of Alexandria per specifications will be received in the office of the Purchasing Division until the date and time designated as follows:

RFP756: Food Operation Services for the William G. Truesdale Adult Detention Center
RFP Close Date and Time: November 1, 2018, 4 p.m., local time
Mandatory Tour Waiver Form Submission Date and Time: October 4, 2018, 5 p.m., local time
Mandatory Site Visit: October 10, 2018, 11 a.m., local time, Adult Detention Center, 2001 Mill Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22314

This will be a Living Wage Contract

For general inquiries contact Michael F. Hauer, CPPP, CPPB, Deputy Purchasing Agent at 703.746.4296.

The City of Alexandria reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, cancel this solicitation, and to waive any informalities or irregularities in procedure. **THE CITY REQUIRES ITS CONTRACTORS TO BE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYERS.**

Legals

ABC LICENSE

Virginia United Methodist Homes, Inc. d/b/a Pinnacle Living trading as Hermitage Northern Virginia Pinnacle Living, 5000 Fairbanks Ave., Alexandria, Virginia 22311-1223 The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Beer and Wine On and Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Christopher P. Henderson, President/CEO. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

Obituary



Marjorie Kicak, of Alexandria, Va. died on March 26 at Inova Alexandria Hospital, Alexandria, Va. She was a longtime resident of the City of Alexandria since the early sixties, and was deeply involved in the community.

Born and reared in Chester, Pa., she was the daughter of the late Clayton Alvin Carroll, Sr. and Eleanor Gladys Storms. She graduated from Chester High School and, in 1980, graduated with a B.S. degree, magna cum laude, from the University of Maryland, University College in College Park, Md.

During her early life Mrs. Kicak was a mother and worked at T. C. Williams High School in the Guidance Department and Reading Lab. After graduating with her B.S. degree she worked in administrative positions for several trade organizations before becoming the Administrator of an Independent Counsel, Department of Justice. She retired in 2007.

Chairman of the Alexandria chapter of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, member of the Board of the Alexandria Salvation Army, actively involved with the Urban League and other civic and local organizations. Recipient of many local awards, Mrs. Kicak traveled with NCCJ to Israel and Egypt in 1988. Upon her retirement she enjoyed traveling with her family around the U.S., Europe, and Africa.

Predeceased by John Kicak, her husband of 47 years. Survived by her three daughters, Patricia Lynn Korver-Kicak of Haarlem, the Netherlands; Pamela Ann Kicak and Allison Jane Kicak, both of Alexandria, Va.; three grandchildren, Andrew Richard Kicak Vanderhoeven and his wife Marci Lynn, Erica Lynn Kicak Vanderhoeven, Cameron Poole Kicak; one stepgranddaughter, Madelon Korver; one great-grandson, Sean Henry Vanderhoeven; three sons-in-law, Hardy Korver, Richard M. Vanderhoeven and David C. Poole; and three sisters, Eleanor Nealy of Media, Pa., Audrey Blossic of Glen Mills, Pa., Lorraine Fleming of Old Orchard Beach, Me.; and one brother, James Carroll Sr. of Saint Petersburg, Fl.

There will be an inurnment service at Arlington National Cemetery on Thursday, October 4th at 11 a.m.

Legals

Sealed proposals for the City of Alexandria per specifications will be received in the office of the Purchasing Division until the date and time designated as follows:

Title: Request for Qualifications No. 778, Audiovisual Services.

Closing Date and Time: October 25, 2018, 4:00 p.m., prevailing local time.

There will be a non-mandatory pre-proposal meeting on October 5, 2018 at 10:00 am EST in the purchasing conference room located at 100 N. Pitt St., Suite 301 Alexandria, VA 22314

This will be a Living Wage Contract

For general inquiries contact Randy Burns, CPPB, Purchasing Agent at randy.burns@alexandriava.gov.

The City of Alexandria reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, cancel this solicitation, and to waive any informalities or irregularities in procedure. **THE CITY REQUIRES ITS CONTRACTORS TO BE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYERS.**

Legals

ABC LICENSE

Fontaine Caffe, Inc. trading as Fontaine Caffe, Inc., 119 S. Royal Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On and Off Premises, Mixed Beverage Restaurant (1-100) license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Daniel Wharam. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

Obituary

Legals

Sealed proposals for the City of Alexandria per specifications will be received in the office of the Purchasing Division until the date and time designated as follows:

Title: Request for Qualifications No. 765, Architectural and Engineering Services for Charles E. Beasley, Jr. Central Library.

There will be a non-mandatory pre-proposal conference for this solicitation on October 3, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. in the Purchasing Conference Room located at 100 N. Pitt St., Suite 301, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Closing Date and Time: October 24, 2018, 4:00 p.m., prevailing local time.

For general inquiries contact Peter Tomaselli at peter.tomaselli@alexandriava.gov.

The City of Alexandria reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, cancel this solicitation, and to waive any informalities or irregularities in procedure. **THE CITY REQUIRES ITS CONTRACTORS TO BE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYERS.**

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Announcements

Announcements

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Legals

Legals

Public Notice – Environmental Permit

****THIS AD IS A RE-RUN OF THE OFFICIAL NOTICE PUBLISHED SEPTEMBER 27, 2018.****

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality that will allow the filling and excavation of wetlands in the City of Alexandria, Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: For 30 days, starting from the day after the notice is in the newspaper: September 28, 2018 to October 29, 2018

PERMIT NAME: Virginia Water Protection Permit issued by DEQ, under the authority of the State Water Control Board

APPLICANT NAME, ADDRESS AND PERMIT NUMBER: City of Alexandria c/o Mr. Mitchell Bernstein, P.E., Director - Project Implementation; 301 King Street, Suite 3200, Alexandria, Virginia 22314; VWPP No. 17-1756

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: City of Alexandria has applied for a new permit for the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station. The project is located in Potomac Yard, east of Potomac Avenue, west of George Washington Memorial Parkway, and north of Potomac Greens Drive in the City of Alexandria, Virginia. The permit will allow the applicant to fill and excavate surface waters consisting of wetlands. The proposed activity would permanently affect 1.56 acres of wetlands and temporarily affect 2.85 acres of wetlands. The activity proposed in the permit will affect an unnamed tributary in the Four Mile Run watershed. A watershed is the land area drained by a river and its incoming streams. To compensate for the permanently affected area, the applicant would purchase 2.48 wetland credits from a DEQ approved mitigation bank, in-lieu fee fund, or a combination thereof that is authorized and approved by DEQ to sell credits in the area in which the impacts will occur and has credits available (as released by DEQ). DEQ's preliminary decision is to issue the permit.

HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING: DEQ accepts comments and requests for public hearing by e-mail, hand delivery, fax or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. Submittals must include the names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the commenter/requester and of all persons represented by the commenter/requester. A request for public hearing must also include: 1) The reason why a public hearing is requested. 2) A brief, informal statement regarding the nature and extent of the interest of the requester or of those represented by the requester, including how and to what extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by the permit. 3) Specific references, where possible, to terms and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. A public hearing may be held, including another comment period, if public response is significant, based on individual requests for a public hearing, and there are substantial, disputed issues relevant to the permit.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Wynn Prusaczyk; Northern Regional Office, 13901 Crown Court, Woodbridge, Virginia 22193; Phone: (703) 583-3871; E-mail: wynn.prusaczyk@deq.virginia.gov; Fax: (703) 583-3821. The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named above by appointment or may request copies of the documents from the contact person listed above.

Woe I'll Never Be



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Not on hold with the Oncology department today. Not elbowing Twinkle or Biscuit off my writing tablet as I sit and write this week's column. And not going hungry from the previous Friday's infusion (a week plus has passed so the worst side effect of the treatment has passed).

In general, aside from waiting for my upcoming CT scan on Sept. 26, I am glad that soon I can get on with my life.

You'll note I didn't say fate. That word has too negative a connotation. And my nature, as you regular readers know, is as a positive/glass half full kind of person. So, as I approach this next milestone, I view it not so much as a millstone but more so as just another rock that hopefully leaves me not in a very hard place.

The pre-existing cancer diagnosis is already hard enough. But after living with it for so long and enduring as many rounds of chemotherapy, side effects, lab work, diagnostic scans, 24-hour urine collection and all the associated anxiety surrounding a "terminal" diagnosis as I have, one, at least this one, has learned to live with the miscellaneous demands.

It's not to imply that doing so is easy, but not doing so is so much more difficult. To that end, which ultimately won't be my end, assimilating the good, bad and the incredibly worrisome into some sort of mental spreadsheet seems the only logical pursuit.

Either you learn to take it in stride or you'll die not trying.

And since dying, so far as we know anyhow, is so much less appealing than living, I'm striving to balance my equilibrium and never get too high or too low no matter the news. (Yes. I'm a Libra so balance is very much a part of my process.)

That's not to say that there aren't incredible pressures and challenges that us cancer patients have to manage, it's more that to say that laughing in the face of death is not a sign of weakness but more so a sign of enlightened strength.

Part of that strength is respecting the process with which cancer patients are all too familiar and moreover, and most importantly, understanding and respecting what we don't have control over. There's an element of letting go which enhances one's quality of life and minimizes obstacles as well.

Doing what you can and not fretting about what you can't, in addition to keeping an open mind, combines to smooth out the rough edges and to focus on the path ahead. The 'path ahead' being the goal.

I remember that exact philosophy being expressed by my oncologist at the original Team Lourie meeting back in late February 2009. When it was suggested that my mother's smoking of Chesterfield King cigarettes in my youth or my dalliances in college in the '70s might be relevant/have had an impact on my lung cancer diagnosis, my oncologist would have none of it.

Retrieving fragments of history and/or assigning blame for less-than-ideal behavior was irrelevant to him. His concern was not the past, it was the present/future. We were to be looking/planning ahead and treating forward.

And so here I sit, very much having been treated forward.

At present, I am my oncologist's prize cow, a stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer survivor, alive and reasonably well nine years and nearly seven months into an initial "13 month to two year" prognosis. After hearing that grim prognosis, I never would have imagined that in August 2018, I'd still be alive.

But here I am. Not a victim of my own circumstances.

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

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 25

more information see chesapeakeclimate.org. Contact Governor Northam and your state representatives to stop this travesty.

Donna Gold
Alexandria

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 5

their guests to wear their favorite Hawaiian shirt, flip flops, and Ray Bans and come enjoy a last sip of summer at the Athenaeum Beach Club. \$100-\$1,000. Paper invitations will not be mailed. RSVPs can be made and tickets can be purchased at athenaeumbeachclub.eventbrite.com. To join or renew, visit www.nvfaa.org/membership.

THROUGH SEPT. 30

National Charity League — New Members.

The Port City chapter of the National Charity League (NCL) is currently seeking new members from the Alexandria, Springfield, Crystal City or Washington, D.C. area. NCL is a non-profit, mother-daughter organization, aimed at cultivating strong, responsible young women by providing philanthropic, leadership and cultural opportunities. The chapter is open to any mothers and their daughters who are in grades 7-12. Contact Ann Ballard at aballard@mcwb.com.

MONDAY/OCT. 1

Nomination Deadline. 5 p.m. The City of Alexandria is seeking nominations for the Green Building Policy Update Task Force ("Task Force") established by City Council on Sept. 11 through Resolution 2841. The Task Force will provide feedback and guidance to City staff on the policy update. It is anticipated that the first meeting of the Task Force will be held the week of Oct. 29. All nominees must complete and submit a brief online application form no later than 5 p.m. on Oct. 1. Submissions received after this deadline will not be considered. Visit alexandriava.gov/GreenBuilding for application details. Email anna.franco@alexandriava.gov with questions.

TUESDAY/OCT. 2

Public Meeting. 6 p.m. at City Hall, 301 King St., in the Chet and Sabra Avery Conference Room (Room 2000). After 10 years of implementation, Planning and Zoning staff has found that while successful, the infill regulations could be updated to reduce complexity, clarify application interpretation, and increase predictability for the City's homeowners. Staff proposes changes to height and front setback requirements. Contact Sam Shelby at sam.shelby@alexandriava.gov or 703-746-3865.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 3

Blood Drive. 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. at APTA Headquarters 1111 North Fairfax St., Alexandria. INOVA Blood Donor Services and the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) are hosting a blood drive to benefit individuals in this area. INOVA Blood Donor Services supplies lifesaving blood and blood products to 24 different hospitals in the Northern Virginia, Washington, D.C. metro area. The participation fee is 1 pint of blood, which can save up to three lives. To sign up for the drive, visit bit.ly/2PNa9iw.

FAFSA Completion Workshop. 4-7:30 p.m. at T.C. Williams High School, Room C-206, 3330 King St. All T.C. Williams High School seniors and their families are invited to the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria's FAFSA Completion Workshop. Every senior should fill out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) to qualify for money for college from the federal government, the state of Virginia, and colleges. Drop by anytime between 4 and 7:30 p.m. for a free McDonald's chicken sandwich and to complete the FAFSA in about 45 minutes. Contact the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria's Director of College Advising, Margaret Feldman, at margaret.feldman@acps.k12.va.us or 703-824-6730. If you have any questions about how citizenship status may impact FAFSA eligibility, contact Feldman for a confidential conversation. Online registration: bit.ly/Oct3FACE.

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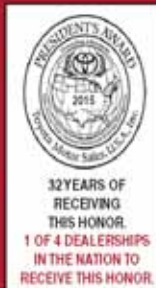
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