Alexandria Gazette Jacket

Home LifeStyle

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City Councilman Mo Seifeldin lights one of six candles of a candelabrum as state Sen. Dick Saslaw (D-35) looks on during the 32nd annual Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust Ceremony of Commemoration May 2 in Market Square.

Days of Remembrance

City ceremony honors Holocaust victims.

By Jeanne Theismann Gazette Packet

ocal religious and city leaders united May 2 in Market Square to participate in the 32nd annual Ceremony of Commemoration as part of the National Days of Remembrance for the Victims of the Holocaust. The annual ceremony is part of the weeklong

commemoration of the National Days of Remembrance, which took place this year from April 28 through May 4.

Dr. Edna Friedberg, a historian and curator at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, served as the featured speaker. Friedberg was joined by Mayor Justin Wilson and leaders of the faith community in making remarks during the ceremony. SEE REMEMBRANCE, PAGE 21



Mayor Justin Wilson presents a proclamation commemorating the Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust to Rabbi Steven Rein of Agudas Achim Congregation.



U.S. Holocaust Museum historian and curator Dr. Edna Friedberg, second from right, joins local religious leaders at the Days of **Remembrance for the Victims of** the Holocaust Ceremony of Commemoration May 2 at Market **Square.** With Friedberg are: Rabbi David Spinrad, Beth El **Hebrew Congregation; Pastor** Grace Han, Trinity United Methodist Church; Hazzan Elisheva **Dienstfrey and Rabbi Steven Rein**, Agudas Achim Congregation; and Cantor Jason Kaufmann, Beth El **Hebrew Congregation.**

State Reduces Standardized Testing

ACPS: Good change overall, but also expects to see failing scores stand out.

> By Dan Brendel Gazette Packet

Starting with this year's classof-2022 freshmen, high school students will take fewer state controlled standardized tests, and more locally controlled "performance-based" tests instead.

The change comports with Alexandria City Public Schools' inclination.

"We have to have less emphasis on standardized tests. ... It is something that we are very adamant about," said Superintendent Dr. Gregory Hutchings in February.

25 Cents

May 9, 2019

"The [Virginia] Board of Education sees value in limiting the number of high-stakes assessments required to earn a diploma and in allowing students to demonstrate content knowledge through performance-based assessments," said Board of Education President Daniel Gecker.

As the name suggests, a performance-based test assesses a student's knowledge as demonstrated in a performed task, rather than in answering multiple-choice questions. For example, a performance-based test in an earth science class might require a student to demonstrate taking measurements from a local stream, said Virginia Department of Education spokesperson Charles Pyle.

See Testing, Page 22

How To Bolster Public Housing? ARHA, city weighs new HUD option to unlock private financing.

By Dan Brendel and Bridgette Adu-Wadier Gazette Packet

lexandria's public housing authority is considering ways to extract value from its real estate to offset federal underfunding.

The Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority (ARHA) administers federal housing programs, including public housing and "Section 8" vouchers, locally. ARHA currently serves over 2,700

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 households, 95 percent of which make less than \$50,000 annually, and about a quarter of which make less than \$10,000. The private housing market provides essentially zero options at these income levels. ARHA's waiting list includes another 8,500 households.

Despite the need, ARHA contends with severe money problems. Revenues from tenant rents are small, and HUD funding for traditional public housing has his-SEE ARHA, PAGE 15 McEnearney Associates has always had one motto in mind... not to be the biggest, but the best. This year marks our 39th year in Alexandria, and we are celebrating our investment in helping to build our town into the thriving community it is today. To learn more about our Associates and our firm, visit www.WeAreAlexandria.com



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News



Alexandria Chief of Police Michael Brown stands at attention as a wreath is placed at the Fallen Officers Memorial during a wreath-laying ceremony May 6 at APD Headquarters.



Photos by Janet Barnett/Gazette Packet

Sharon Yoakum King and her daughter Karissa Walker stand in front of the etched glass memorial bearing the name of King's father, Private Eugene Yoakum. Yoakum was killed in the line of duty Sept. 27, 1964.

Remembering the Fallen Family, friends gather to honor slain APD officers.

By Jeanne Theismann Gazette Packet

single bell tolled as the name of each of the 18 officers who lost their lives in service to the City of Alexandria was read during the Fallen Officers Memorial wreath laying ceremony May 6 at Alexandria Police Department Headquarters.

Family members and friends gathered to remember and honor the service of the slain officers, including Sharon Yoakum King, who was just 4 years old when her father, Private Eugene Yoakum, was killed in the line of duty on Sept. 27, 1964. Yoakum, one of the department's first K-9 officers, left behind a wife and three children. Yoakum Parkway is named in his honor.

The APD Color Guard opened the cer-

emony and Police Chief Michael Brown and retired APD Capt. Ken Howard delivered remarks. Capt. Monica Lisle performed the End of Watch Roll Call, reading the names of each of the slain officers as a single bell tolled and a red carnation was placed at the memorial.

Also in attendance were Ginny Hill Obranovich, widow of Corporal Charlie Hill, and their son, APD officer Robert Hill. Corporal Hill was killed March 22, 1989, when responding to a hostage situation in Old Town. A park in Del Ray bears his name and Obranovich now serves as the executive director of the Alexandria Police Foundation.

The ceremony kicked off a series of events for National Police Week, which runs through May 13.

See www.policeweek.org.



The Alexandria Police Department Color Guard stands in front of the Fallen Officers Memorial to open the wreath laying ceremony May 6 at APD Headquarters.



Retired APD Capt. Ken Howard places a red carnation at the memorial of Sgt. Morton Ford during the Fallen Officers Memorial wreath-laying ceremony May 6 at APD Headquarters.



Ginny Obranovich, second from right, rests her head on the shoulder of her son, Officer Robert Hill, after placing a flower at the memorial to her late husband, Corporal Charlie Hill, during the APD Fallen Officers Memorial wreath-laying ceremony May 6 at APD Headquarters. With them are Sheriff Dana Lawhorne and Obranovich's husband Richard.



A bell is rung for each slain officer during the End of Watch Roll Call at the Fallen Officers Memorial wreath laying ceremony May 6 at APD Headquarters.

News

Carpenter's Cook-Off

McMurray receives Val Hawkins Award.

By Jeanne Theismann Gazette Packet

arpenter's Shelter held its an nual Carpenter's Cook-off April 28, with dozens of local restaurants vying for bragging rights as more than 500 attendees sampled a variety of cuisine in support of ending homelessness in Alexandria.

Held at The Birchmere, the event featured cuisine from 20 local restaurants with a panel of judges awarding Best Savory Award to Tequila & Taco and Best Sweet

Award to Tempo Restaurant. The People's Choice Award went to Catch on the Ave and the Kid's Choice Award winner was Dishes of India.

The Val Hawkins Award was presented to Ann McMurray and honors an individual who has demonstrated sustained commitment to Carpenter's Shelter through extensive volunteerism, financial support and advocacy. Hawkins joined Carpenter's Shelter executive director Shannon Steene and board chair Louise Roseman in presenting the award to McMurray.

See www.carpentersshelter.org.



Ann McMurray, second from right, receives the **Carpenter's Shel**ter Val Hawkins Award during the **Carpenter's Cook-**Off April 28 at The **Birchmere. Pre**senting the award to McMurray are **Carpenter's Shel**ter executive director Shannon Steene, Val Hawkins and board chair Louise Roseman.



Representatives from The Warehouse Restaurant participate in the annual Carpenter's Cook-off April 28 at The Birchmere. Shown are Hasiet Dominica, Hossein Pishdad and Meghan Schulze, Susan Saffelle samples some of Rob Krupicka's who served She Crab soup at the event.



Sugar Shack Donuts.



Lynn and John Brennan enjoy the **Carpenter's Cook-off**

Take It Back Unused drugs collected during DEA's Prescription Take Back Day.

By Jeanne Theismann Gazette Packet

heriff Dana Lawhorne and deputies of the Alexandria Sheriff's Office joined members of the U.S. Attorney's Office at The Neighborhood Pharmacy as part of National Prescription Take Back Day April 27 in Del Ray.

"We greatly appreciate our dedicated partners who join us in fighting the opioid problem with initiatives like Drug Take Back," Lawhorne said. "Thanks to business partners like The Neighborhood Pharmacy, law enforcement leaders like U.S. Attorney Zack Terwilliger and our caring community, we can work together to make Alexandria safer."

National Prescription Take Back Day is a nationwide semiannual initiative to promote proper disposal of potentially dangerous unused or expired prescription drugs. This year's collection netted 937,443 pounds of prescription drugs at more than 6,400 sites across the country.

An initiative of the Drug Enforcement Administration, National Prescription Take Back Day has taken in nearly 12 million pounds of pills in its 17 events.

"Our partnerships with federal, state, local and tribal leaders are vital to the success of this important program," said DEA Chief of Diversion Control John Martin, who participated in the Alexandria event. "We remain committed to providing communities across the United States with safe and convenient drug dis-

posal options." The disposal service provided through the DEA is free and anonymous. Only pills and patches are accepted - liquids, needles, or sharps, are not able to be collected. The Neighborhood Pharmacy in Del Ray and Inova Alexandria and Mount Vernon Hospitals serve as yearround collection sites.

"Safely disposing of prescription drugs keeps dangerous narcotics out of the wrong hands and out of our communities." said G. Zachary Terwilliger, who leads the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of



Sheriff Dana Lawhorne, right, stands in front of The Neighborhood Pharmacy with DEA Chief of Diversion Control John Martin and U.S. Attorney's Office representatives David Peters, Patricia Haines, Lena Munasifi and Zachary Terwilliger during National Prescription Take Back Day April 27 in Del Ray.

Virginia. "The good people of Alexandria can help us fight the opioid epidemic by ridding their homes of unwanted and unneeded prescription meds and bringing them to a local collection site like the one

here in Del Ray."

The DEA's next National Prescription Take Back Day will be held Oct. 26.

For more information or to locate a collection site, visit www.deatakeback.com.



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People

Think Folding Towels Is Easy?

By Shirley Ruhe Gazette Packet

amily Ambassador Jane Hughes hands the large earphones to Rachel. The earphones will play random background noises associated with daily living. Hughes gives Rachel plastic foot liners for inside her shoes to imitate neuropathy and her hands have oversized, bulky gloves. Last come the dark glasses. Hughes says it is a

People At Work combination of what people may be dealing with. Hughes instructs the two

participants, "You will have simple tasks to perform and

once you walk into the room you can't ask any questions." The tasks for Rachel are: to set the clock at 8:50, write down seven brown things you see in the room, fold the white towel, put the belt through the loop in the pants and find a blue tie and put it on."

These are pretty easy tasks if you are a normal person, but not for a person with dementia. This simulation of the limitations of advanced age and memory loss at Silverado Alexandria Memory Care Community on King Street is offered for family members of the residents. Corie Dean, director of Resident and Family Services, says they offer these simulations every couple of months, and it can be very moving for the family. "It's like a light bulb goes on for the family."

She adds that they try to have the associates at Silverado do the simulation as well. "When I did it, I was really bad. I was totally fixated on getting this one thing done and when I finally did it, I didn't do the rest. It is so noisy and it was so hot in there." Dean says they hope to offer opportunities for the community to do the simulation in

HE the future. KET Since two people slightly over-

lap in the simulation but with a different list of tasks, if the person is confused, they may imitate what they see the other person doing. This helped one family understand why their memory impaired family member had often followed them around.

Meanwhile Rachel and Renee

finish their simulations. Renee says, "I felt like I was losing my mind. Little needles were poking at my feet. Lights were blinking. So many noises. Renee's list includes feeding the dog. Renee makes a decision to also give the dog water.

Rachel doesn't know what to do so she starts folding towels and instead of one on her list, she folds all of them. "I always make neat square corners but I couldn't do it with the big gloves so I tried and tried and then whoof." She throws up her hands. When Rachel hears an alarm, she thinks maybe she should go to the door because there is a fire. Hughes says, "There are a lot of different inputs to simulate what a memoryimpaired resident could be experiencing."

Silverado opened in May 2018 and now has 40 residents who have memory loss. The company's residence communities can include those suffering from Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, trauma or former NFL players. Hughes says everyone's journey is different so they try different techniques. "If they aren't happy, we try something different."

Katie Hilburn, administrator at Silverado said, "A lot of families are very emotionally involved when they bring their family member here. So I walk them through the process and keep them involved."

She says that they share with families what they are seeing. She adds it is sometimes difficult to have these conversations



sador at Silverado, Alexandria Memory Care Community, readies the earphones for a dementia simulation.

because as people progress they can lose their inhibitions and use inappropriate speech or more than that. "But the family can feel a social stigma and it helps to know what we have learned is OK."

Hughes says they have a regular routine to have everyone up dressed, "shades up" by 9:30 a.m. with any help they may need for daily living. Then they often have exercise. Next may be current affairs. "We offer them many choices. 'No' is a choice, we call it respectful engagement." She continues, "A lot of them have been isolated but here we reach out and invite them to participate. We have bus tours. A little later in the afternoon there will be a heavy snack and then a musician playing in the lobby."

Hughes says they offer meaningful activities for residents, what the resident is capable of doing. For instance, some of the residents made peanut butter and jelly and turkey and cheese sandwiches for the W&L football practice. "Since the football players aren't big on condiments, it was pretty easy." Now that football is over they are making little bags of Chex Mix for Carpenter House.

Hughes said, "Mealtime is so much a part of our life. There is no charge for a family member to have a meal with a resident." She added, "When you get to the point that you can't interact, mealtime is a good time to be together. We have a family-oriented



Rachel, one of the two participants in the dementia demonstration.



Katie Hilburn, the Administrator.

wine night on Friday, and it has become so popular we had to take all the tables from the third floor to the first floor."

A resident wanders by and asks what time is breakfast. Hughes tells the resident "tomorrow morning" but she can have a good snack pretty soon at 3:30. The guitar can be heard down the hall and the residents gather for some songs from the past.

McDevitt Speaks on the 'Sacred Role of Citizenship'

he Commonwealth Republican Women's Club (CRWC) held its annual Membership Reception on April 25, for members and guests at the Lyceum history museum with guest speaker Thomas P. McDevitt, chairman of The Washington Times. McDevitt spoke on "The Sacred and Central Role of Citizenship: Being Informed, Connected, and Engaged."

McDevitt addressed the political divisiveness in the nation today that can discourage citizen participation in politics. He spoke of the need for conservatives to thoughtfully and actively engage with political opponents and voters. He said opponents should not be considered enemies, and that offering practical solutions to problems can help win hearts and minds. He SEE CRWC, PAGE 21

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Michael Clinkscale, GOP candidate for the House of Delegates, District 45; Thomas McDevitt, chairman of The Washington Times; and Eileen Brackens, president of the Commonwealth Republican Women's Club (CRWC) at the annual CRWC Membership Reception at the Lyceum.



Shirley Miles, Monique Miles, and Florence King at the Commonwealth Republican Women's Club's annual Membership Reception at the Lyceum.

Bulletin Board

SATURDAY/MAY 11

Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. Letter carriers will pick up donated food. Leave donations before your typical mail delivery time. All food stays in the local community. The top requested non-perishable food items are: cereal, pasta, pasta sauce or spaghetti sauce, rice, canned fruits and vegetables, canned meals (such as soups, chili and pasta), 100 percent juice, peanut butter, macaroni & cheese, canned protein (tuna, chicken and turkey), beans (canned or dry). Specific questions regarding the Food Drive should be directed to 202-662-2489.

Build a Rain Barrel Workshop. 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. Rain barrels collect rain water and reduce erosion from a downspout and save money. Attach a hose use it to water plants and flower beds. Residents learn about water quality issues and build a rain barrel to take home after the workshop. Registration is required at apps.alexandriava.gov/Calendar/ Detail.aspx?si=25030. To request a reasonable disability accommodation, email geralyn.taylor@alex andriava.gov or call 703-746-4084,

Virginia relay 711. **Family Caregiver Expo.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Richard J. Ernst Community Cultural Center at Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale Campus. Capital Caring will host its first Caregiver Expo in partnership with AARP and Virginia Hospital Center. The expo is free and will feature information highlighting resources and support programs available to family caregivers, including home care services, financial and estate planning, elder law, and information sessions on such topics as Alzheimer's and

Dementia, Preservation of Assets, and Caring for the Caregiver. Free health screenings will be offered as well as free massages. Contact Amy Shields at ashields@capitalcaring.org or call 703-531-6095 for more.

Submit civic/community announcements at

ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome.

MONDAY/MAY 13

Solarize Alexandria. 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Mount Vernon Recreation Center, 2701 Commonwealth Ave. Solarize Alexandria, the program designed to make it easier and more affordable for residents and business owners to install solar power systems on Alexandria properties, will hold its fifth annual campaign through June 14. Learn more about the benefits of converting to solar power. Property owners who register for the Solarize Alexandria program receive a free, no-obligation solar site assessment for their homes or businesses. Visit solarizenova.org/solarize-alexandria.

TUESDAY/MAY 14

"The Senior 411" Panel. 8:30 a.m.-10 a.m. at Brandywine Living at Alexandria, 5550 Cardinal Place. Businesses providing services to seniors are a rapidly growing sector of the community. This group is designed to not just serve businesses that exclusively serve seniors but educating the full business community on ways they can tailor their services to the maturing adults of Alexandria. \$15 for members; \$25 for non-members. Tickets available at alexandriavacoc.wliinc33.com/ events/Alexandria-Chamber-of-Commerces-SeniorFocused-Business-Network-presented-by-Brandywine-Living-at-Alexandria-2505/details. **Commission on Aging Excellence** in Aging Awards. 5:30 p.m. Vola

Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event. Lawson Lobby, City Hall, 301 King St. Contact Debbie Ludington, debbie.ludington@alexandriava.gov,

703-746-5694

WEDNESDAY/MAY 15

Public Input Sought. The community is invited to provide input on draft recommendations updating the City's 2009 Green Building Policy and draft actions for the Green Building Chapter of the 2040 Environmental Action Plan (EAP). The proposed policy and draft EAP actions related to Green Building will be considered by the Planning Commission on June 4 and the City Council on June 22. Public comments can be submitted through Wednesday, May 15 via AlexEngage. All project and meeting information leading to the development of the draft can be found at alexandriava.gov/ GreenBuilding. Questions may be directed to Ann.Horowitz@alex andriava.gov or 703-746-3821.

THURSDAY/MAY 16

Volunteer Seminar. 3:30 p.m. at the Ellen Coolidge Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. RSVP-Northern Virginia will hold a seminar on volunteering in retirement. RSVP offers more than 300 meaningful opportunities that include helping seniors age in place, assisting local food pantries, and teaching financial literacy. The one-hour event is free and open to the public. To sign up for the May 16 orientation, email RSVP volunteer specialist Carly Hubicki at chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org or call RSVP at 703-403- 5360. To register online or to learn more about RSVP, visit www.rsvpnova.org.



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News

Residents Love Their Native Plants

Local vendors explain how to plant and care for them.

> By Eden Brown Gazette Packet

early all the vendors at the Northern Alexandria Native Plant Sale agreed it was great, despite blustery winds that took down a tent or two. The sale was held on Saturday, April 27, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Church of St. Clement in Alexandria. It is a fixture on local gardeners' calendars. One woman said she had rented a car in order to come to the sale. She wouldn't miss it. Several others claimed they were not going to take anything home with them: their gardens were full. They were seen leaving with little red wagons ("plant taxis") trailing behind them ... full of plants. "It's addictive," said one.

The organizers (Scott Knudsen, a local expert, and his wife, Jennifer Pease) had arranged for live entertainment provided by local guitarist Jim Sheats; he would play soft jazzy/funky guitar to make shopping for native plants even more fun, they said.

This year the sale featured another of Catherine Zimmerman's films, "Urban & Suburban Meadows," inside the church. It is a step by step guide to establishing a meadow. For more information: www.NorthernAlexandriaNativePlantSale.org w w w . f a c e b o o k . c o m / NorthernAlexandriaNativePlantSale.



"Long Suffering wife" of Native Plant sale organizer Scott Knudsen, Jennifer Pease, seemed to enjoy herself despite the blustery winds that brought down several displays.



Native plants are becoming more popular because they grow better in this state and thus keep away weeds and don't need as much care.



A favorite sign at the native plant sale: "Switchgrass" has a fancy name that suggests much more excitement.



Who knew Jerusalem Artichoke was actually a flower you can grow in your garden, and native to Virginia?

Music to Their Ears School of Rock celebrates grand opening.

By Jeanne Theismann Gazette Packet

S chool of Rock celebrated its Alexandria grand opening May 4 with a ceremonial guitar smashing, the trademark ritual performed at new School of Rock locations.

Mayor Justin Wilson and Chamber of Commerce CEO Joe Haggerty were on hand as owner Steve McKay welcomed the community to the festivities, which included live music performances by neighboring School of Rock house bands, school tours and lesson demos.

"I know what performing rock music has given back to me," said McKay, a drummer who left the corporate IT sector to open School of Rock. "To have the opportunity outside of traditional music lessons, to teach students music through performance is especially exciting for me. I look forward to helping the future students of School of Rock Alexandria, not only to become better musicians but help achieve their all of their goals in life through School of Rock's core principles and curriculum."

School of Rock specializes in performance-based music education. A variety of Cor 8 & Alexandria Gazette Packet & May 9-15, 2019

lessons are available to students of all ages, including guitar, singing and piano. Students learn theory and techniques via songs from artists such as Pink Floyd, Led Zeppelin and Frank Zappa.

The Alexandria location is the seventh in Virginia. Other locations include Vienna, Virginia Beach, Haymarket, Ashburn, Midlothian and Glen Allen. Founded as a single school in Philadelphia in 1998, School of Rock now operates more than 230 schools in 10 global markets. Since 2009, School of Rock has grown student count from 4,000 to more than 33,000.

School of Rock is located at 3260 Duke St., Suite 100. For more information visit www.alexandria.schoolofrock.com.



Alexandria School of Rock owner Steve McKay, center, celebrates the May 4 grand opening of the music school's newest Duke Street location with Chamber of Commerce CEO Joe Haggerty and Mayor Justin Wilson.



Alexandria School of Rock owner Steve McKay smashes a guitar May 4 to celebrate the grand opening of the school's Duke Street location. The guitar smashing has become a trademark opening ritual for School of Rock franchises.

Crime Type	2017	2018	Change	% Change
Homicide	6	4	-2	-33.3%
Rape	9	11	2	22.2%
Robbery	103	80	-23	-22.3%
Aggravated Assault	137	151	14	10.2%
Burglary	167	127	-40	-24.0%
Larceny	2,094	2,073	-21	-1.0%
Auto Theft	178	202	24	13.5%
Total	2,694	2,648	-46	-1.7%

Police: Decrease in Reported Part I Crimes

he total of reported Part I crime decreased 1.7 percent in Alexandria for calendar year 2018 versus 2017, according to the Alexandria Police Department.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation divides offenses into Part I and Part II crimes. Part I crimes are considered more serious because they include crimes against people. Since Alexandria generally has a low crime rate and a lower number of

> 10% down nothing until the job is complete for the

> > past 17 years

criminal incidents, small fluctuations in incidents when comparing annual data can lead to larger percentage changes, according to the APD.

The grand total of Part I Offenses (homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny and auto theft) was 2,648 down from 2,694 in 2017. [See chart.] 2018 is the fifth consecutive year in which the crime rate in the City of Alexandria has trended downward.



Wednesday, May 15 at 7:30 p.m.

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Free Estimates

OPINION Celebrating Mother's Day with Photos

Send in photos now or right after you take new Mother's Day photos; and more reasons to contact the Gazette Packet.

s usual every year at this time, The Gazette Packet calls for submissions to our Mother's Day photo gallery. Mother's Day is Sunday, May 12. This year we will continue to publish submissions through the May 22 edition. Photo submissions are due by Friday, May 17.

Send photos of mothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers, with children or without

Editorial

children in the photos. Please
 name everyone in the photo,
 the approximate date, describe
 what is happening in the photo

and include your name, address, email address and phone number. We will not print your full address or contact information.

You can upload photos and information directly to www.connectionnewspapers.com/ mothersday/ or email to smauren@connectionnewspapers.com.

Letter

Preserve Historic Site

To the Editor:

As a 24-year resident of Alexandria, I have seen — and at times participated in — major efforts to preserve historic homes and architecture. One would think that City Hall would be inclined to preserve the very parts of our city that attracts visitors from all over the nation and world — tourists who contribute to the city's tax revenues.

Yet, the City Council will hear on May 14, an appeal of the decision by the Old and Historic Alexandria Board of Architectural Review to partially demolish the historic home of Justice Hugo L. Black and erode the protected open space.

This is a precedent-setting case. If this historic house cannot be saved, then nothing can preserved in Alexandria or throughout Virginia.

I do not exaggerate, as ruining the integrity of this house would go against the state law and city ordinances that have protected it for the last 48 years.

The house was constructed circa 1800. Justice Black, regarded as one of the most influential U.S. Supreme Court justices in history, lived there for more than three decades until his death in 1971. Family members and law clerks have written about how the justice would ponder some of the most monumental cases in history in his home and garden.

Justice Black and his wife, Elizabeth, executed an easement on the property to preserve in perpetuity the open space and house, under the Virginia Open Space Land Act of 1966. The gift was the second ever in Virginia's history and the first in Alexandria.

The Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission procertified the Black house and gardens as a by "principal historic site — of state-wide and mational significance." The National Park service's Historic American Buildings Survey celebrates the house as an "outstanding ex-10 & Alexandria Gazette Packet & May 9-15, 2019

This is a fine time for submissions for our annual Father's Day galleries. Online at www.connectionnewspapers.com/fathersday/ us to share news in your community. We also always welcome photos and captions from community organizations (Scouts, sports

Throughout the year, we ask for community submissions. Twice a year we ask you to tell us stories about your pets and how they have come into, touched and left your lives. The next Pet Issue is the last week in July.

In late summer, we invite readers to share what they know about their community for neighbors and newcomers alike.

And wrapping up the year, we gather writing and art from local students to fill our holiday edition. Each year, through an enormous effort by area teachers and school staff we receive more material than is possible to publish for most of our 15 editions.

In addition, regular contributions to our entertainment calendars, community bulletin boards, school notes, and business notes help us to share news in your community. We also always welcome photos and captions from community organizations (Scouts, sports teams, faith groups, school activities, etc.) and local businesses. Calendar items: www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/

Meanwhile it's election season, you can submit a Letter to the Editor here: www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/

For a digital subscription to any or all of our papers: www.connectionnewspapers.com/sub-scribe/

Submit Mother's Day photos online at www.connectionnewspapers.com/ mothersday/

Or email to smauren@connectionnewspapers.com.

— Mary Kimm

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



Submerged Drowned scooters at the waterfront, May 7 at 10:30 a.m.

ample of the Federal 'row'-type buildings in Alexandria" that "has fortunately been spared the fate of suffocation."

Upon the 50th anniversary of Justice Black's death, Sept. 25, 2021, the property would become eligible for designation as a National Historic Landmark, the highest preservation listing, but not if its historic integrity were lost by approval of the proposed additions and demolitions.

The Virginia Open Space Land Act of 1966 prohibits the diversion of open space protected by the Act unless five specific conditions are met. None of those five conditions has been satisfied in this pending case, nor has there been any attempt to do so.

The Virginia Department of Historic Re-

sources (VDHR) must preserve the easements. The City Council also must abide by city zoning ordinance which includes more stringent standards for appropriateness in the Old and Historic Alexandria District. Drawings of the project show the proposed destruction of open space.

If the City Council were to approve the proposal to undermine the historic integrity of Justice Black's house, the impact would be long-term and extensive damage to historic preservation in Alexandria and the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Justice Black house must be saved.

> **Gebe M. Johnson** Alexandria

Alexandria Gazette Packet

www.AlexandriaGazette.com @AlexGazette

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News

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/ Gazette Packet





Anu Ganbat at the coloring table.

Randy Cole of the City of Alexandria's bicycle committee explains the local bike routes to Jerusalem Brown, holding baby Jai'lyrik Moore, and Maleah Muskelly

An Explosion of Fun

City hosts West End RecFest.

he City of Alexandria hosted RecFest, a free, family-focused event held May 4 at Armistead L. Boothe Park in the West End. The festival featured representatives from the city's fitness, sports, enrichment, arts, nature, out of school time and summer camp programs.

Children and families were able to enjoy free games and demonstrations, meet instructors and staff, and register for programs and camps on-site. RecFest also featured a live performance by the interactive children's pop-rock "Rainbow Rock Band," where youths play instruments along with the band.

Also on site were face painting, a moon bounce, balloon art, live animal demonstrations, hands-on science and craft projects and art activities with the city's Mobile Art Lab.

— Jeanne Theismann



Recreation staff members Angeline Thigpen, Jacquay Plummer and Maranda Boson at RecFest May 4 at Armistead L. Boothe Park.



Amir Hannity gives a hug to Mickey Mouse.



A balancing act by Ivanka Danalos. www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

OPINION The Spirit of Giving

By Heather Peeler President & CEO ACT FOR ALEXANDRIA

ust a few weeks ago on April 10, our community came together to raise more than \$2M to support 160 nonprofit organizations providing critical programs and services to Alexandrians. No wonder Alexandria is recognized as one of the most generous communities in the country.

April 10 was Spring2ACTion, Alexandria's Giving Day, hosted by ACT for Alexandria, the community foundation. For the past nine years in April, Alexandrians have mobilized to provide resources to the organizations that make sure Alexandria is a vibrant community for all.

One might dismiss philanthropy as something that is only for the wealthy. Spring2ACTion is a chance for everyone to participate and give to a cause they care about. In fact, most donations (46 percent) were \$50 or less. When many people give — \$5, \$10 or \$25 — we can make a big difference!

Nearly a quarter of the Spring2ACTion donations were first-time donations; that means more people are seizing the opportunity to support our community. When asked why they participate, one donor said that Spring2ACTion is "a good opportunity to join with others in the spirit of giving."

Spring2ACTion is successful because the

vital community organizations that participate have compelling missions and are getting results. Spring2ACTion helps them build meaningful connections with donors - relationships that extend beyond one day of giving.

Many of the participating nonprofits, such as Nueva Vida, exceeded their fundraising goals. Nueva Vida is committed to providing culturally sensitive services for Latinas with cancer and their families. It raised more than \$40,000 which will cover transportation costs, lab tests and doctor visits for cancer patients who must navigate an expensive, complicated health care system. Nueva Vida, like many nonprofits deployed creative marketing strategies to reach their goal. It hosted an all-day radiothon with La Nueva 87.7FM, reaching thousands of people throughout the region.

For some, Spring2ACTion was a vital lifeline. Local Motion Project, kicked off its Spring2ACTion fundraising campaign with a 12-hour dance-a-thon and went on to raise \$48,000 which was needed to remain in their dance studio and sustain their one-ofa-kind programs. Local Motion Project's mission is to bring meaningful experiences to people's lives through the art of dance and other movement arts.

ACT for Alexandria is proud to host Spring2ACTion and provide a platform for our community's generosity. We are grateful to the nonprofits, sponsors and donors who participate and exemplify the spirit of giving.





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The Smith Family • The Smith/Morton Family . The Tuttle Family • The Walker Family • Justin Wilson



*Certain restrictions apply. APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Contact Democracy FCU for details at 800.742.5582.

Inspiring Talks on Christian Science Healing

Demystifying Spiritual Healing

Saturday, May 18, 3:00 pm at Walter Reed Community Center 2909 16th Street, S., Arlington, VA

The How, Why and Wonder of Spiritual Healing Sunday, May 19, 2:00 pm at Fourth Church of Christ, Scientist 5510 16th St., NW, Washington, DC

Beth Packer, C.S. says, "A knowledge of our inseparable relationship to God brings practical healing solutions."

Beth is an international speaker, a practitioner of Christian Science healing, and a member of the Christian Science Board of Lectureship.



These talks are sponsored by Christian Science churches: Arlington, VA; Alexandria, VA; and Fourth Church, Wash., DC

NECTION Newspapers & Online UPCOMING SPECIAL SECTIONS

April

4/24/19......Senior Living/Mother's Day Celebrations, Dining & Gifts/Spring Outlook

May

5/1/19	Mother's Day Dining & Gifts II
5/8/19	HomeLifeStyle
5/15/19	A+ Camps & Schools
5/22/19	Senior Living
5/29/19	Connection Families: Fun, Food,
	Arts & Entertainment



Designs to Welcome Spring

Textiles and florals usher in a new season

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

rom pastel colors to floral accents, it's the time of year to celebrate the emergence of spring. Local designers offer spring decorating ideas that embody the season.

"Spring is the perfect time to freshen up your house by swapping out heavy, darker winter fabrics on linens and pillows with crisp and light patterns and designs," said Ann O'Shields of the Nest Egg in Fairfax. "Throw pillows are one of the easiest ways to instantly refresh a space. Greens and yellows are quintessential colors of spring and are popular currently in interior design. Whether you prefer florals or geometrics, there's a variety of options in fabric design for pillows."

When decorating the master bedroom in a Potomac, Md. home recently, designer Cameron Manning finished off the design with a cheery area rug. "The right rug can pull a room together and make a powerful statement," she said. "The client's favorite season was spring and she wanted a bedroom that was light and cheerful. For this master bedroom, I chose a vintage rug in a pale orange shade."

paint to breathe fresh, spring air into a winter-worn space. "Painting a room with an off-white

shade infused with subtle undertones of yellow, pink or pale blue can really lighten and brighten it. If you don't want to paint and entire room, consider painting just the door frame."

From peonies and daffodils to lilacs and tulips, designer Connie Hall of Hall Designs says that moving spring blooms out of the garden and into a fresh floral arrangement is a surefire way to usher out winter.

"Nothing says spring like a bouquet of fresh spring flowers," she said. "A large bouquet can really can become the focal point of a room. Sometimes they're all you really need to show that spring has arrived."

Blossoms and branches from one's backyard can create visual interest and O'Shields suggests magnolia stems, cherry blossom stems and forsythia.

'Preserved floral arrangements are also an excellent choice and will last for years," she added. "Hydrangea flowers are a lovely, full option often used in preserved florals."

Lush greenery can be used for more than decorating a garden. "If you have a green thumb, consider adding in some plants in ceramic pots to add color



Photo by the Nest Egg

that O'Shields suggests

fiddle figs. "[They] can also

add height to your space," she said. "More foolproof

plants include Pachira

aquatic, also known as a

money tree, succulents and

rubber tree plants. They're

all easy to care for and add

a freshness to your space."

Those who don't have a green thumb shouldn't be

afraid to fake it. "There are

so many realistic options for artificial greenery available,

said O'Shields. "Artificial

branches can be almost

identical to the real thing."

Manning also recommends using Whether fresh or preserved, local designers advise welcoming spring with a seasonal floral arrangement.



Photo by the Nest Ecc. Adding throw pillows in spring colors like green and yellow to an interior space is one of the easiest ways to drive out the winter doldrums.

"Spring is the perfect time to freshen up your house by swapping out heavy, darker winter fabrics on linens and pillows with crisp and light

patterns and designs." — Ann O'Shields, The Nest Egg, Fairfax

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and texture," said O'Shields. Among the popular plants



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HomeLifeStyle

News

ARHA, City Weighs New HUD Option to Unlock Private Financing

From Page 1

torically dwindled. As a result, ARHA faces an estimated \$84 million of deferred capital maintenance, according to Rhae Parkes, a frequent consultant to ARHA and the city government on public housing matters.

At a joint meeting with the City Council and Planning Commission on Thursday, May 2, ARHA outlined a handful of options to address their financial woes.

"We're looking to figure out, how could we grow the supply of additional affordable units, leveraging the housing authority's land?" said Parkes.

Local officials gave particular attention potentially to using HUD's Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program, made broadly available to housing authorities in the past few years. RAD could enable ARHA to access private sector financing in a new way, which could unlock additional capital to rebuild or rehabilitate its housing stock.

RAD enables housing authorities, by a kind of legal paperwork shuffle, to "convert" public housing properties to fall under a different framework of federal housing legislation. While cost-neutral at the federal level, the conversion would streamline the way ARHA receives, and confer greater flexibility in how it may spend, its federal dollars. RAD conversion would also cede from HUD to ARHA fuller control of ARHA's land. ARHA would see increased operating cash flow and the ability to lock in subsidization levels for 15-20 years at a time, under contracts which legally must be renewed. ARHA could take this localized control, improved cash flow and predictability to the bank in order to secure loans.

"You cannot borrow money against a public housing unit," said Parkes. "So the primary benefit of conversion ... is a financing tool. It's an ability to be able to leverage the private market and raise capital to finance redevelopment."

In conjunction with RAD conversions, ARHA would likely continue redeveloping its more valuable properties, especially in Old Town, as it's done in the past. ARHA wants "to redevelop at significantly greater scale [density] so [it] can cross-subsidize" the lowproceeds or higher rents from better-off households in mixed-income communities, said Parkes.

For example, ARHA recently sought to redevelop its Andrew Adkins site, together with CRC, a private builder. The Adkins com-

ARHA would've used the land sale proceeds, plus financing through a federal tax credit program, to rebuild new subsidized units. That particular deal fell through, but the principle is illustrative. In all this, ARHA may choose to take on private partners, in which case ARHA is no longer the sole landlord, said Helen McIlvaine, who heads the city government's housing department.

While housing authorities taking on private partners isn't new, some housing advocates worry RAD might exacerbate a lack of HUD oversight.

prises 1.5 contiguous blocks imme-

diately adjacent to the Braddock

Road Metro station, making it a

potentially lucrative redevelop-

ment opportunity and ARHA's

most valuable piece of land. CRC

would've bought part of the land

to build a market-rate high-rise.

For example, public housing residents in Hopewell, Va. filed fair housing complaints against their housing authority in 2017, alleging discriminatory relocations during redevelopment in connection with RAD.

The Legal Aid Justice Center, the nonprofit that represented the Hopewell residents, said in a statement at the time: "RAD is often touted as the new frontier of public housing, but advocates are concerned that the program lacks adequate accountability to protect residents' rights. Lack of HUD oversight and broad program discretion under RAD can lead to situations like Hopewell. ... These 'public-private partnerships' are still publicly funded and their purpose is to serve the lowest income community members, not primarily for developers or investors to make money.'

In terms of unlocking needed capital, "RAD is better than nothing," said the Legal Aid Justice Center's Brenda Castaneda in a May 6 interview. But it's a new program and "the dust is still sort of settling." It's a "big, complex beast that nobody really fully understands."

She's wary of "opaque" rules. HUD "would never know" if private owners or housing authorities were misbehaving in the process, she said.

In particular, she stressed a need for affected public housing tenants est-income units with land sale to be clearly informed about their rights under RAD conversion, and to assert an organized voice during contract bargaining.

> RAD legislation requires that, after conversion, tenants maintain the right to a clear grievance process and to landlord-provided

funds to support tenant organizing activities. The law also requires housing authorities to hold at least two meetings with affected tenants and submit tenants' comments to HUD, as part of HUD's consideration of whether to approve conversion.

But in practice, Castaneda thinks housing authorities are more apt to focus on "look at the pretty cabinets you're going to have [in your ARHA to furnish the city govern-"substantive engagement" with tenants.

McIlvaine thinks the processes laid out in a recent bilateral agreement between ARHA and the City Council would head off sloppiness or malfeasance of the sort experienced in Hopewell. Among other things, the agreement commits

redeveloped unit]" rather than ment with a detailed "Affordable Housing Plan" prior to any redevelopment.

> Councilmen Mohamed "Mo" Seifeldein and Canek Aguirre expressed a desire to learn more about RAD's potential downside risks at last week's meeting.For more on RAD and tenant rights, visit www.hud.gov/RAD/impact.



Public Meetings

Funding the Right Transportation Projects

You are invited to share comments on transportation projects that have been recommended for funding in the FY2020-2025 Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP). Additionally, pursuant to §33.2-202, comments will be accepted for new projects valued in excess of \$25 million. Hearings held in Northern Virginia and Fredericksburg will also provide opportunity for input on the I-95 Corridor Improvement Plan. The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) will consider your comments as it develops the FY2020-2025 Six-Year Improvement Program. The program allocates public funds to highway, road, bridge, rail, bicycle, pedestrian, and public transportation projects. All federally eligible projects in the SYIP will be included in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program to document how Virginia will obligate its federal funds. Meeting materials will be available at http://www.ctb.virginia.gov/planning/springmeetings/default.asp beginning April 11, 2019.

Public hearings begin at 4 p.m. in each of the locations except as noted below: A formal comment period will be held at these meetings

Thursday, April 11, 2019 Lynchburg District Holiday Inn Lynchburg 601 Main St. Lynchburg, VA 24504	Monday, April 15, 2019 Hampton Roads District Hampton Roads District Office Auditorium 7511 Burbage Drive Suffolk, VA 23435	Monday, April 22, 2019 Staunton District Blue Ridge Community College Plecker Center for Continuing Education One College Lane Weyers Cave, VA 24486	
Tuesday, April 23, 2019 Bristol District Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center One Partnership Circle Abingdon, VA 24210	Thursday, April 25, 2019 Richmond District Richmond Marriott - Short Pump 4240 Dominion Boulevard Glen Allen, VA 23060	Monday, May 6, 2019 Culpeper District Culpeper District Auditorium 1601 Orange Road Culpeper, VA 22701	
Tuesday, May 7, 2019 Salem District Holiday Inn Tanglewood 4468 Starkey Road Roanoke, VA 24018	Thursday, May 9, 2019 Fredericksburg District James Monroe High School 2300 Washington Avenue Fredericksburg, VA 22401 **meeting begins at 6 p.m.	Monday, May 13, 2019 NOVA District Northern Virginia District Office Potomac Conference Room 4975 Alliance Drive Fairfax, VA 22030 **meeting begins at 6 p.m.	

*The Northern Virginia District meeting will serve as the required joint public meeting with the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission, the Virginia Railway Express, and the CTB per § 33.2-214.3 of the Code of Virginia.

Beginning at 3 p.m. (except in Northern Virginia and Fredericksburg, which will begin at 5 p.m.), there will also be an open house with information and opportunities for public feedback on the statewide, multimodal transportation plan, known as VTrans. This open house will be the first of four for the new plan update and will cover the vision and goals for the plan as well as information on the required statewide multimodal Needs Assessment. More information can be found at www.VTrans.org or via email at comment@vtrans.org. There is no formal hearing for the VTrans open house.

You can also submit your comments via email or mail by May 27, 2019, to:

For roads and highways: Six-YearProgram@VDOT.Virginia.gov, or Infrastructure Investment Director, Virginia Department of Transportation, 1401 East Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23219.

For rail and public transportation: DRPTPR@drpt.virginia.gov. Public Information Office. Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation, 600 East Main Street, Suite 2102, Richmond, VA 23219.

The Commonwealth is committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, its services on the basis of race, color, or national origin, as protected by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need further information on these policies or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, please contact the Virginia Department of Transportation's Title VI Compliance Officer at 804-786-2730 or the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation's Title VI Compliance Officer at 804-786-4440 (TTY users call 711).

Entertainment

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

ONGOING

Juried Show: "East Meets West." Through May 19, gallery hours at Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, Studio 29, 105 North Union St. Ikat weaving, Batik, Sashiko embroidery, Shibori dyeing, hand stamping, and other Eastern techniques and clothing styles are integrated with Western designs and techniques. Themed work will be eligible for recognition by the jurors. Non-themed work will also be exhibited. Free admission. Call 703-548-0935 or visit

www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com for more. The "Weekends" Kiln Club Show.

- Through May 26, gallery hours at Scope Gallery, 105 North Union St., ground floor Studio 19 of the Torpedo Factory Art Center. Artisan creations are as unique as that match made in heaven, ideal as an anniversary gift, engagement congratulations or to commemorate the hoopla of getting hitched. Capture a moment in clay, recall a scene with ceramics and upgrade important goings-on with Scope Gallery. Call 703-548-6288 or visit www.scopegallery.org for more.
- Kathryn Coneway Exhibit. Through May 31, at Huntley Meadows Visitor's Center, 3701 Lockheed Blvd., Alexandria. Coneway's mixed media art combines collage and photographic transfers, and it expresses her observations of nature. She uses mulberry paper to create a ground of color and texture. A reception will be held Sunday, March 10 from 2-4 p.m. Students from Kathryn Coneway's winter class at Huntley Meadows will also display work. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ parks/huntley-meadows.
- Art Exhibit: "Transcend." Through June 2, Wednesday-Sunday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Artists @ Mosaic Gallery, 2905 District Avenue, #105, Fairfax. Featured work by juried artists from the Torpedo Factory Art Center represent a variety of media including painting, printmaking, photography and 3-D mediums explore the theme of transcendence. A reception is planned for Thursday, May 9, 6-9 p.m. Visit

www.torpedofactoryartists.com for



Curves Above by Alan Sislen.

Photography Exhibit: 'Tonal Visions'



11, 2-4 p.m. Visit www.MultipleExposuresGallery.com or call 703-683-2205. of the photographer. Whether it's the more Art Exhibit: "Sacred Feminine."

- Through June 2, gallery hours at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. This show explores female energy, the power of life and birth; it connects that energy to ideas, expressions, dreams, life and all of existence. Tap in to your Sacred Feminine and channel the goddess. Visit DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits.
- Photography Exhibit: "Tonal **Visions.**" Through June 15, gallery hours at Multiple Exposures Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center #312, 105 N. Union St. Featuring work by Alan Sislen. The highly graphic, black and white architectural images in this exhibit explore the range and beauty of tones that might or might not have existed, but were visible in the mind

darkest tones that convey a sense of mystery, the brightest tones that attract attention, or the mid-tones that provide the connecting tissue, it is this range of tonalities that shapes the lines, curves, volumes and objects to give the structures life, beauty and meaning. This exhibit is an exploration of tonalities. Visit www.MultipleExposuresGallery.com or call 703-683-2205. Living Legends of Alexandria:

African American Activists. Through July, Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Living Legends of Alexandria: African American Activists highlights the work of African American men and women who have made important contributions to the growth and productivity of the City of Alexandria. Call 703-746-4356 for more.

Mount Vernon Farmers Market. Wednesdays (through Dec. 18), 8

a.m.-noon at Sherwood Hall Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. The McCutcheon/Mount Vernon Farmers Market opened May 1 with an array of farm-fresh produce and local foods, plus some new features (fresh brewed coffee!). 17 local farmers and producers will sell fresh, locally grown vegetables and fruits; meats; Chesapeake Bay seafood;

- breads and pastries; honey, jams and jellies; milk, cheese and eggs; herbs
- JANE FRA and plants; and more. Visit
- www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ farmersmarkets

THROUGH MAY 11

Old Town Cocktail Week. Take part in Alexandria's growing craft scene and enjoy specialty cocktails at restaurants and attend more than 20 events at boutiques, historic sites, restaurants and more. Old Town Cocktail Week is presented by Old Town Business with support from the King Street Corridor Initiative. Old Town Cocktail Week kicks off with

Art on the Rocks on May 3, presented by The Art League at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, and culminates with a Meet the Makers Virginia Spirits Tasting Event on May 11 at Gadsby's Tavern Museum. Admission varies depending on the event; visit OldTownCocktailWeek.com for details.

TUESDAY-SATURDAY/MAY 7-11

Sailing on String. Tuesday-Friday, 10:30 a.m.; Saturday, 10 and 11:30 a.m. at The Lab at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. Arts on the Horizon produces original work exclusively for children ages 0-6 and their families. Follow two curious explorers on a voyage into a world made of string. This gentle, engaging performance features object transformation, movement, live string music, and captivating design. Best for children ages 0-2 and their families. Sign interpreted performance May 11, 10 a.m. \$7. Visit www.ArtsOnTheHorizon.org or call 571-549-1270.

FRIDAY/MAY 10

- Garden Talk-Purple Plants to Punch up the Garden. 1:30-2:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. (Adults) Punch up a garden with purple. Whether a warm or cool color garden, purple makes a great accent. Extension Master Gardeners show how to incorporate this color into a garden all year round with flowers, foliage. and fruits. \$10/person. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ parks/parktakes/ using code 9E2.831B or call 703-642-5173. 6th Annual Casino Night. 6-10 p.m.
- at Volkswagen Group of America Headquarters, 2200 Ferdinand Porsche Drive, Herndon. 6th Annual Casino Night fundraiser supporting the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington/Fairfax County Region. Hosted By LaVar Arrington with special guest "Secretary of Defense"

Dexter Manley. Visit one.bidpal.net/ casinonight2019 for tickets. Family Owl Outing. 7:30-9 p.m. at

Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Come to the park to discover the secret world of owls and learn what makes these raptors excellent night predators. Enjoy a presentation on owls, followed by a trail hike. Hopefully you will hear or spot one of Huntley's resident owls. Designed for participants age 6-adult. \$8 per person. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Call 703-768-2525 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ huntley-meadows.

SATURDAY/MAY 11

WPHS Car Show. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at West Potomac High School, 6500 Quander Road. Open to all vehicle makes, models, years. People's Choice awards for favorite overall, engine, and "Diamond in the Rough." Free admission for spectators; show participants, \$20. Music, raffle, concessions, event t-shirt available. The is the largest fundraiser held for WPHS PTSA Äll Night Grad Celebration. Sponsors for the event are also needed. Visit www.angcWestPotomac.com for more

Build a Rain Barrel Workshop.

- 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. Rain barrels collect rain water and reduce erosion from a downspout and help save money on water bills. Attach a hose and use it to water plants and flower beds. \$55. Registration is required, register online prior to the workshop at nvswcd-velocitypaymentcom.3dcartstores.com/Rain-Barrels_c_8.html.
- Watercolor on Canvas. 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. (Adults) Learn to paint with watercolor on canvas with the help of artist Marni Maree. The process for this medium is very different from paper and quite fun. Experience painting more "subtractively," by put–ting paint on the canvas then moving and removing the color to create the subject. Bring photo references of what you want to paint. \$93/person. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ parktakes/ using code 2A7.9143 or call 703-642-5173.
- Paint-A-Pot Workshop. 10-11:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. (16-Adult) Get crafty at Green Spring Gardens wit some fun, flavored teas for you to sip while decorating a clay flower pot with paint and decoupage. Green Spring staff will provide the supplies and know-how, participants provide the creativity. \$38/person. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ parks/parktakes/ using code 624.F5D9 or call 703-642-5173.
- Becoming American. 10 a.m.-noon Alexandria's History Museum at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Carefully curated, Becoming American is a selection of documentaries representing a selection of diverse immigration experiences drawn from both the past and present. Each of the sessions is moderated followed by discussion after the viewing. Light refreshments will be available. This program is designed for adults, high school students may attend with an adult. Free, pre-registration is required at
- shop.alexandriava.gov. Pillars to Pavers. 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at Lee-Fendall House Museum & Garden, 614 Oronoco St. This walking tour will explore the streets of Alexandria with stops to highlight how buildings have been preserved and reused for future generations to enjoy. \$35. Call 703-548-1789 or

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



Two dancers from Eyesoar.

EveSoar

Through movement and sound, this outdoor performance by Jane Franklin Dance brings awareness of the physical structure of the Beatley Central Library portico and surrounding green areas. Thursday, May 16, 6:45-7:45 at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Free. Call 703-933-1111 or visit www.janefranklin.com/eyesoar-beatleylibrary

16 🏶 Alexandria Gazette Packet 🔹 May 9-15, 2019

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Entertainment



Pillars to Pavers

This walking tour will explore the streets of Alexandria with stops to highlight how buildings have been preserved and reused for future generations to enjoy. Saturdays, May 11, 18, and 25, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at Lee-Fendall House Museum & Garden, 614 Oronoco St. \$35. Call 703-548-1789 or visit www.leefendallhouse.org.

Calendar

- visit www.leefendallhouse.org. **Chal Murals.** 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on Mt. Vernon Ave. and in The Del Ray Montessori School yard at 100 East Windsor Ave. More information can be found at https:// www.labellastradadelray.com/. See Del Ray transformed as chalk murals are painted on the sidewalks along Mt. Vernon Ave. The murals are painted by professional artists, along with a free chalk art area for children, parents, and visitors. Additional activities will include a children's Festa with carnival games and crafts, music by Alexandria Kinderchoir and local teen bands. Visit www.labellastradadelray.com/.
- Visit www.labellastradadelray.com/. **Spring Art Market.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in the Colasanto Park adjacent to Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Del Ray Artisans' Spring Art Market is an annual, outdoor, family-friendly event featuring original creations by local artisans in a variety of mediums. Rain or shine in the Colasanto Park Visit www.DelRayArtisans.org/event/ spring-art-market-2019 for more.
- Plants & Design-Season-Long Beauty. 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. (Adults) May is a great time to plan for season-long beauty in the garden. Get to know great plant combinations for home, wildlife, and pollinator gardens, including easy-togrow edibles and showy perennials. Horticulturalist Brenda Skarphol will demonstrate how to divide plants and discuss how to best care for new plantings and divisions. \$18/person. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ parktakes/ using code B82.5679 or
- call 703-642-5173. **Container Gardening for Food, Fun and Beauty.** 10:30 a.m.-noon at Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Learn to grow edible and ornamental plants in containers on a porch, deck, balcony or patio. This workshop will cover soil, containers, maintenance and selection of suitable plants. This class is offered by Extension Master Gardeners. Free. Advance registration requested at mgnv.org. Questions? Call 703-228-6414 or email mgarlalex@gmail.com.
- Woodlawn Workshop: Craft a Paper Floral Bouquet. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at Woodlawn, 9000 Richmond Highway. Join Melissa Kallasides Preston, owner of Paper Honey Bee, for a workshop to build a paper flower rose bouquet for Mother's Day, or any day. Festive finger
- www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

sandwiches, petit-fours, and lemonade will be included. Learn paper flower construction techniques from start to finish to create your paper roses that will forever be in bloom. All materials are included. Visit

www.woodlawnpopeleighey.org/ for more.

- The Alexandria Kinderchoir Performance. Noon at the La Bella Strada Festival, 100 E. Windsor Ave. The Alexandria Kinderchoir, founded in 2015 as The Del Ray Kinderchoir, is Alexandria's only children's community choir, with choristers now heralding from across the city. The non-profit is celebrating its growth with a name change, coinciding with a move to Convergence for its larger rehearsal and performance space. Visit www.alexandriakinderchoir.org for more.
- Family Fun-Mothers in Nature. 12:30-1:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. (5-Adult) Learn all about mothers and babies in the natural world. Butterflies, frogs, and even flowers have amazing life cycles. Take home a flower and its baby (a seed) and watch the life cycle unfold. \$8/ person. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ parktakes/ using code DDC.2F8D or call 703-642-5173.
- Celebrate Moms in Nature. 1:30-2:30 at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Make a gift for mom or learn about animal moms and babies in Park Authority programs timed for Mother's Day weekend. Children 3-6 can make a Mother's Day gift at the "Flower Pots and Violets" program. Kids will celebrate spring by decorating their very own flower pot and planting a beautiful violet flower to take home. \$10 per child. Call 703-768-2525 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/
- huntley-meadows. **Opening Reception: "Tonal Visions."** 2-4 p.m. at Multiple Exposures Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center #312, 105 N. Union St. Featuring work by Alan Sislen. The highly graphic, black and white architectural images in this exhibit explore the range and beauty of tones that might or might not have existed, but were visible in the mind of the photographer. Whether it's the darkest tones that convey a sense of mystery, the brightest tones that attract attention, or the mid-tones that provide the connecting tissue, it

is this range of tonalities that shapes the lines, curves, volumes and objects to give the structures life, beauty and meaning. This exhibit is an exploration of tonalities. Visit www.MultipleExposuresGallery.com or call 703-683-2205.

SUNDAY/MAY 12

- Mother's Day Tea. 1-3:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. (Adults) Chef and food historian Nora Burgan highlights culinary traditions associated with mothers and Mother's Day. Enjoy cooking demonstrations for chocolate-dipped strawberries and strawberry shortcake – just like Mom used to make. A special afternoon tea menu tops off the festivities. Favor bag included with tea. Programs are by reservation only. \$48 (program + tea); \$18 (program only). Call 703-941-7987, TTY 703-324-3988.
- Mother's Day. 1-5 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal St. Celebrate Mother's Day at Gadsby's Tavern Museum with free tours for all visiting ladies on Mother's Day. Visit with Louisa Catherine Adams, wife of John Quincy Adams, as she shares about her life as a mother and living overseas. Admission is \$5 for all other adults and \$3 for children (ages 5-12). Call 703-746-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org.
- Mothers' Day Tea. 2:30 p.m. at Carlyle House Historic Park, Alexandria. Relax on the Magnolia Terrace and enjoy personalized tableside service and food catered by Calling Card Events. Registration required, no refunds. All participants including children under 5 must be registered. Ticket sales end May 5. \$45 per adult, \$25 per child (6-12), children under 5 are free. Find tickets at apm.activecommunities.com/ novaparks/Activity_Search/2569.

MONDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 13-19 National Public Gardens Week.

Come by Green Spring Gardens and celebrate National Public Gardens Week with tours, displays, programs and annual Spring Garden Day plant sale highlighting some of the interesting and exciting plant and history projects that Green Spring has to enjoy. Visit

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring or call 703-642-5173.

TUESDAY/MAY 14

Simpson Garden Stroll. 10-11 a.m. at Simpson Park Gardens, 420 E. An



This theological comedy with a twist blends the sharpness of wit with the depth of character while telling a story of a crisis of faith.

SHOW DATES: <u>APR. 27</u> - MAY 18, 2019



Little Theatre of Alexandria 600 Wolfe Street • 703-683-0496 www.thelittletheatre.com





(703) 382-1011 www.mtvac.net tennis@mtvac.net

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ENTERTAINMENT

Spring Brings New Restaurants to Alexandria

By Hope Nelson

n many ways, spring signifies new life – and Alexandria's restaurant scene is, at least this year, falling in line with tradition. Walk or drive through nearly any part of town and you'll find new storefronts either readying for business or hosting grand opening events

Appetit

hosting grand opening events to celebrate their inaugurals. Here are three of the latest eateries onto the scene.

Chop Shop Taco, 1008 Madison St.

The latest resident of the Madison Collective of businesses – currently including Grateful Kitchen, Zweet Sport, and Marlowe Ink tattoo – is Chop Shop Taco, a longawaited taqueria whose name pays homage to the building's former life as an automotive chop shop. The eatery sports a walkup taco window that is open for 11 hours daily, while the interior also offers a mix of

CALENDAR

Monroe St. Join in the first stroll of the year at Simpson Gardens. Tour the gardens' demonstration beds that feature waterwise gardening, scented plants, plants that attract pollinators, plants that prefer shade, and plants that illustrate the use of structure and texture. Extension Master Gardeners will be in the garden to answer questions on sustainable gardening practices. Free. Call 703-228-6414 or email mgarlalex@gmail.com.

TUESDAY-SATURDAY/MAY 14-18

Sailing on String. Tuesday-Friday, 10:30 a.m.; Saturday, 10 and 11:30 a.m. at The Lab at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. Arts on the Horizon produces original work exclusively for children ages 0-6 and their families. Follow two curious explorers on a voyage into a world made of string. This gentle, engaging performance features object transformation, movement, live string music, and captivating design. Best for children ages 0-2 and their families. \$7. Visit www.ArtSOnTheHorizon.org or call 571-549-1270.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 15

Chamber Golf Classic. 1 p.m. shotgun start at Laurel Hill Golf Club. The Chamber Golf Classic is the main fundraiser for the Chamber's Scholarship Fund. The event includes driving range warm-up, cash prizes, lunch, putting contest, complimentary beverages, dinner and networking with other business and community leaders.Registration starts at \$250, visit www.mtvernonleechamber.org/events/details/ chamber-golf-classic-2019-5409.

THURSDAY/MAY 16

- Chinese Watercolor Painting. 1 p.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Instructors from the Confucius Institute at George Mason University will lead this introductory class on Chinese watercolor painting. Space is limited to 12. Registration is required. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or call 703-
- 746-1703. Croquet & IPA Day. 5-8 p.m at Waterfront Park, Old Town
- Alexandria. Business, corporate or and surround 18 Alexandria Gazette Packet May 9-15, 2019

lunch and dinner (brunch is coming onto the scene next month) from pre-lunch to late-night.

Try a pork and banana leaf taco, or perhaps a brisket confit; vegetarians won't be left out, either, with a taco sporting roasted mushrooms alongside halloumi cheese and pumpkin seeds.

On the non-taco side of the coin, diners can feast on a variety of small plates, including a duck confit with star anise and cardamom, as well as a fried-rice style plate with huitlacoche and porcini mushrooms, rich with zaatar onion and cojita cheese.

Toastique, 1605 King St.

At first blush, a restaurant offering toast isn't necessarily compelling.

But look a little deeper and you'll see that toasted bread isn't really the featured dish. Rather, the eatery focuses on what goes on the bread, as well as what other options exist alongside it. Of course avocado toast

is all the rage at the moment – and has been for a while, really – and it maintains a starting position at Toastique, playing alongside watermelon radish, microgreens and tomatoes to make a light yet filling option for breakfast or lunch.

Or venture further afield with the Tuscan tuna toast, which sports sundried tomato tuna alongside lettuce, Kalamata olives, capers and more.

Smoothies, juices and bowls also take the stage at Toastique, offering a multitude of ways to partake of a healthy meal – or supplement your current dietary needs. In the new era of Blue Majik and acai bowls, this restaurant certainly aims to become a go-to place for all the latest trends.

Yunnan by Potomac Noodle House, 814 N. Fairfax St.

Yunnan's relatively simple menu is turning on its head the idea that more means more when it comes to food on offer. It

> fun, healthy and environmentallyfriendly way to get to work. There are 115 Bike to Work Day pit stops to choose from. The first 20,000 to register and attend will receive a free Bike to Work Day T-shirt, enjoy refreshments and chances to win prizes. Visit www.biketoworkmetrodc.org.

www.biketoworkinetrouc.org

SATURDAY/MAY 18

- Mount Vernon Flea Market. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at 8717 Fort Hunt Road. Flea market will take place the third Saturday of every month (through September). Refreshments available for sale. Admission is free. Visit mountvernonfleamarket.wordpress.com for more info.
- Green Spring Garden Day and Big Plant Sale. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. The Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia (MGNV) and the Potowmack Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society will be joining over 40 vendors selling plants at Green Spring Gardens. There will be a bake sale and food trucks. This event is hosted by Friends of Greens Spring Gardens (FROGS) and proceeds help purchase plants for the gardens and support educational efforts at Green Spring. Free. Visit www.friendsofgreenspring.org/ programs-a-events/spring-gardenday-2019 or call FROGS at 703-642 5173.
- Becoming American. 10 a.m.-noon Alexandria's History Museum at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Carefully curated, Becoming American is a selection of documentaries representing a selection of diverse immigration experiences drawn from both the past and present. Each of the sessions is moderated followed by discussion after the viewing. Light refreshments will be available. This program is designed for adults, high school students may attend with an adult. Free, pre-registration is required at shop.alexandriava.gov
- Pillars to Pavers. 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at Lee-Fendall House Museum & Garden, 614 Oronoco St. This walking tour will explore the streets of Alexandria with stops to highlight how buildings have been preserved and reused for future generations to enjoy. \$35. Call 703-548-1789 or visit www.leefendallhouse.org.

doesn't possess a menu that's a dozen pages long; rather, its offerings could probably fit on one printed page, but to assume that its quality equals its quantity is to commit a grievous error. Look a little closer and all the small plates are there — the pork belly bun, wasabi-dressed bok choy, Asian pear radishes — as well as an array of main dishes.

After all, Yunnan is a noodle house, and it's got noodle dishes in spades. Mixian dishes — that is, those focused on a specific kind of rice noodle — reign supreme, as they should, with the likes of braised beef mixian sharing menu space with "Grandma's Parou Mixian" as well as several vegetarian options centering on tofu and shiitake mushrooms.

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

Fort Tours in Honor of Armed Forces Day. 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site,

301 West Braddock Road. Dressed in Union uniform, Museum curator Brian Briones will present an orientation to the Defenses of Washington and a guided tour of historic Fort Ward, one of the largest of the forts that guarded the Federal capital during the Civil War. The tours are free, and begin in the Museum. No reservations are required. Tours are weather dependent. Visit www.fortward.org, or call 703-746-4848.

- If Trouble Don't Kill Me. 2 p.m. at Duncan Branch Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Virginia author Ralph Berrier will present on his book, If Trouble Don't Kill Me, which follows the lives on Berrier's family from the mountains of Virginia to the Grand Ole Opry. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or call 703-746-1705.
- The Alexandria Kinderchoir Spring Concert. 3:30 p.m. at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. The Alexandria Kinderchoir, founded in 2015 as The Del Ray Kinderchoir, is Alexandria's only children's community choir, with choristers now heralding from across the city. The non-profit is celebrating its growth with a name change, coinciding with a move to Convergence for its larger rehearsal and performance space. Visit www.alexandriakinderchoir.org for more.
- Hope UCC Luau. 4-9 p.m. at Hope UCC Luau, 6130 Old Telegraph Road. Hawaiian dancing, authentic Polynesian food and crafts for sale, bar and kid's activities: lawn games, face painting and a bounce house. \$15-\$30 (under 2, free). Tickets at hopeucc.org/store.
- Bharatanatyam: Classical Indian Dance Program. 7 p.m.at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Join Sangeetha Agarwal, director of HastaSwara Performing Arts, and learn about Bharatanatyam. Bharatanatyam is a form of Indian classical dance originating in the southern state of Tamil Nadu. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or call 703-746-1702.
- An Infinite Universe. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Convergence Arts Initative, 1801 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. Alexandria Choral Society presents





Croquet & IPA Day

Round up a team of four (ages 14+) and have a fun afternoon of Croquet matches, time with friends, and making a difference for the community's children and families. Compete for prizes and enjoy craft beer & local food, all while supporting SCAN of Northern Virginia. Business, corporate or family and friends teams welcome. Thursday, May 16, 5-8 p.m at Waterfront Park, Old Town Alexandria. Visit www.scanva.org/support-scan/news-events/croquet-day/ for more.

family and friends teams welcome. Round up a team of four (ages 14+) and have a fun afternoon of Croquet matches, time with friends, and making a difference for the community's children and families. Compete for prizes and enjoy craft beer & local food, all while supporting SCAN of Northern Virginia. Visit www.scanva.org/ support-scan/news-events/croquetday/ for more.

EyeSoar. 6:45-7:45 at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Through movement and sound, this outdoor performance by Jane Franklin Dance brings awareness of the physical structure of the Beatley Central Library portico and surrounding green areas. Free. Call 703-933-1111 or visit www.janefranklin.com/eyesoarbeatley_library

beatley-library. **Polymer Clay Class.** 7 p.m.at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Polymer clay is used to make charms, magnets and more, Make a project under the guidance of a polymer clay artist. Ages 8-12. Space is limited, arrive early. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or call 703-746-1702.

FRIDAY/MAY 17

Bike to Work Day 2019. Pit stop times vary, all over the region. Join more than 20,000 area commuters for a free celebration of bicycling as a

Entertainment



1959 Mercedes

Old Town Festival of Speed & Style

The single-day free event will be span across three blocks on lower King Street and will feature approximately 60 rare and unusual supercars from around the world such as Ferrari, Jaguar, Porsche, Lamborghini, Aston-Martin and Cobra for up close viewing enjoyment. A fashion exhibition (noon-1 p.m.) will feature spring looks from Old Town Boutique District stores that pair with the themed cars on display. The event will also feature live music, street vendors, and provide festival goers an opportunity to explore Old Town shops and restaurants. Sunday, May 19, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on King Street near Old Town Waterfront. Free admission. Visit www.festivalspeedstylealex.com for more.

Calendar

Infinite Universe, a concert celebrating space and exploration. Featuring new commissioned works "That's one small step" by Tawnie Olson and "Partial Lunar Eclipse" by Lori Laitman. \$20 adult, \$15 senior/ military/student, 13 and under free. Tickets \$5 more at the door. Call 703-951-7849 or visit www.alexandriachoralsociety.org.

Country-Western Dance. 7-9:30 p.m. at Lincolnia Senior Center, 4710 North Chambliss St. The Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association will hold a dance with lessons, 6-7 p.m. and open dancing, 7-9:30 p.m. A DJ provides music. Couples and singles of all ages welcome. Admission for members \$10; non-members \$12; children under 18 accompanied by a paying adult \$5. Smoke-free, alcohol-free. BYO refreshments. Visit www.nvcwda.org for more.

SUNDAY/MAY 19

- **Old Town Festival of Speed &** Style. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on King Street near Old Town Waterfront. The single-day free event will be span across three blocks on lower King Street and will feature approximately 60 rare and unusual supercars from around the world such as Ferrari, Jaguar, Porsche, Lamborghini, Aston-Martin and Cobra for up close viewing enjoyment. A fashion exhibition (noon-1 p.m.) will feature spring looks from Old Town Boutique District stores that pair with the themed cars on display. The event will also feature live music, street vendors, and provide festival goers an opportunity to explore Old Town shops and restaurants. Free admission. Visit
- www.festivalspeedstylealex.com for more. Women Authors Bookreading. 2-3:30 p.m. at Ivy Hill Cemetery, 2823
- 3:30 p.m. at Ivy Hill Cemetery, 2823 King St. Authors H.L. Brooks, and Dea Schofield, will conduct readings and a book signing: The Red August

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Series, and The Vitaortus Series, in the cemetery vault. Not recommended for children. Free. Call 703-549-7413, ext. 1112, or visit www.ivyhillcemetery.net.

MONDAY/MAY 20

Intro to the Bonsai Tree. 7 p.m.at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. The president of the Northern Virginia Bonsai Society will share an overview of the ancient art of bonsai, introduce some basic bonsai techniques, and dispel some common myths. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or call 703-746-1702.

TUESDAY/MAY 21

- Researching German Ancestors. 1-3 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. "Finding a German Heimat (Hometown or Village)." Genealogist James M. Beidler will speak about researching German ancestors online. Free, open to the public.
- Twilight & Tipple Tours. 6-9 p.m. at Pope-Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Highway. Experience Frank Lloyd Wright's Pope-Leighey House by twilight. This tour series is a rare chance to see one of Wright's houses illuminated against a night sky. Grab a drink, included in the price of the tour ticket, and walk through the house on a leisurely, open house style tour with plenty of time to take stunning photos. \$35. Visit www.woodlawnpopeleighey.org/ for more.

MAY 21-JUNE 23

Juried Show: "Environmental Elements." Gallery hours at Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, Studio 29, 105 North Union St. Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery announces the opening of its juried show "Environmental Elements." Our artists and their creations are influenced by environmental elements such as air quality, noise, climate, fish and wildlife migration routes, and unique animal species – the list goes on and on. Themed work will be eligible for recognition by the jurors. Nonthemed work may also be exhibited. Visit

www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com or call 703-548-0935.

THURSDAY/MAY 23

- Garden Tour & Tea. 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. (Adult) Tour the demonstration gardens with master gardener docents. View showstopping plants of spring and learn how to grow them. Hear about Green Spring's past and how they share their horticultural and historical resources with visitors today. \$32. Call 703-941-7987, TTY 703-324-3988.
- Simpson Garden Family Night. 6-8 p.m. at Simpson Park Gardens, 420 E. Monroe St. Enjoy a bee- and butterfly-friendly seed planting for kids.
- Take home a kit to create a Butterfly Puddler in the yard, and plenty of plant ideas for pollinator gardens, herb gardens, and container gardening. Come learn why planting native plants are the best choices for the home garden. Extension Master Gardeners will be there to answer your questions. A fun evening for all ages! Free. Questions? Telephone 703-228-6414 or email mgarlalex@gmail.com.

Concerts at St. Luke's. 7:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 8009 Ft. Hunt Road. The Marywood Univ. Chamber Singers, a 24-voice ensemble based in Scranton, PA, is featured on an annual PBS broadcast and is presently on tour throughout the mid-Atlantic States. Offering a free concert. A reception will follow. Free. Call 703-765-4342 or visit www.saintlukeschurch.net/events Alexandria Chambo of Commerce

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Sports



T.C. Williams lightweight women's team, competing in the junior varsity category.



The men's 3v four

Five Medals at States as Boats Vie for Spots at National Races

alf of TC Williams' crew team took to the waters of the Occoquan River on a fine spring day Saturday, May 4, bringing home five medals, three of them gold, in part one of the state championships. Part two, in which varsity boats compete, is Saturday, May 11.

The Virginia Scholastic Rowing Association championship results determine which boats move on to regional and national competitions in the coming weeks.

On the men's side, two four-seat TC Williams boats won gold: one racing in the 2V category, and one in the 3V category. The women's lightweight eight boat, minus one regular senior, competed in the junior varsity category, winning a gold medal.

"Our race was very representative of our training, and we were all very prepared for it," said Clare Williams, the coxswain in the men's second varsity four. "When we had about 50 meters left ... I could just tell we were going to reach the finish line first, so I started yelling and splashing the water." As the boat crossed the finish line, the rowers exchanged hugs.

The day's races were held in front of a huge crowd of parents and supporters at one of the largest rowing events in the area. Lineups had changed just before the VASRA championship because there weren't enough boats in the region to make up a lightweight category. T.C. Williams sent some of their strongest rowers to compete in new categories, a strategy that proved a winning one for the team.

The men's 2V four, with Williams in the cox seat, had a time of 5:44.50, topping Fairfax, which had a time of 5:45.76, and Lake Braddock, with a time of 6:01.83. To win its gold, the men's 3V four beat Fairfax and St. John Paul, with a time of 6:18.1, compared with 6:38.03 and 6:59.33.

For the women's lightweight eight, it was the first race after the boat's water win at St. Andrews in April. At Occoquan, in a field of six boats, T.C. Williams had a time of



The men's 2v four

5:43.70, topping Wakefield with 5:47.60 and Langley at 5:50.57.

The men's novice eight team won a bronze in a field of six boats. T.C. Williams had a time of 5:34.57, behind Wakefield, which had a time of 5:20.90, and Robinson, with a time of 5:34.34, as did the women's 4th eight. The women's 4th eight boat, with a time of 7:25.33, was third after Woodbridge, with a time of 7:03.60 and Washington-Lee, with a time of 7:07.29.

The women's frosh eight came in fourth by a hairsbreadth, less than one second behind Lake Braddock. The T.C. Williams frosh eight had a time of 5:56.52, compared with Lake Braddock's 5:55.90.

Local Residents Compete in Westfields Triathlon

The sixth annual Westfields Triathlon took place on April 28 at the Cub Run RECenter in Chantilly. The event was hosted by the Westfields Business Owners Association and put on by Revolution3 Triathlon. The sprint distances included a 250 yard pool swim, a 12 mile bike ride, and a 3.1 mile run. There were also two shorter "Splash & Dash" swimming and running distances for children. This year's race beneficiaries are Girls on the Run of Northern Virginia, Second Story Youth Services and Safe Shelter, and 911 Promise Run.



Hope Nelson from Alexandria finishes up the bike leg. Matias Palavecino #81.



Top overall male and female finishers were both from Alexandria: Hannah Preston #232 and



Thomas Eppolito finishes with a time of 1:20:30.

PEOPLE

CRWC

From Page 6

criticized celebrity journalism and its negative impact on the objective, factual reporting that citizens need.

McDevitt spoke of journalism as a calling and of the industry's moral responsibility to readers and to the nation as a whole.

The event was attended by many former local Republican officials and candidates, as well as Michael Clinkscale, the only announced GOP candidate for Virginia's House of Delegates, District 45. Former officials in attendance included Frank Fannon and Bill Cleveland. Former candidates included Thomas Oh, Micah Edmond, Monique Miles, and Sean Lenehan. Lenahan now serves as the chairman of the Alexandria Republican City Committee (ARCC).

CRWC is the Alexandria chapter of both the Virginia and the National Federation of Republican Women (VFRW and NFRW). CRWC encourages local conservative women of all ages to become more politically involved by helping support and elect Republican candidates to public office at the local, state, and national levels. The club also has a conservative book club and organizes activities to support charitable organizations. More information is available at www.alexandriacrwc.org. ARCC (at www.alexgop.org) is the Alexandria chapter of the national Republican Party.



ASSIFIED TO ADVERTISE IN THIS PAPER, CALL BY MONDAY 11:00 AM 703-778-9411 Obituary Obituary Employment Announcements MULLEN **Forget Daily** We pay top \$ for STERLING, William Earl Mullen, age 87, of Alexandria, Virginia, passed away Friday, April 19, 2019. He MEN'S WATCHES, was a graduate of Sharon High School in Sharon, PA, Westminster College in New Wilmington, PA and earned a Master's degree from Penn State University. He served in the United States Commuting JEWELRY, COSTUME JEWELRY, Army prior to working as an audiologist with the state of Rhode Island, Children's Hospital and Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C. and then began a successful career as partner Print and digital media FURNITURE, PAINTINGS AND CLOCKS. sales consultant for area's in Hubbard-Dale Real Estate in Alexandria. Bill was philanthropist, collector of fine art, animal welfare advocate, a connoisseur of fine dining and international travel. He is survived by his nephew, Lawrence "Larry" Horsman and niece, Janet Leigh Horsman of West Middlesex, PA; special friend, Jim Pequet and his beloved companion Hunter. Funeral service will be 11 a.m. Ended the do contained by the service of the distribution of the service will be 11 a.m. Ended the do contained by the service of the distribution of the service will be 11 a.m. Ended the do contained by the service of the serv Schefer Antiques most popular and trusted 703-241-0790 local news source theschefers@cox.net Manage your own hours from home Friday, May 10, 2019 at the Everly-Wheatley Funeral Home, 1500 W. Braddock Rd., Alexandria VA 22302. Private Interment will be at Ivy Hill Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please consider a Enjoy flexible schedule contribution to the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, 4101 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria, VA 22304, www.alexandriaanimals.org or to the American Lung Association at www.lung.org plus no daily commute Help local businesses grow Find us on Facebook Online tributes may be offered at www.everlywheatley.com Unique opportunity to be a and become a fan! voice in your community www.Facebook.com/ Competitive compensation Obituary Obituary connectionnewspapers **Call Jerry Vernon** CONNECTION 703-549-0004 Vassill "Bill" Anthony, 68, passed away on Sunday, Newspapers & Online The Disnection to Your Community ction Newspapers & Digital Media April 28, 2019 at his home in Mathews, VA. He was born Trusted Connection to Local Communities ww.connectionnewspapers.com on January 1, 1951 in Cyprus, came to the U.S. at the age of 2 and became an American citizen in 1958. He was a 1968 graduate from George Washington High School. He owned and operated Anthony's Texaco (Anthony's Auto Center) in Alexandria, VA. He took over the business from his father and lived and worked in Alexandria for over 40 years. He had a passion for speed from his first 1959 corvette he bought as a teen, to his last a 1997 he bought at the age of 45. He had many hot rods and boats in between. He was predeceased by his parents Anthony and Myrianthi Anthony and his loving wife of 45 years Christine M. Anthony, who passed away 6 days before. He is survived by his 2 children his son J. Matthew Anthony (Susan); his daughter Katina Anthony Porter (Douglas); and his granddaughter Elisabeth Eve Porter. A Funeral Service was held on Friday, May 3, 2019 at 1:00pm at Saumsville Christian Church in Maurertown, VA. Interment followed in the Church Cemetery. Faulkner Funeral Home, Foster-Faulkner Chapel, Mathews, VA assisted the family with the arrangements. Announcements Announcements Spectacular Seaside Lots \$29,900 - \$79,900 Build the home of your dreams! 1 to 2 acre lots in an exclusive development on the seaside (high and dry on the mainland) on Virginia's Eastern Shore, 42 miles south of Ocean City. Adjoins NASA and faces Chincoteague and Assateague Island National Seashore, world famous for it's fabulous beaches and wild ponies. The property features a private entrance, paved roads, underground utilities, dock and community pool. Great climate, low taxes, boating, fishing, restaurants and wide sandy beaches just miles away. Both waterview and waterfront lots available priced at \$29,900 to \$79,900. Financing available with discounts for cash and multiple lot purchases. Tel (757) 824-6289 see our website: oldemillpointe.com

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Remembrance

From Page 1

Wilson presented a proclamation commemorating the Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust to Rabbi Steven Rein of Agudas Achim Congregation before he and members of City Council participated in the lighting of a candelabrum.

The candelabrum used in the ceremony was donated to the citv by the late Charlene Schiff and her husband Ed Schiff. Charlene Schiff was the sole survivor of the Holocaust in her family and the candelabrum was donated in memory of her parents and sister, as well as the six million Jews and five million others who perished in the Holocaust.

The Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust was designated by Congress in 1980. In 1988, then-mayor Jim Moran initiated the city's Ceremony of Remembrance.

For more information on the Holocaust, visit www.ushmm.org.

The Weak Before

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Hardly am I Robert Johnson, but every time I'm about to be "CT-scanned," I feel like I'm at a crossroads.

And though I've never made a deal with the devil for good scan results (at least results with which I can live), I have to admit to making a momentary prayer of sorts when I see an email from my oncologist. An email that, given its arrival in my inbox, five days or so after my scan, is generally the one containing the results of the previous week's scan.

So, I take a deep breath and then exhale as I prepare to click until I see his words. More often than not, almost every time, in fact, his words: "CT scan looked good," as an example, have been encouraging. Although, as with many things, past results don't guarantee future performance – or a reasonable facsimile thereof.

Each good scan result (stable, shrinkage) does not portend another good result in the future. The results, both good or bad quite frankly, are kind of a limited offer. If it's good, it means your treatment is likely quo. If it's bad, it probably means things your treatment is about to change.

Whatever treatment protocol you start or stop or continue is only good, bad or indifferent until your next scan (when the rubber hits the road, so to speak). Which for me, according to my current bi-weekly immunotherapy infusion schedule, is every two months. So next week, the hammer comes down or rather the slide (the thing you lay on) comes out of the CT scanner and in and out I go.

Typically (meaning during my previous 10 years of chemotherapy), I have been mostly symptom free – other than the symptoms/side effects of the treatment itself, not from the underlying cancer cause. I have rarely felt anything and I certainly haven't/didn't/couldn't see anything.

It's/I'm different now.

Now I can see and feel something, that something, located under my Adam's apple is what precipitated the change from chemotherapy/alimta to my current immunotherapy/opdivo. The tumors in my lungs (mediastinum), which is where this whole mess began, remain stable. However, the appearance of the "Adam's apple" tumor changed my reason for living.

And my new life, or rather my new cancer life, has been tightened/shortened up. Now my infusions are every two weeks, instead of the most recent seven-week intervals (with alimta) and my CT scans which had occurred every 12 weeks are now only eight weeks apart.

All of which means I am constantly in the throws of some kind of cancer anxiety ("labbing," infusing, scanning, meeting with my oncologist).

Not that after 10 years, I am unaccustomed to this sort of "cancer-centricity," it's more that its crushing regularity is a constant reminder of my mortality.

And not that I'm "woeing" is me, hardly. I'm lucky to be alive. You all know I know that.

It's more the recurrence of "scanxiety" (not my word, although I thought it was when I first used it), the anxiety one feels waiting for the life and death scan results, especially so if the results come more frequently than previously. And believe me, that extra month is well worth not having to wait.

So the news of my possible negative (not good) scan results hopefully will be exaggerated, along with my demise. And in that exaggeration perhaps I can find some solace and humor.

'Solace' in that it turns out: what's all the fuss? Humor, in that "It's better to look good than to feel good, and you know you are, darlings," as when Billy Crystal invoked his inner Fernando Lamas in his famous bit from his 1985 year on Saturday Night Live! In summary, it's nothing until it's something, and even if it's something, it might not be anything.

This sort of confusing mental gymnastics is what occurs before, during and after these diagnostic scans. And until you hear back from your oncologist, you really don't know whether you're coming or going, or whether it's too little, too late.

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



News Testing

From Page 1

Traditional state-mandated "Standards of Learning" — SOL, for short — testing isn't going away, but it's "dialing back," Pyle added. Elementary and middle school students will take the same number of SOL tests. But high school students will take fewer. High school students will now take a minimum of five SOL tests throughout their high school careers — one each in the core subject areas of reading, writing, math, science and history/social science. That's down from the old requirement of nine two in each core subject, plus a student selected test - to qualify for Virginia's Advanced Studies Diploma, and from six for the less rigorous Standard Diploma.

In practice, the reduction could be more substantial.

SOL assessments associated with any number of courses in a given subject might satisfy the standardized exam requirement for that subject. For example, passing the SOL test in any of three courses - earth science, biology or chemistry - would satisfy the state's science requirement for a Standard Diploma. But under the system that's phasing out, taking any of those courses triggers the requirement to take the corresponding end-of-course standardized SOL exam. A student who really likes science and takes all three courses would have to take all three associated SOL exams, even though doing so exceeds the graduation requirement.

Whereas under the system that's phasing in, students only need to take and pass one standardized test per core subject area. Taking additional classes, even if they have associated end-of-course SOL tests, won't trigger the need to take additional standardized assessments. The science lover would only have to take and pass one science SOL, not three. The history and social science lover would only have to take and pass one qualifying course's SOL, not four. And so on.

These changes only apply to students in the class of 2022. Students in the classes of 2019-2021 will remain subject to the old system's more multiplicative testing requirements.

Hutchings' administration cautions that, when the state releases the next batch of test results, T.C. Williams High School might see lowered test scores. Part of the reason is that serial test-passers would no longer remain in the statistical pool to mask serial test-failers. The administration also cautions that, because of the policy changes, testing results for the 2018-2019 school year cannot be compared apples-to-apples to results from 2017-2018. To illuminate and track "achievement gaps" — sometimes also called "opportunity gaps" - between demographic student subgroups, the school division relies on SOL performance results, SAT scores and on-time graduation rates. Asked if the new reduced testing requirements might affect tracking achievement/ opportunity gaps, the administration said other measures — including PSAT, SAT and Advanced Placement test scores - also serve to track student progress.

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