

# Alexandria Gazette Packet



25 CENTS

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MAY 30, 2019



PHOTO BY SUSIE ARAMONY

## 'The Ultimate Price for the Freedoms That We Enjoy Today'

Headstones at Alexandria National Cemetery are adorned with flags prior to the May 27 Memorial Day ceremony. See story, more photos, page 4.



PHOTO BY JOHN BORDNER/GAZETTE PACKET

Capt. Eugene "Red" McDaniel (ret), a decorated Vietnam veteran and former POW, addresses the crowd May 27 at the Alexandria National Cemetery Memorial Day ceremony.

## School Budget: Final Adjustments

School division evaluates funding for full school custodian retention and restorative practices.

BY BRIDGETTE ADU-WADIER  
AND DAN BRENDEN  
GAZETTE PACKET

Approaching the end of its annual budget cycle, the School Board voted on 11 proposed additions and deletions to tweak its FY 2020 budget, including retention of eight school custodians facing outsourcing and addition of a full-time restorative practices coordinator.

### PARTIAL CUSTODIAN RETENTION

Earlier in May, after pushback against his plan to accelerate the outsourcing of 30 school custodians, Superintendent Gregory Hutchings recommended adding \$1.8 million back into the budget in order to retain 20. The schools would still privatize the remaining 10 positions, currently occupied by school employees with less than five years of full-time experience.

In 2007 the School Board decided to outsource through natural attrition (voluntary jobs changes), but hasn't stuck to the plan. The division outsourced custodial services for some schools but not others, and subsequently hired new custodians onto the

schools' payroll.

School Board member Michelle Rief proposed an additional \$320,000 to retain the remaining custodians with less than five years. She proposed offsetting the cost by reducing increases — which she distinguished from "cuts" — in other areas. For example, she'd trim human resources salaries and technology services budget.

Custodian James Smith spoke during the School Board meeting on May 23: "When I started working, I was promised that I would be able to start working full time after one year. That has turned into nine years. I am now four years in as a full-time employee."

Rief said: "We made the mistake of hiring these workers we weren't supposed to. We were supposed to have an attrition plan in place. ... It was a failure on our part, and we're asking these workers ... to pay the price for that mistake. I think that that's unfair. ... I think that making a choice like this harms our reputation as an employer." As the city's largest

employer, "we [the school division] can set a bar for how workers should be treated."

She added: "We can tell ourselves this story that these contracting companies have some magic for

SEE ALEXANDRIA SCHOOLS, PAGE 14

**"Is this a reflection of our values ... ? We're proud to live in a city that prides itself on being inclusive."**

— School Board member Michelle Rief

## A Titanic Legacy

### Remembering Coach Bill Yoast

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

Bill Yoast, a longtime Alexandria teacher and one of the legendary high school football coaches who inspired the Disney film "Remember the Titans," died May 23 at an assisted living facility in Springfield. He was 94 years old.

"Coach Bill Yoast was one of the most influential men in my life," said Bob Stumpf, a 1970 graduate of Hammond High School. "I had the privilege to play on his varsity football team for two years including our Northern Virginia champion-



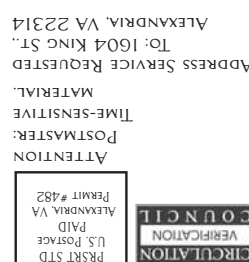
Yoast

ship season of 1969. With the exception of our all-state quarterback, John O'Connor, we were a

rather small team without much talent. Yet Coach Yoast had us performing at a level we never dreamed capable of."

William Yoast was born Nov. 16, 1924, and raised in Florence, Ala. After attending Coffee High School, he spent three years in the Air Force and went

SEE REMEMBERING, PAGE 6





**Janet Caterson Price, Realtor®** just closed on the highest priced single family home in Alexandria & Arlington since 2016.

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Members of the United States Military Academy class of 1959 salute after placing a wreath at the statue of classmate Humbert "Rocky" Versace during the Memorial Day Ceremony May 27 at the Captain Rocky Versace Plaza and Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Del Ray.



PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

Former vice mayor Bill Cleveland joins Rolling Thunder New York Chapter 6 members Lisa and Wayne Cohen at the Memorial Day ceremony May 27 in Del Ray.

# Remembering the Fallen Honoring the sacrifice of local veterans.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**F**amily and friends gathered May 27 at the Captain Rocky Versace Plaza and Vietnam Veterans Memorial to pay tribute and honor the service of Alexandria's fallen Vietnam veterans on Memorial Day.

Each of the 68 names of Alexandria's fallen or missing in action Vietnam veterans was read aloud as part of the ceremony. West Point class of 1959 classmates of Humbert "Rocky" Versace placed a wreath at the statue of Versace, who was captured in 1963 less than two weeks before the end of his second tour of duty.

Versace was reported killed by his captors in 1965 and posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroics during his captivity. His remains have never been found.

Surviving family members of Alexandria's fallen in attendance included Bette Spengler Meuleners, whose husband Henry Spengler was taken captive in Vietnam in 1972 while she was pregnant with their daughter Melissa, who was also in attendance.

Susan Harvey, sister of 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Lawrence Lilly, read aloud the name of her brother as part of the ceremony. Lilly's name was recently chiseled in the granite memorial, marking the 68<sup>th</sup> name to be added to the list of Alexandria's fallen from Vietnam.

After reading a history of the Rocky Versace Plaza, former City Councilman David Speck was visibly moved when presented a certificate of appreciation for his support in establishing Alexandria's Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Also participating in the ceremony was the Saint Rita's American Heritage Girls Troop 1381, who led the crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance, and Miss Northern Virginia Abigail Farley, who sang the National Anthem and God



Susan Harvey reads the name of her brother, 1st Lieutenant Lawrence E Lilly, who was reported missing in action in 1971, during the May 27 Memorial Day ceremony in Del Ray. His is the 68th name engraved at the Rocky Versace Plaza honoring Alexandria's fallen Vietnam Veterans. With her is David Jackson, vice president of Special Forces Association Chapter 11.

Bless America.

Mike Faber, representative of the nonprofit Friends of Rocky Versace organization, presented Jim Spengler, director of Parks, Recre-

ation and Cultural Activities and brother to Henry Spengler, a ceremonial check for \$16,715.44 representing the cost of maintenance

and repairs to the plaza.

For more information on fallen Vietnam veterans, visit [www.vvmf.org/Wall-of-Faces](http://www.vvmf.org/Wall-of-Faces).



Bette Spengler Meuleners stands behind her deceased husband's name, Alexandrian Henry M. Spengler, with sister-in-law Pat Spengler, brother-in-law Jim Spengler and daughter Melissa Spengler-Hendrickson at the May 27 Memorial Day ceremony in Del Ray. Bette was pregnant with Melissa when her HENRY M SPENGLER husband was taken captive in Vietnam.



Former City Councilman David Speck, left, is presented a certificate of appreciation May 27 by Friends of Rocky Versace representative Mike Faber for his efforts and support of the plaza in Del Ray honoring Alexandria's fallen Vietnam veterans.



George Washington High School alumni and childhood friends of Rocky Versace Duff Sprague, Frank Scaffido and Mike Faber attend the May 27 Memorial Day ceremony at the Captain Rocky Versace Plaza in Del Ray.



Friends of Rocky Versace representative Mike Faber, right, presents a check to Jim Spengler, director of Parks and Recreation, to cover costs of maintenance and repairs of the Captain Rocky Versace Plaza in Del Ray.

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PHOTO BY JOHN BORDNER/GAZETTE PACKET

Attendees recite the Pledge of Allegiance to open the Memorial Day ceremony May 27 at Alexandria National Cemetery.

## Reflecting on Sacrifice

**"Hanoi Hilton" POW  
speaks at Memorial Day  
ceremony.**

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

Captain Eugene "Red" McDaniel, a decorated Vietnam War veteran who spent six years in captivity as a POW at the infamous "Hanoi Hilton" prison, was the featured speaker May 27 at the Alexandria National Cemetery Memorial Day ceremony.

McDaniel, recently named a Living Legend of Alexandria, memorialized "the sacrifice of the hundreds of thousands of men and women who have paid the ultimate price for the freedoms that we enjoy today" in his remarks.

"It's a moving experience to be here in our nation's oldest National Cemetery," McDaniel said. McDaniel was shot down on May 19, 1967, while on his 81<sup>st</sup> mission in an A-6A Intruder aircraft. His bombardier-navigator, Lieutenant James Kelly Patterson, is still missing in action.

Following the ceremony, a reception was held at American Legion Post 24, where McDaniel met with

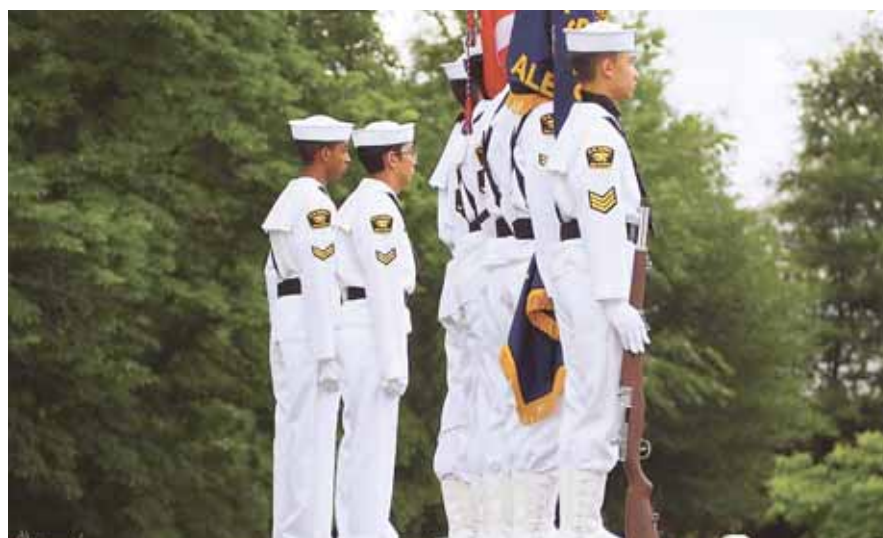


PHOTOS BY SUSIE ARAMONY

**Capt. Eugene McDaniel, left, greets World War II veteran Col. Kim Ching during the May 27 Memorial Day ceremony at Alexandria National Cemetery.**

other veterans and signed copies of his book, "Scars and Stripes."

"I had 2,118 days to think about the freedoms of this nation," McDaniel said. "We have the greatest country in the world and enjoy the greatest freedoms of any nation. But if we don't guard it carefully it will slip away and we will lose it."



**Members of the Navy Honor Guard prepare to present the colors at the Memorial Day ceremony at Alexandria National Cemetery.**

# Lyles-Crouch Celebrates Memorial Day

Students welcome Post 24 veterans.

By JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

The third-grade class of Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy presented a Memorial Day program May 24 that honored the sacrifice of veterans, recognized principal Dr. Patricia Zissios and kindergarten teacher Wanda Allen, and welcomed World War II veteran Col. Kim Ching as a special guest.

Under the direction of music teacher Dawn Seto, the program featured a selection of patriotic songs and readings of poems by the students. Commander Doug Gurka of American Legion Post 24 presented Zissios and Allen with certificates of appreciation for their efforts in promoting patriotism and recognizing the sacrifices of veterans.

"It's important that we understand, celebrate and remember the sacrifices made by our veterans," said Dr. Patricia Zissios during the program.

"If we don't teach our children about these sacrifices, we don't deserve the freedoms we now enjoy."

Gurka thanked Zissios and Allen for their



**Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy kindergarten teacher Wanda Allen and principal Dr. Patricia Zissios, center, stand with members of American Legion Post 24 after being honored for their efforts to promote patriotism at the school's May 24 Memorial Day program. With Allen and Zissios are Henry Dorton, Post 24 Commander Doug Gurka, WWII veteran Col. Kim Ching and Jim Glassman.**

continued support of special programs marking Veterans Day, Memorial Day and Flag Day.

"The American Legion defines American-

ism, in part, as loyal patriotism, religious tolerance, righteous freedom, fearless courage, honest integrity and a love for the principles that let our forefathers to found this



**Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy third graders Olof Hunnis and Carson Bishop hold the U.S. and state flags as students recite the Pledge of Allegiance during a May 24 Memorial Day program.**

country," Gurka said in presenting the awards. "One of the most important goals we have is to pass these ideals on to our children."

PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET



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# Remembering Coach Yoast

FROM PAGE 1

on to attend Georgia Military College and then graduated from Mercer University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in physical education. He received his masters and EDS degrees from Peabody College in Tennessee.

Yoast excelled in sports and followed his love for athletics into teaching school and coaching football, basketball, baseball and track. Many of his teams had championship seasons with Yoast being named Coach of the Year in both Georgia and Virginia.

Unlike the more verbose character played by actor Will Patton on the big screen, Yoast was a quiet man with a humble demeanor.

"I never heard my father raise his voice," said Yoast's daughter Dee Dee Fox. "That was some accomplishment considering all the hours he spent teaching us all how to drive."

Yoast moved his family to Springfield in 1960 from Roswell, Ga., where he taught and coached at Roswell High School. He was a teacher and coach at Hammond High School from 1960-1970, winning the Virginia AAA Regional Championship with his 1969 Hammond Admirals. He then moved to T.C. Williams to serve as Defensive Coordinator/Assistant Coach to Herman Boone. Yoast also coached track and field, taught PE. and Driver's Education at T.C. Williams until he retired from teaching in 1990. He continued coaching football until 1996 when his daughter, Sheryl Yoast Matthews, died.

"A father should not have to bury his daughter," Fox said. "Sheryl's death slowed him down quite a bit."

Yoast retired to Bethany Beach, Del., where he spent much of his time pond fishing. He continued to stay active and lift weights well into his 80s.

"Dad loved to fish and taught all of his grandchildren the art of patience and being still through fishing on the pond," Fox said.

With the 2000 release of "Remember the Titans," the story of the relationship be-



**Bill Yoast with daughter Bonnie Yoast Jeffries. Jeffries, along with her sister Sheryl, predeceased her father.**

tween Yoast and Herman Boone as they coached the 1971 T.C. football team to the Virginia State Championship, Yoast rode the wave.

"The release of the movie gave Dad a new lease on life," Fox said. "Suddenly a man who never traveled was traveling and speaking throughout the country, co-authoring a book, doing community service events and hopefully inspiring future generations."

Circuit Court Judge James Clark never played for Yoast but formed a friendship that lasted more than 50 years.

"Coach Yoast was one of those rare human beings who truly cared more about others than he cared about himself," Clark said. "Although he was a great coach, and before that a great athlete, he maintained a genuine humility and was comfortable enough with himself that he could take great pleasure in the accomplishments of others."

In 2014, Yoast returned to Northern Virginia to live with his daughter, Angie Yoast Garrison, and his son-in-law, Rick Garrison. In the fall of 2018, Yoast moved into Aarondale Assisted Living in Springfield. While there, he was visited often by former players, coaches and family.

"One memory I will never forget is being



**Coach Bill Yoast, seated at left, is shown with Coach Herman Boone, center back, and players from the 1971 TC Titans football team at the 50th anniversary of T.C. Williams High School in 2015.**



**Betty Yoast, Jordan Fox, Grayson Matthews and Bill Yoast at the 2008 Army All-American Bowl.**

at the beach with my family shortly after 'Remember the Titans' came out," Clark added. "By utter coincidence we ran into him and he agreed to have lunch with my kids, who loved the movie. One of them asked if the team really ran to the Gettysburg battlefield and if coach Boone really gave the inspirational speech that was in the movie. Coach just smiled and said 'Well we actually took a bus to the battlefield and the bus driver gave that speech over a loudspeaker in the bus.' Coach never



**Bill Yoast with three of his five daughters: Angie, Sheryl and Dee Dee.**

liked anyone taking too much credit — especially for something that didn't exactly happen."

Yoast was the father of five girls, a grandfather and great-grandfather. He is survived by Betty Yoast, mother of three of his five daughters; daughters Susan Gail Greeson, Angie Yoast Garrison and Dee Dee Yoast Fox. He was preceded in death by daughters Sheryl Yoast Matthews and Bonnie Yoast

SEE REMEMBERING, PAGE 21

## Boyle Named President of Burke & Herbert Bank

**D**avid P. Boyle will join Burke & Herbert Bank, the oldest bank in the Commonwealth of Virginia, as its new president and chief operating officer, effective June 3. W. Scott McSween, who holds this position currently, will become the bank's chief executive officer and serve in this role until year-end, at which time he will retire from the bank. Boyle will be named chief executive officer at the beginning of 2020.

E. Hunt Burke will remain as the bank's chairman of the board, overseeing the board of directors and representing the



**Boyle**

bank in the community.

"We are delighted to welcome David Boyle to the Burke & Herbert Bank family," said Burke. "A proven financial leader with community banking experience, David will play a critical role in ensuring Burke & Herbert Bank continues to grow and thrive for many years to come."

"Moreover, David has an appreciation for the long, storied history of our bank and the unique and important role that we play in the local community. We are excited to have him on board," Burke added.

Boyle brings more than 30 years of banking and financial services management experience to Burke & Herbert Bank. For the past nearly seven years, he served as executive vice president and chief financial officer at Orrstown Bank, a \$2-billion com-

munity bank headquartered in Shippensburg, Pa. Prior to this role, he served as the chief performance officer at PNC Financial Services in Pittsburgh, Pa.; president and chief executive officer at the affiliate of National City Bank, headquartered in Cleveland, that served Michigan and Northwest Ohio; and chairman, president, and chief executive officer at Wayne Bancorp, Inc. in Wooster, Ohio.

"I am excited to join Burke & Herbert Bank and honored to have been selected to lead the Bank forward into the next decade," said Boyle. "It is clear Burke & Herbert Bank holds a special place in the local northern Virginia community and has a strong focus on serving customers, which has been key to the bank's success. I look forward to leading this next chapter for the

Bank and driving additional growth, working closely with the Burke & Herbert Bank team," he added. Burke & Herbert Bank was founded in 1852 by John Woolfolk Burke and Arthur Herbert. Hunt

Burke is the great, great grandson of one of the bank's founding partners and represents the fifth generation of the Burke family in a leadership role at the bank. Hunt Burke, who assumed the role of chairman in 2010, and Scott McSween, who joined the bank as president and chief operating officer in 2009, have led the nearly 167-year old bank for the past decade. During this time, the bank's base of primary checking accounts more than doubled, deposits grew by more than 30 percent, and assets increased from \$2 billion to \$3 billion.

# Out with Old, In with New

BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**F**our Alexandria Recreation and Parks workers lower a picnic table from their work truck to the path leading into Monticello Park on Wednesday, May 22. This new picnic bench will replace a crumbling bench currently sitting by the stream in the front of the park.

This new bench was funded by the \$10,000 matching partnership grant received by Alexandria Country Day School (ACDS) for community organizations that want to make improvements in city parks.

The grant also includes replacement of the park bench located near the picnic table as well as the creation of a new interpretative sign that has been created by the ACDS students and will be placed near the bridge at the front of the park. Monticello Park is a small park located on Beverly Street close to the school. With its tree canopy and stream wandering through the park, it offers an oasis to mi-



PHOTO BY SHIRLEY RUHE/GAZETTE PACKET

**Recreation and Parks workers unload a new picnic table at Monticello Park.**

grating warblers in the spring as well as a habitat for resident birds. ACDS students have been studying the plants and birds in the park as part of their curriculum and using the park as their own outdoor laboratory. The sign will reflect their bird research and include original student art.

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# Senate Minority Leader Faces Two Primary Challengers

Saslaw hasn't had a primary challenge since the 1970s; now he has two.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**T**he last time Senate Minority Leader Dick Saslaw had a primary opponent, Jimmy Carter was in the White House and the Bee Gees were at the top of the charts. Ever since then, Saslaw has avoided any primary opposition in a district that is one of the most solidly Democratic seats in the commonwealth. In that time, he's earned a reputation as a tough-as-nails lawmaker who is liberal on social issues but business friendly. Campaign-finance records show he's taken about \$350,000 from utility monopoly Dominion since 1996, when the Virginia Public Access Project started compiling records. When asked about his campaign-finance disclosures, Saslaw turns the question around.

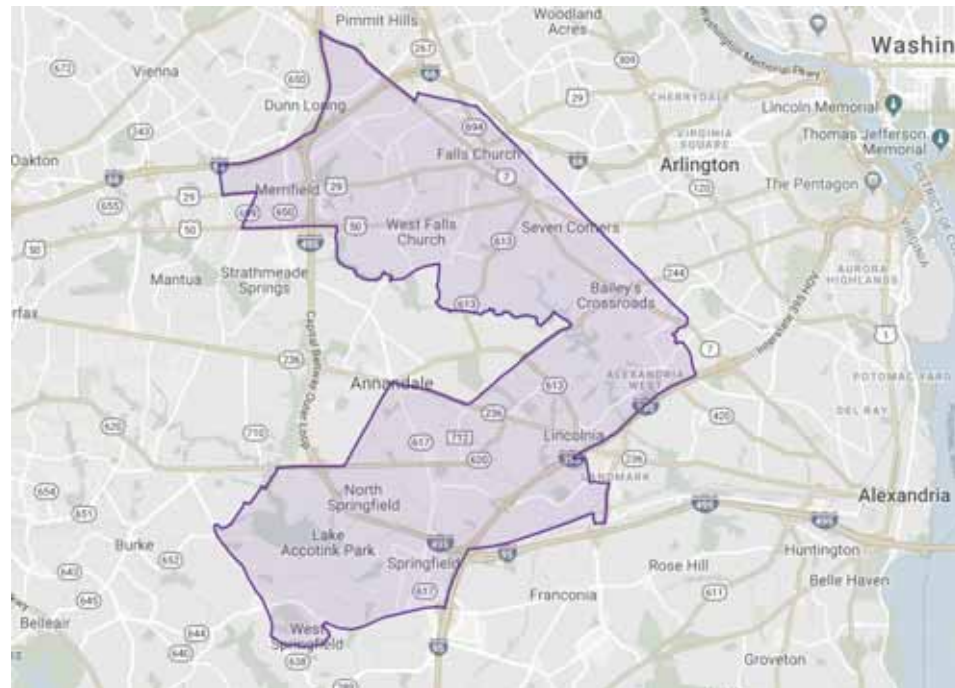
"Do you really think anybody owns me given my financial situation?" asks Saslaw. "Do you know why I get this money? Because I'm the party leader. I'm the person who's supposed to raise money for the caucus, OK? Do you really think that influences my vote?"

This year, for the first time since 1979, Saslaw has primary opposition. Not just one opponent, but two. The minority leader has long attracted opposition from the liberal wing of the Democratic Party. This year, though, though, Democrats believe they are on the verge of seizing the majority. That creates a sense of momentum for Saslaw, who would become majority leader. But it's also created a kind of energy for the liberal wing of the party that opposes Saslaw's business-friendly approach.

"If somebody like Dick Saslaw is facing one challenger then the anti-Saslaw vote will organize around that one challenger," said Quentin Kidd, a political science professor at Christopher Newport University. "When you get more than one — in this case two — it increases the odds of Saslaw winning that primary. And I think the odds are in his favor anyway."

**YASMINE TAEB**, 39, is a native of Tehran, Iran. Her family came to America in 1987. She has a bachelor of arts in political science from the University of Florida. She has a juris doctorate from Penn State. As a lawyer, she works in legislative affairs and calls herself a "peace lobbyist." Until recently, she was senior policy counsel for the Washington-based Center for Victims of Torture, where she led advocacy for refugees and asylum seekers. She resigned that position to focus full time on the campaign. She is a member of the Democratic Socialists, although she prefers to call herself a progressive Democrat — a worldview she says supports getting corporate money out of politics and increasing access to healthcare and housing while "fighting for working families."

"Our district is the most liberal Democratic district in Virginia and yet it's repre-



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**The 35th Senate District stretches from Springfield into West End of Alexandria through Bailey's Crossroads and Seven Corners into Falls Church and Merrifield. It's one of the bluest Senate districts in Virginia.**



**Dick Saslaw**



**Yasmine Taeb**



**Karen Torrent**

sented by one of the most conservative Democrats in the General Assembly," says Taeb. "I'm running because our voters deserve to have a representative who will fight for working families and defend Northern Virginia's diversity, and our voters deserve to have someone representing them who is more aligned with their values."

If elected, she says, she would repeal Virginia's right to work law that limits the power of unions. She says she would also work to outlaw corporate contributions to political campaigns. And she says she would pursue abolishing the death penalty in Virginia. Ultimately, she says, she would be free of the kind of influence she believes corporate donors have on Saslaw — a theme that she weaves into almost every position she takes on the campaign trail.

"I am going to be prioritizing human rights issues and making sure that I'm fighting for the most vulnerable in our communities and making sure that our voters know that they take priority over corporate interests," says Taeb. "I'll do everything I can to ensure that the political process is made

more fair and more accessible to ordinary Americans."

**KAREN TORRENT**, 60, is a native of Red Bank, N.J. to a Scottish mother and an Argentinian father. Her father was not an American citizen and did not have a green card, so her family had to leave the country for several years. They lived in Argentina and Canada before moving back to the United States, where they settled in Dover, Ohio. She has a bachelor of arts in political science and economics from Baldwin Wallace College in Ohio, where she played tennis. She has a master's of public policy from the University of Michigan and a juris doctorate from the University of Minnesota Law School. Professionally, she's had a number of jobs ranging from a trial attorney with the United States Department of Justice in the Environmental Enforcement Division to staff counsel to the House Energy and Commerce Committee under Chairman John Dingell. She also worked on the 2008 Obama campaign, later becoming a lobbyist for the Environmental Law and Policy

Center and a general counsel for Secure Futures Virginia before opening her own firm, Torrent Energy Consulting.

"We need to put Virginia on a sustainable path to combat the climate risk, and the good news is that we can do that by embracing the clean energy economy," says Torrent. "We have 12 years go get our act together, and I would rather spend the next four years doing that rather than spending them with the status quo of allowing Dominion to do our energy future."

If elected, Torrent says she would work to change how Dominion is regulated, moving away from kilowatt per hour and instead moving toward price performance guarantee.

She also wants the General Assembly to mandate and finance bus rapid transit on Route 7, connecting to the Amazon campus in Crystal City. Ultimately she would like to see a grid modernization docket similar to states like Minnesota, Michigan and Maryland. Essentially that would change the pricing model for Dominion, rewarding energy efficiency instead of kilowatts per hour. She would also like to see the General Assembly create economic incentives for transit-oriented development. She would also like to extend the General Assembly session to 90 days a year rather than the current breakneck speed. When asked about Saslaw, she recalls her experience representing ratepayers before the Supreme Court of Virginia challenging the constitutionality of the rate freeze bill.

"During that oral argument, one of the justices who formerly worked for McGuire Woods representing Dominion turned to me and said, 'Ms. Torrent, the remedy you are seeking is to elect people to the legislature who will not pass rate freeze bills,'" says Torrent. "So here I am."

**SASLAW**, 79, is a native of Washington, D.C. After graduating high school in Chevy Chase, Md., he enlisted in the Army, where he served for two years before receiving an honorable discharge in 1960. He has a bachelor of science in economics from the University of Maryland. He spent a year at the Naval Air Systems Command before moving to the private sector, working for a defense contractor and later selling real estate. In 1980, Saslaw bought his first gas station — a business that eventually expanded to nine gas stations. In 2007, he sold off most of the stations, although he still owns one in Chantilly. He also owns rental property at Braddock Road and Backlick Road.

"As majority leader, I think I could do an awful lot not only for the people of the 35th District but Northern Virginia and the state," says Saslaw. "We can direct more money toward K-12. I think we can finally get some sense to our gun laws. And we need to try to see if we can steer some more money to higher ed."

SEE 35TH SENATE DISTRICT, PAGE 22

## OBITUARY

# Michael J. McMorrow

Michael J. McMorrow, of Arlington, died on May 18, 2019. He was born Nov. 20, 1937, to Michael J. and Alice (McBride) McMorrow in Buffalo, N.Y. and is survived by his wife nee Mary Louise Schenewerk of Rochester, Minn.; his four children — Mary Alice (Charles Ball), Walpole, Mass.; Margaret Ann “Megan” (Barry Reicherter), Arlington; Myles Patrick (Kate Gilchrist), McLean; and Maureen Ellen (John Bett), Arlington; and six grand-children Regan Ball; Brendan, Madeline and Mary Kate Reicherter; Aiden McMorrow; and Colleen Bett.

Michael graduated from Canisius College, Buffalo, N.Y. and St. John’s University School of Law before being admitted to the New York Bar. He served in the General Counsel’s Office of the Maritime Administration for nearly 40 years, heading the Divisions of Administration and Litigation, with service to the Merchant Marine, before retiring in 2002 as Assistant General Counsel/Supervisory Trial Attorney.

Longtime resident of Arlington, his many retirement activities included court-room docent at the U. S. Supreme Court; journalist writing for Northern Virginia’s Connection Newspapers; many projects of Edward Douglass White Council, Knights of Columbus; and enjoying time with his grandchildren.

As a freelance writer and photographer for Connection Newspapers since December 2010, he contributed more than 155 stories and photographs primarily for the Arlington and Alexandria editions. In his introductory letter seeking the opportunity to write, he concluded his list of work experience and education with “father and grandfather.” He had at-



**Freelance journalist Mike McMorrow, left, shows Col. Kevin Rue (ret.) information regarding the death of a Vietnam veteran found in the archives of the Alexandria Gazette last November. McMorrow was instrumental in locating photos of local Vietnam veterans as part of the national Faces of the Fallen project. He died May 18 at the age of 81.**

tached more than 30 story ideas that appealed to his interests in history and government.

There will be a Memorial Mass at St. James Church, Falls Church, 1 p.m., Saturday, June 1, 2019.

Contributions in lieu of flowers may be made to either Bishop Timon High School, 601 McKinley Pkwy., Buffalo, NY 14220, [www.bishoptimon.com/Donate](http://www.bishoptimon.com/Donate); or Honor Flight, Inc., Attn: Meredith Rosenbeck (kofcedw2473), 175 South Tuttle Road, Springfield, OH 45505, [www.honorflight.org/donate-online](http://www.honorflight.org/donate-online).

## Recalling Mike and His Story List

BY EDEN BROWN  
GAZETTE PACKET

Mike McMorrow used to come into the editorial meeting at the Connection News papers building on King Street, into a room that was always too hot in summer and too cold in winter, and sit right under where the ceiling leaked, and pull out his list. He always had a cup of black coffee in one hand, and said he came for the donuts. But he had a running list of stories he wanted someone to tell — whether about housing, or over development, a questionable allocation of finances, or a pick-up basketball league that he found particularly touching, because there were men in their 60s in it. He had his ear to the ground in Arlington, and the wisdom of a man who’d lived here most of his life.

He wouldn’t always write the stories himself: he’d pick who around the table should take the story on. He was looked up to by the new interns and staff, and many of them started writing for the paper because McMorrow was an inspiration to them and would push them gently: “Follow the money,” he’d

say. “Who’s profiting from that?” Or, “Did you write that story yet? What are you waiting for?” Or “Good story. Reminds me of Joseph Mitchell. What? You’ve never heard of Joseph Mitchell?! Go get a copy of “Up in the Old Hotel.” Read the story about McSorley’s Saloon in New York.” He had a soft spot for stories about Hall’s Hill in Arlington, about World War II veterans, and about the old Arlington buildings and their history.

Mike had an Irishman’s sense of humor, intensity, calm, intelligence, and sweetness that made him approachable, fun to spend a moment with, and nobody’s fool.

No one knew how old he was, because he never seemed old. When he started fighting cancer, losing weight and energy, he still came to the weekly meeting, chemo strapped to his belt, his bright blue eyes dancing around the table to see who he could get to take on another story.

We will miss you, Mike. May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind always be at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face, and rains fall soft upon your fields.

*Eden Brown is a freelance writer and photographer.*

PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMAN/CAZETTE PACKET

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**I-395 Shirlington Interchange Improvements Study**  
**Arlington County**  
**City of Alexandria**

**Public Information Meeting**

Wednesday, June 12, 2019  
7 p.m. – 9 p.m.  
Presentation starts at 7:30 p.m.

Drew Model Elementary School  
3500 23rd Street South  
Arlington, VA 22206

**Find out** about a study to improve safety and operations at the I-395 Shirlington interchange, including the ramp from South Glebe Road to southbound I-395, the South Shirlington Road and South Arlington Mill Drive traffic signal, and the four-way stop controlled intersection of Gunston Road and Martha Custis Drive.

**Stop by** between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. to view displays and learn more about the study. VDOT will hold a presentation beginning at 7:30 p.m. Project staff will be available to answer your questions.

**Review** project information at the VDOT project website ([www.virginiadot.org/projects](http://www.virginiadot.org/projects)), at the information meeting, or during business hours at VDOT’s Northern Virginia District Office at 4975 Alliance Drive in Fairfax. Please call ahead at 703-259-2318 or TTY/TDD 711 to ensure appropriate personnel are available to answer your questions.

**Give your written comments** at the meeting, or submit them by **June 24, 2019** to Olivia Daniszewski, EIT, Virginia Department of Transportation, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030, or email [meetingcomments@VDOT.virginia.gov](mailto:meetingcomments@VDOT.virginia.gov). Please reference “I-395 Shirlington Interchange Improvements Study” in the subject line.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact Olivia Daniszewski at 703-259-2318.

State Project: 0395-100-842, P101  
UPC: 107831  
Federal: OC-395-4 (187)

# OPINION

## City Is No Stranger to Strong Storms

BY IAN STERNE  
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS MANAGER  
VOLUNTEER ALEXANDRIA

I had every intention of writing a piece about hurricanes on the eve of the Atlantic Hurricane Season (June 1 - Nov. 30), but I need a pause to talk about what I witnessed on May 23 after a strong thunderstorm ravaged our region once again. Alexandria is no stranger to strong storms. The history of Alexandria is rife with examples of flooding, hurricanes, tornadoes, and — in recent memory — a derecho.

What I saw last week was not a community torn apart by a storm but one brought closer together. I saw neighbors out checking on

neighbors. Strangers stopping to clear downed trees and block off streets with downed power lines. I saw some of the best Alexandrians on display, all from one storm that will soon be forgotten. Seeing all this confirmed what I know about volunteering. It shows that even unplanned spontaneous volunteerism brings a community closer together. A community that is prepared with people ready to step forward to help is a community that can weather any storm.

And storms will be coming. For 2019, it is predicted that there may be 9-15 named storms. We have already seen the first storm of the year (Andrea) form and fade in the Atlantic. Of the 9-15 storms, 4-8 could become hurricanes and of those 2-4 may become major hurricanes (noaa.gov). It will only take one storm to do a great amount of damage to a

community that is not prepared.

I encourage you all to take time now to prepare. Ensure that you have three days of food for you and everyone in your home and don't forget your pets. You should also have at least a gallon of water per person per day. Ensure you have all the medications you will need as well as a backup copy of any prescriptions you are taking. Take the time now to read up on other ways you can prepare yourselves for any storm that may threaten (ready.gov).

If you are in the position to help others, please volunteer. Get out into your communities and get to know your neighbors before a storm brings you together. You can find ways to volunteer in your communities at [www.volunteerallexandria.org](http://www.volunteerallexandria.org).

I may never have been a Boy Scout but I can always be prepared.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Save Car Lanes On Seminary Road

To the Editor:

On May 30, city staff will be bringing their recommendation for the redesign of Seminary Road to a community meeting at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes Upper School. As we await their decision, we want to convey the shared concerns of our civic associations over the city-preferred Alternative 3 proposal, which incorporates a road diet to reduce car travel lanes from four lanes to two lanes, with a center left turn only lane. Why is the city setting up a false choice between safety and traffic flow, as though they are mutually exclusive, and not equally impactful on our quality of life?

As the Clover College Park Civic Association (CCPCA) has written to city staff: "Our residents have expressed concerns that the city is using safety as a reason to propose reducing the number of travel lanes on Seminary, while the city's data shows this stretch of Seminary Road does not have a major safety problem." While Seminary Road is one of Alexandria's busiest arterial roadways, the stretch of road being considered for car lane reductions is actually one of the safest in the city.

Along with CCPCA, the Seminary Hill Association (SHA), the Seminary West Civic Association (SWCA) and the North Ridge Citizens' Association (NRCA) have studied the city's three proposals and concluded that none are satisfactory to a majority of our residents. The reality is, a large number of people in north/central Alexandria cannot walk, ride bikes or reach our daily destinations via our meager public transit system. For many seniors, disabled residents and families with children, these are not workable, practical options.

SHA has presented a reasonable compromise to balance pedestrian safety with mobility in Alternative 4, which calls for narrowing the four car-travel lanes to reduce speed, adding crosswalks at bus stops and Ft. Williams Parkway, increasing speed enforcement and creating an additional buffer between pedestrians and car travel.

To be clear: We all want safe city streets, but Alternative 3 is not the right solution. Citizens



## In Honor of Memorial Day

**Old Glory at Heritage At Old Town: The beauty of the Red, White and Blue. Through the clouds, there's a path like a walkway from a distance.**  
— Activist Geri Baldwin Alexandria

have submitted a petition signed by more than 1,200 city residents in favor of keeping Seminary Road car lanes intact.

We are the people who must live with the consequences of lane reductions, including cut-through traffic on neighborhood streets and more gridlock. City staff should not ignore the majority of residents who will be affected by this effort and are seeking a balanced approach.

Regional bike lobbying groups and national scooter companies should not be able to unfairly influence this process.

We urge city leaders to listen to the voices of our civic associations and maintain Seminary Road with four car travel lanes and reasonable safety improvements. Now is the time for residents to speak up and allow voter voices to be heard. In addition to attending meetings, residents can use the City's Call, Click, Connect online reporting and comment system (703-746-4357) to register their views.

**Clover College Park Civic Association  
Seminary Hill Association  
Seminary West Civic Association  
North Ridge Citizens' Association**

## Too Many Snafus

To the Editor:

I attended the appeal of the recent Board of Architectural Review hearing heard before City Council. The original expectation was that this public hearing would be held on a Saturday in April at the usual time for a Council public hearing. I am unclear as to the reason to postpone. At the beginning of the hearing Mayor Wilson described the need to reschedule as a "snafu." That part was very clear. It was only the first of three related to this matter.

The city government in recent years has endeavored to interact with citizens online, including encouraging them to sign up online to speak at public hearings. However, no one at city hall remembered to reprogram the on-line signup system to allow signing up on Tuesday, when normally Council does not hear public hearing items.

This hearing had the largest public attendance of any I have participated in recent years. Many citizens who had never before spoken at

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## Alexandria Gazette Packet

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# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

a public hearing tried to sign up online and got a message that no public hearing items would be heard on Tuesday, May 14.

Naturally these involved citizens attempting to exercise their rights as Americans were livid, not to say enraged. Luckily some of us who had previously participated in public hearings were able to get the word out that anyone who called the City Clerk's office could sign up by speaking with one of the efficient employees there. We averted what could have been an ugly incident at the public hearing. That was snafu number two.

Finally the mayor's lack of imagination caused snafu number three. The Tuesday legislative meeting is used to honor the outstanding work of the city's volunteers and employees such as the fire chief with ceremonial presentations and to hear reports on important issues such as the coming Metro shutdown. These matters were scheduled well in advance and could not be rescheduled.

The one public hearing did not begin until around 9 p.m. and continued until close to 1 a.m. Mayor Wilson complained about the lateness of the hour several times. As the mayor, he could have set this public hearing for a special night, such as Thursday, May 16. The annual public hearing on spending in the city budget is always held on a Monday night. With just a little imagination on his part, the mayor and Council and all the citizens present for that hearing could have gotten to bed earlier on Tuesday night, on rather earlier on Wednesday morning.

**Katy Cannady**  
Alexandria

## Whose City Is This?

To the Editor:

A disconnect exists between the public and our public servants. I think it's a serious one. Briefly, our public servants are not asking what we want; they're telling us what we're getting. The result: It's not our city; it's theirs. But there is a way to take it back. First, some examples:

❖ Seminary Road. Consider the city's imperious decision to shrink a major thoroughfare serving large neighborhoods. The city – not the many residents served by the street – decided less automobile capacity on Seminary Road was necessary.

Mind you, this is the same city that approved infill housing in neighborhoods served by this street. In other words, the city de-

cided to add more cars to neighborhoods while simultaneously seeking to diminish the capacity of this major street to accommodate them.

❖ Stadium Lights. There has been in effect for a generation a no-stadium-night-lights agreement between the city and certain residents. The agreement enabled the city to displace these residents, all African Americans, to build the stadium. Now, years later, to install stadium night lights, our public servants decided no agreement ever existed.

At a minimum, you would think the city would recognize, for a school struggling to fulfill its education mission, that money enabling an extracurricular activity at night would offend taxpayers and nearby residents alike. You would be wrong. Our rubber stamping City Council now loves night lights, and now the matter is being litigated, and at your expense too.

❖ Potomac Yard Metro has to be the most colossal example of public servant spitting in the eye of citizens it ostensibly serves. Over vigorous objection by citizens, our public servants — whose cheerleader is our current mayor — decided to construct a Metro station atop a federally protected wetlands.

Our public servants never seriously assessed whether more frequent bus service, perhaps by smaller buses, would address the Potomac Yard transportation need. Nor did they seriously consider moving the Metro a few hundred feet so it wouldn't impact fragile wetlands, or an easement belonging to the American people. Had they did so 10 years ago, the Metro would exist, and the easement belonging to all Americans would be intact.

❖ Justice Black Property. This issue makes clear it's pointless to seek redress from our City Council. Ask any of the many who recently sought to preserve unaltered the Justice Black property. They'll tell you it's a waste of time to appeal to our councilors — the very same individuals who recently sought our vote by professing to be good representatives of the public's interest. What they've turned out to be are good rubber stamps for public servants.

❖ Karig. And don't think about using the judicial system to obtain relief from public servants' decisions.

Our public servants will vigorously defend their decisions and, to add insult to injury, will use your money to do so. The Karig matter is a perfect illustration. The city, not the citizens, decided this wooded area did not deserve pro-

tection from mega-mansions.

The list could go on to include overbuilding the waterfront; goofy parking schemes in Old Town; scooters on sidewalks; removing zoning restrictions on building heights; killing sources of tax revenue by operating tax subsidized businesses with which no taxpaying private sector company can compete.

None of these were sought by a majority of residents, especially destroying protected wetlands and

an easement not belonging to the city

If you want to make our public servants responsive to us, the public, then clamor for a new city manager followed by electing council members from wards. At a minimum, the latter step will make those we elect accountable to their communities rather than to a political party caucus.

**Jimm Roberts**  
Alexandria

## Parking Frustrations

To the Editor:

Why is it that prior to one of the big races on a Sunday, parking on Union Street is banned for two consecutive days (Saturday and Sunday), from George's House at Mount Vernon to Old Town. In this case, almost all of the parking spaces on Union Street were

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 15

**WATERMARK CONDOMINIUM**  
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## HISTORY

# Two Unlikely Activists Made History

BY CHAR MCCARGO BAH

**O**ver 20 years ago, two ladies who were concerned about the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Expansion Project impacting their neighborhoods, took an active role on the project. The two were from different neighborhoods and on opposite sides of what they wanted from the developers of the project. Unknown to them at the time, an issue would bring them together in order to fight a bigger battle ahead. Lillie

### THE OTHER ALEXANDRIA

Finklea and Louise Massoud combined their skills in activism that would help them fight to restore the forgotten Freedmen's Cemetery. Those two ladies had more in common than they realized. Both of them were born in Washington, D.C. They were about the same age, and they had a strong will to wage a battle. In the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Expansion Project Plan, it was discovered that a cemetery was located under the gas

station at Washington and Church streets. The two ladies learned about the cemetery in the Washington Post, including the history of the cemetery. This cemetery was close to their neighborhood. They wanted to take an active role in raising awareness to the citizens of Alexandria. Lillie and Louise started a Friends of the Freedmen Cemetery group and, with several other volunteers, they helped to bring a national awareness about the existence of the cemetery.

It was a remarkable success for those two women from different backgrounds to come together and secure a future site for the Freedmen's Cemetery. They made a difference to all those descendants of the cemetery who had no idea that they had ancestors buried there. Through Lillie and Louise's efforts, they solicited help from the former Mayor Bill Euille, City Council members, the developers of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Expansion Project and then Congressman James (Jim) Moran.

Lillie and Louise lobbied the local and Federal authorities for help for the cemetery, and money was



**Lillie Finkle (left) and Louise Massoud at the 2014 Freedmen's Dedication Ceremony.**

set aside to develop the cemetery into a Freedmen's Memorial Cemetery.

The two ladies are now about 80 years old. The Freedmen's Cemetery is now a beautiful memorial park for over 1,700 people who died as a result of wanting their freedom. Things might have been different for the future of this

cemetery if it hadn't been for those two ladies who came together to fight for the cemetery to be recognized, and to be celebrated for its role in history.

During Memorial Day, there were many cars driving down Washington Street and many of those travelers may have looked over and saw a big statue at the

PHOTOS BY STEVEN HALPERSON/  
TISARA PHOTOGRAPHY



**The Alexandria's Freedmen's Cemetery.**

Freedmen's Cemetery, and wondered about its history.

Today, Louise lives in the Shenandoah Mountains of Virginia, and Lillie still lives in Alexandria under the care of her family. Back in 1997, the former Mayor Euille issued a proclamation, declaring the last week of May as a "Week of Remembrance of the Freedmen's Cemetery." We're indebted to Lillie and Louise for their time and effort they spent in making the Freedmen's Cemetery a reality.

Many people would wonder if two individuals can make a difference. Louise and Lillie did not ask that question, they rolled up their sleeves and they accomplished what others did not. They restored a piece of African American history that was unknown to many, and they made the descendants of this cemetery proud for their active role in helping to keep history alive.

For the month of May and throughout the year, I salute the two women for their tireless efforts in making sure we do not forget those who fought for freedom.

*Char McCargo Bah is a published author, freelance writer, independent historian, genealogist and a Living Legend of Alexandria. She maintains two blogs, <http://www.theotheralexandria.com> and <http://www.findingthingsforu.com>.*



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#### WEDNESDAY/JUNE 5

**Solarize Alexandria.** 6:30-7:30 p.m. at City Hall, 301 King St., Sister Cities Conference Room 1101. 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](http://solarizenova.org/solarize-alexandria).

# A Call For Peace

By Nick Soto



HWPL Volunteers outside of the U.S. Capitol Building in Washington, D.C.

**W**ashington, D.C. - Hundreds gathered at U.S. Capitol on Saturday, May 25 to mark the 6th Annual Commemoration of the Declaration of World Peace. The anniversary was marked by a peace walk that began outside the U.S. Capitol, where participants urged heads of state from 193 countries, political leaders, and community leaders to support the Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War, or, the DPCW.

A diverse group of over 500 citizens from the D.C. metropolitan area and representing 21 countries walked for peace in conjunction with 52 other major cities including Boston and Atlanta. Volunteers from the D.C. Heavenly Culture, World Peace and Restoration of Light (HWPL) have also been working in various countries within the Caribbean such as Haiti, Belize, Guyana and Grenada to help host local peace walks in each respective country.



Peace Walks were held in major cities like Busan, South Korea

Many participants wore traditional clothing to display their cultural differences and to convey that many countries, cultures, and ideologies are actively working together to achieve peace through the DPCW. Individuals from countries such as Madagascar, Guatemala, and India held large, colorful peace signs and props, and chanted, "The people, united, will never be divided!"

Sara Fawn, an HWPL volunteer, said she attended the event to ensure she could be part of a movement that is bigger than herself. "That's why we have all come together today to urge our elected officials — the public servants that have been put in position by the people and for the people — to support the DPCW. We all want the same thing."

The DPCW serves as the solution for worldwide peace and conflict resolution, and is a legal framework for spreading the culture of peace on a local, national and international level.



Citizens outside of the U.S. Supreme Court urging the enactment of the DPCW

**"I think our differences are what unite us - it's our strength. There is no religion, no nation that doesn't want peace" says local Woodbridge native, Michael Sarpong.**

The DPCW has already been enacted as a National Declaration in various countries around the world including Antigua, eSwatini, and Seychelles. It is currently being presented to pass as law through the United Nations, and citizens around the world are urging their legislators to support the DPCW on a local and national level.

The group sponsoring the event is the "Heavenly Culture, World Peace and Restoration of Light (HWPL)". The organization was founded in 2013 to build a worldwide network of people dedicated to achieving global peace in communities around the world.

HWPL is a peace NGO associated with the United Nation's Economic and Social Council (UNESCO), as well as the UN Department of Global Communications. Amidst rising global tensions, HWPL is engaging political and community leaders, journalists, and young people draw attention to its cause.

# Rally To Reduce Gun Violence

#WearOrange supporters to gather at Market Square.

BY RIKKI GEORGE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**W**ear Orange events and #WearOrange activities are being planned for National Gun Awareness Day, the first Friday in June. These are coordinated grass-roots efforts by the volunteer-driven, nonpartisan nonprofit Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, which has chapters in every state and the District of Columbia.

Alexandria's local chapter will hold its third annual Wear Orange rally, considered its signature event, at Market Square, 301 King St., on Friday, June 7 at 7 p.m.

"Our Wear Orange rally is about our community coming together, making a resounding statement that gun violence is an epidemic that we know how to solve and that we will solve together," said Carlos A. Gutierrez, community outreach lead for the organization's local chapter in Alexandria.

Orange became the defining color of the gun violence prevention movement after the death of Hadiya Pendleton who was shot and killed in Chicago at the age of 15, one week after performing at President Obama's second inaugural parade in 2013. Her friends asked the public to stand up, speak out and wear orange, Hadiya's favorite color, to raise awareness about gun violence.

Galvanized by that, Alexandria's chapter has been "honoring loved ones lost, raising voices of survivors and communities disproportionately impacted and responding to the call of action to prevent gun violence," Gutierrez said.

Hundreds have supported the Wear Orange rally — not only community activists



Alexandria's Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense chapter holds its third annual Wear Orange rally at Market Square on June 7 at 7 p.m., in an effort to support a future free from gun violence.

but also responsible adult gun holders who back the Second Amendment. Students, businesses, faith leaders, sororities, friends and family are also behind the 2019 effort, including Students Demand Action: Bishop Ireton Chapter, Alfred Street Baptist Church, Christ Church, Del Ray Pizzeria and NOVA Pride, among many others.

"We are advertising the rally and raising the issue in social media," said Jonathan Krall, co-founder of the advocacy group Grassroots Alexandria. "We support Mothers Demand Action for Gun Sense so that they will keep up the effort."

According to Gutierrez, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America have a

track record of federal and state legislative accomplishments, such as the House passing H.R. 1112, a bill closing the "Charleston Loophole" that allows licensed dealers to sell a gun after three business days even though a background check has not been completed. It is called "the Charleston Loophole" since this loophole was responsible for a shooter obtaining a gun in 2015 he used to kill people at a historically black church in Charleston, S.C.

The Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America nonprofit has also secured appropriations for new CDC and NIH funding for gun violence research, and developed a training program called Be SMART focused

on storing firearms appropriately and other simple steps to reduce the number of gun-related deaths, suicides and accidents by youth aged 17 and under because they have access to a firearm.

The work doesn't end there. "Everyday there's another horrible event. Gun shootings," said Janet Murphy, of Grassroots Alexandria. "Rallies are a way to come and support and a way to stand up against gun violence."

For more information on Alexandria's Wear Orange rally at Market Square, go to: <https://act.everytown.org/event/wear-orange-2019/22068/signup/?source=&akid=&zip=>.

## Alexandria Schools' Budget: Final Adjustments

FROM PAGE 1

mula to come in and do this job 'more efficiently' [finger quotes] and save money. But that's just not true. Cleaning buildings is not rocket science. I don't mean to diminish the work of our custodians, because they do an amazing job and I believe that all work has dignity. But we don't need to go outside Alexandria to find expertise to clean our buildings. ... Is this a reflection of our values ... ? We're proud to live in a city that prides itself on being inclusive. We want people who work here to be able to live here and raise a family. We want people to be able to retire with dignity. We wring our hands about income inequality and the lack of affordable housing and the high percentage of our students living in poverty. ... It's in moments like this and decisions like this. ... We need to think beyond just balancing next year's

budget."

Other School Board members expressed satisfaction with the present compromise. Over Rief and School Board member Jacinta Greene's dissent, they decided not to bring Rief's to the final budget vote on June 6.

### BOTTOM-UP 'RESTORATIVE PRACTICES'

School Board member Heather Thornton proposed adding \$155,000 for a middle school restorative practices coordinator. The schools' discipline data showed that minorities and students with disabilities are suspended disproportionately. Though discipline referrals jumped 34 percent year-on-year at the elementary level, they decreased slightly — by three percent — division-wide.

Restorative practices are a framework for maintaining and repairing community relationships when an infraction, such as a

fight, has occurred. They may take the form of "community circles," wherein a teacher guides small group discussion.

School Board members and staff broadly expressed a desire to address the demographic imbalance in suspensions, but also doubt that hiring a Central Office restorative practices coordinator represents the best option.

Hutchings and his staff would prefer a bottom-up model, where liaisons in individual schools would help train teachers in-house.

Hutchings said: "Just putting in a coordinator is not going to solve our problems. We're going to have to get the buy-in from our staff so that we are utilizing the resources that we currently have in place with fidelity. ... It's too much for one person, or two people. So we are going to have to rely on teachers, administrators, support staff to help us with community circles or imple-

mentation of other facets of restorative practices."

School Board member Meagan Alderton said: "We want to jump on these band wagons for a fix, but we don't have the foundation for it. ... Restorative practice should be a layer on top of some very basic things that should be happening in our schools."

She added: "I think it's easy for staff to lean toward more punitive things like suspension because they don't even know with the expectation are. ... Should we be on a restorative practices trajectory at some point? Absolutely. But I continue to caution us to really do it right, and not just do it because it's the things we've heard about or read about."

The School Board decided unanimously not to bring Thornton's proposal to the final budget vote.

# How To Avoid Scams

BY G. CHRISTOPHER  
WRIGHT, JD, CPA

**S**cams — they happen. And, I am guessing that it has happened to you or someone you know. Some times, it's a small hack to your social media account that takes over your address book and sends out spam emails to all your friends and family. In other cases, it's a sophisticated financial fraud scheme. Sometimes, the perpetrator is someone you know: a caretaker, a child, a neighbor.

As a tax attorney, I am well aware of the IRS impersonators. They call you up at odd times of the day and might leave you a message saying that you owe the IRS a lot of money, and that you are going to jail if you don't pay. I have received calls from clients at night, in an absolute panic, about these exact types of calls.

Or, how about the stories we have become all too familiar with. Grandpa keeps sending his money to a company that promised to protect him from identity theft, only to find out months later that Grandpa has sent several payments that now total \$50,000 to a company that does not exist. By the time family members find out, the theft is over. Grandpa, too ashamed to admit he was duped, didn't tell anyone.

But it's not just the elderly who get



## SENIOR LAW DAY 2019

scammed. Oh no. Online dating scams are a common occurrence. Crooks create fake profiles, develop what appears to be real relationships with unsuspecting people, and then convince these people to send them money.

What are we to do about this new form of crime? How do we protect ourselves and our friends and family? What do we do if we find ourselves the victim of a scam? What do we do if our identity is stolen? Is it as simple as dialing 911?

If you want real information and real answers to these questions, then come to this year's Senior Law Day. On Saturday, June 22, from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Senior Services of Alexandria and the Alexandria Bar Association will host the eighth annual Senior Law Day event at T.C. Williams High School Auditorium on 3330 King Street, Alexandria, VA. This free event is open to the public. Christina Kieffer, senior

## Senior Law Day, June 22, offers recommendations.

director, at the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority will be the keynote speaker. There will also be experts from the Alexandria Police, Alexandria Adult Protective Services, local attorneys, Fairfax County's Silver Shield Fraud Prevention Group and more who will discuss how to "Stand Up for Your Community and Avoid Scams." Community resource groups will be on hand to answer any questions. The AARP "Shred

Truck" will be onsite.

To register for Senior Law Day online, go to [www.seniorservicesalex.org](http://www.seniorservicesalex.org) or call Senior Services at 703-836-4414, ext. 110. A light breakfast will be served and there is ample parking.

*Chris Wright is with Shannon Mullins & Wright LLP in Old Town Alexandria and a member of the Alexandria Bar Association.*

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 11

closed down on the Saturday the day prior to the race, and then again the next day on Sunday, the day of the actual race.

Although closing it down on Sunday was almost tolerable, closing it on Saturday inconvenienced hundreds of visitors to Old Town. I talked to many of these visitors, who indicated that they will probably never return to Old Town because of the lack of parking. There doesn't appear to be a good reason for closing this street down a day early, since towing from designated spots can be accomplished after midnight on Saturday.

My "almost" rating for Sunday was due to a Sheriff's car blocking the intersection on Union and Wolfe Streets at 8 a.m., with no Sheriff in sight. I barely managed to

maneuver around his car by inches. Moreover, with all of the new restaurants going in on the waterfront, some 563 plus new diners will have a tough time parking, and stunts such as these will just add to the frustration. Pay attention to your citizens and customer's needs, Alexandria!

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

### Act Now

To the Editor:

Climate change is not a distant problem — it is here. It is causing severe and unpredictable weather including, paradoxically, both flooding and drought. Normal patterns

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 21



**BEN ORTIZ**

FOR ALEXANDRIA CLERK OF COURT

## "Experienced Public Servant For Alexandria Clerk of Court"

- +15 years experience in the Alexandria Circuit Court
- Focused on maintaining vital role of Clerk's Office in the Judicial System
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**VOTE BEN ORTIZ  
JUNE 11, 2019**

**[www.benortiz.org](http://www.benortiz.org)**

*Paid for and authorized by friends of Ben Ortiz*



"I am happy to endorse Ben Ortiz for Alexandria's Clerk of Court. Ben has over 15 years of direct working experience in the Clerk's Office and he keenly understands how the office works for our citizens. He is a committed public servant who wants to make sure the Clerk's Office meets the needs of everyday citizens who need the services of the Clerk of Court. Moreover, Ben has the direct experience and expertise in order to expand the Clerk's Office and its offerings to meet the needs of the future. I hope you will support Ben and his campaign on June 11th."

*- Kerry J. Donley  
Former Mayor, City of Alexandria*



"I proudly endorse Ben Ortiz. During my tenure as Clerk of Court, I've seen Ben grow from an entry level employee to my Chief Deputy Clerk. During this time he has shown great respect for the law, the justice system and for the public. With this responsibility, professionalism and dedication, he will serve Alexandrians and all customers to the best of his abilities. I endorse Ben Ortiz because I am confident that he will transition expeditiously to Clerk of Court and apply his experience and knowledge to meet the needs of the office, the court and more importantly to the City, its residents, and the general public. Ben will take the Clerk's office to another level and for this reason and many others, I ask that you follow my lead and vote Ben Ortiz as your next Clerk of Court."

*- Ed Semonian, Alexandria Clerk of Court*

# ENTERTAINMENT

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

## ONGOING

**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](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows).

**Creative Aging Festival.** Through May 31, in locations around Fairfax County. The Creative Aging Festival supports Fairfax County's 50+ Community Action Plan's Arts Initiative to promote arts programming for and by older adults. Core objectives include encouraging older adult participation in the community's many public and private arts program; promoting public understanding of the benefits of older adult participation in the arts; and providing awareness to the broader community about the existing arts services for older adults in Fairfax County. This year's Creative Aging Festival is presented by Fairfax county Neighborhood and Community Services in collaboration with ARTSFAIRFAX. Visit the Creative Aging Festival site at [bit.ly/CreativeAgingFestival](http://bit.ly/CreativeAgingFestival).



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## 75th Anniversary of D-Day

**Join the City of Alexandria, in partnership with sister city Caen, France, to honor the 75th Anniversary of D-Day with a commemorative event at Waterfront Park, 1 King St.. on Saturday, June 1, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Food and beverages will be available for purchase in the French market and wine garden. "Paint-and-sip" art stations will be available with an additional ticket purchase. There will also be history booths, children's activities, live swing music and dancers performing at the event. On June 6, 1944, more than 160,000 Allied troops invaded Normandy, France, and gained a foothold in continental Europe during World War II. For more event information and a full list of activities, visit [alexandriava.gov/Historic](http://alexandriava.gov/Historic).**



Railing by Alan Sislen.

## Photography Exhibit: 'Tonal Visions'

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. The exhibit runs through June 15, gallery hours at Multiple Exposures Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center #312, 105 N. Union St. Visit [www.MultipleExposuresGallery.com](http://www.MultipleExposuresGallery.com) or call 703-683-2205.

FairfaxCreativeAgingFestival.

**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](http://www.torpedofactoryartists.com) for 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](http://DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits).

**Art Exhibit: "Re-Connecting Threads."** Through June 2, at VCA Alexandria, 2660 Duke St. Gallery Without Walls celebrates fiber in a re-visit to last November's "Connecting Threads" gallery exhibit. "Re-Connecting Threads" features traditional and non-traditional fiber-related art by Del Ray Artisans members while highlighting narratives that trigger nostalgia or comfort, and in doing so communicate meaning that goes beyond the literal definition of the materials. Visit [DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits/gww/](http://DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits/gww/).

**Art Exhibit: Lyrical Flight.** Through June 2, at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Barbara Januszkiewicz's luminous and elegant paintings evolved out of her early work in watercolor, a progression evident in the almost liquid flow of colors across her large compositions. On June 2, Small Creatures Dance Project will perform Light Exists, a piece choreographed in response to Januszkiewicz's Lyrical Flight exhibit. The performance is free and will occur at 1 p.m., prior to

the gallery talk at 2 p.m. Visit [nvfaa.org](http://nvfaa.org) or call 703-548-0035.

**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 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](http://www.MultipleExposuresGallery.com) or call 703-683-2205.

**Riding the Rainbow.** Through June 30, gallery hours at Scope Gallery at 105 North Union St., ground floor Studio 19 of the Torpedo Factory Art Center. Blinding color and vivid mixes are in the glaring spotlight for the "Taste the Rainbow" tribute to LGBTQ Pride Month at the Torpedo Art Center's Scope Gallery. Hues are huge as Ceramic Guild artists play with clay with an eye for celebratory color. Call Scope Gallery at 703-548-6288 or visit [www.scopegallery.org](http://www.scopegallery.org).

**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 and plants; and more. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets).

## POOLS OPEN

**Outdoor Pool Season Begins.** Get ready for summer with an individual or family season pass, usable at all three of the City of Alexandria's outdoor pools. All outdoor pools are open from 10 a.m.-5:45 p.m. on Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day. For a complete list of City pools, operating hours, fees and additional information, visit [alexandriava.gov/Aquatics](http://alexandriava.gov/Aquatics).

❖ **Old Town Pool (1609 Cameron St.):** This complex includes a 25-yard pool with a diving well. A separate training pool is available for children up to 42 inches tall. Easily accessible by ramp, the training pool has a depth of 1-3 feet. For added convenience, a parking lot, picnic area and tot playground are adjacent to the pool.

❖ **Memorial Pool at Charles Houston Recreation Center (901 Wythe St.):** This small pool can accommodate a maximum of 45 guests at one time. Due to its smaller size, access is limited to Alexandria residents 13 years of age and younger, and their parents or guardians.

❖ **Warwick Pool (3301 Landover St.):** This newly constructed, 25-yard shallow pool features an accessible sloped entry pool and six swimming lanes. The pool is located adjacent to the Landover Street playground.

❖ **Potomac Yard Park Interactive Fountain (2501 Potomac Ave.):** Located between Potomac Yard Park's two playgrounds, the fountain features 36 water jets and lighting for nighttime effects. The fountain offers three programmable sequences, and sensors control the water jet height based on wind speed in the area, adjusting the jets accordingly. The fountain features a secondary ultraviolet water treatment system. Shoes are required.

## FRIDAY/MAY 31

**Call for Entries.** The 13th annual Alexandria Film Festival call for entries is open to filmmakers worldwide for films of any length and genre via the FilmFreeway digital platform ([filmfreeway.com/AlexandriaFilmFestival-523023](http://filmfreeway.com/AlexandriaFilmFestival-523023)). Judges will evaluate more than three hundred films and select the best for the Alexandria Film Festival (AFF).

## SATURDAY/JUNE 1

**Clean the Bay Day.** 9-11 a.m. at Oronoco Bay Park, 100 Madison St. and at Historic Holmes Run, Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Thousands of volunteers will join together across Virginia to clean up litter along waterways from the Eastern Shore to the Blue Ridge Mountains in celebration of the 31st annual Clean the Bay Day. The City's Department of Transportation and Environmental Services (T&ES), Stormwater Management Division and Resource Recovery Division in conjunction with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) will hold this shoreline cleanup. Early registration is advised. Volunteers interested in participating are asked to visit [www.cbf.org/clean](http://www.cbf.org/clean)

# ENTERTAINMENT

to register.

**Used Book Sale.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Selection of over 20,000 gently used books, including children's books, fiction, history, biography, home and garden, cooking, crafts, sports, religion, travel, CDs, DVDs, and more. Unless specially priced, \$1 for hard backs, 50 cents for large paperbacks, and 25 cents for mass market paperbacks. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-sherwood-regional](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-sherwood-regional).

**Story Time for Little Historians.** 11 a.m. at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St., Alexandria. Featuring Wangari's Trees of Peace: A True Story from Africa by Jeanette Winter. Enjoy cultural stories and creative craft activities that introduce world history and folklore. Afterwards, explore the museum exhibits to learn about local Black history. All ages welcome, but most suitable for children 4 and older. Admission is \$3 per person. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Call 703-746-4356 or RSVP at [shop.alexandriava.gov/Events.aspx](http://shop.alexandriava.gov/Events.aspx).

**75th Anniversary of D-Day.** 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Waterfront Park, 1 King St. Join the City of Alexandria, in partnership with sister city Caen, France, to honor the 75th Anniversary of D-Day with a large commemorative event at Waterfront Park. Come celebrate American and French cultures, and U.S. military history. This free, fun event will feature children's activities, WWII reenactors, live music, food, and a wine garden. Visit [alexandriava.gov/Historic](http://alexandriava.gov/Historic).

**Summer Saturdays.** 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Lorton. Join Gunston Hall for a summer of fun. Each Saturday in June, July, and August, stop by for a historic adventure on the grounds and in the Visitor Center. Included with regular admission. Call 703-550-9220 or visit [www.gunstonhall.org/visit/guide/upcoming-events](http://www.gunstonhall.org/visit/guide/upcoming-events).

**Priday Night.** Noon-11 p.m. at Port City Brewing Company, 3950 Wheeler Ave. Kick off Pride Month at Port City Brewing Company and celebrate Alexandria's diverse community with the Alexandria-Arlington Gay and Lesbian Alliance (AGLA). Enjoy musical entertainment, outdoor games and activities along with featured artists from the Torpedo Factory Art Center, topped off with a drag show from 7-9 p.m. A portion of all sales from the night will be donated to support AGLA's mission. Call 703-797-2739 or visit [www.portcitybrewing.com](http://www.portcitybrewing.com).

**Sacramento Neighborhood Community Day.** Noon-4 p.m. at Sacramento Neighborhood Center, 8792-E Sacramento Drive. All welcome to join United Community's annual Sacramento Neighborhood Community Day in a celebration of community and partnership. Food and fun for the whole family. Special guest Astronaut Charles F. Bolden Jr., first African American Administrator of NASA and retired U.S. Marine Corps Major General. Free. Call 703-619-2964 or visit [www.ucmagency.org](http://www.ucmagency.org) for more.

**10th Annual Youth Arts Festival.** 1-5 p.m. at Mount Vernon Recreation Center, 2701 Commonwealth Ave. This family-oriented festival showcases youth art (visual and performing arts prepared and/or performed by students from the Alexandria public and private schools. Festival also features, face painting, interactive art presentations, dunking tanks, food, and fun activities for all family members. Email [info@arha.us](mailto:info@arha.us) or visit [www.arha.us](http://www.arha.us).

**Bitters Tasting Party.** 3-5 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. (21-Adults) Botanical bitters add flavor and zest to much more than cocktails. Learn about these aromatic flavorings that evolved from ancient medicines, and experience many flavors they impart. Discover that a few drops add zest to myriad foods and drinks, from summertime seltzers and ice creams, to savorys, coffee and baked desserts. (Tasting will not include cocktails.) \$35/person. Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/) using code 3E3.03F7 or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173.

**Concert: Sounds of Pohick.** 4 p.m. at Historic Pohick Church, 9301 Richmond Highway, Lorton. "The Sounds of Pohick" annual concert will feature the St. Cecelia and St. Alban Children's Choirs, the Pohick Pickers bluegrass group, the Pohick Bell, and the Early Church Music Ensemble performing spirituals, hymns, anthems and instrumental music. Musical instruments will include guitars, fiddle, bass, tin whistle, Celtic harp, organ, piano, keyboard and percussion. Free admission, and a reception follows in the parish hall. Call the church office



**"Dream Weaver Frida" by Dawn Wyse Hurto and Liz Martinez (artwork in exhibit)**

## Art Exhibit: 'Re-Connecting Threads'

Gallery Without Walls celebrates fiber in a revisit to last November's "Connecting Threads" gallery exhibit. "Re-Connecting Threads" features traditional and non-traditional fiber-related art by Del Ray Artisans members while highlighting narratives that trigger nostalgia or comfort, and in doing so communicate meaning that goes beyond the literal definition of the materials. Through June 2, at VCA Alexandria, 2660 Duke St. Visit [DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits/gww/](http://DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits/gww/).

at 703-339-6572, or visit [www.pohick.org](http://www.pohick.org).  
**Wine on the Water.** 6-8 p.m. at Verdenca, 44 Canal Center, 5th Floor Balcony. Enjoy wines and charcuterie, bid on auction items, and listen to the sound of steel drums....all while enjoying spectacular views of the nation's Capital. \$85; \$100 at the door. Call 703-582-8480 or visit [www.alexandriaseaport.org](http://www.alexandriaseaport.org).

**Country-Western Dance.** 7-9:30 p.m. at Lincoln 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](http://www.nvcwda.org) for more.

**Early Birds and Night Owls Trade Places.** 8-10 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. At twilight time, some animals are getting ready to settle in for the evening while others are just awakening to the night ahead. See a little of both worlds on the "Wetland at Dusk Walk" at Huntley Meadows Park. Adults are invited to join naturalists for a relaxing stroll through the park's forest and wetland paths. Look and listen for wildlife settling down or waking up during the transition from day to night. \$9 per person. Call 703-768-2525 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows).

### JUNE 1-JUNE 30

**Art Exhibit: Landscape X3.** Gallery hours at Gallery 311 at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St., Studio 311. In a new exhibit at the Torpedo Factory, painters Ellen Delaney and Gale Wallar and photographer Jo Ann Tooley take on the traditional subject of landscapes. Delaney's paintings consist of larger-than-life abstracts while Wallar's work emphasizes a majestic topography with defined shapes and edges. Tooley's black & white photographs strip nature of its color. Visit [torpedofactory.org/partners/gallery-311/](http://torpedofactory.org/partners/gallery-311/).

### SUNDAY/JUNE 2

**Bagels and Bach.** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. The Alexandria's

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## THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BAND WASHINGTON, D.C.

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# SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

## May 31 – August 27

**Tuesdays at 8 p.m. | U.S. Capitol West Steps**  
**Fridays at 7:30 p.m. | Air Force Memorial**  
**Saturdays at 7 p.m. | National Harbor**

**FREE! No tickets needed.**  
No concerts on June 8, 14, 25, July 2, 5 & 26, August 9 & 20.  
Outdoor concerts subject to weather cancellation. For more info, please visit our website.

[www.usafband.af.mil](http://www.usafband.af.mil)

# ENTERTAINMENT

Office of the Arts presents a “Bagels and Bach” Concert showcasing the Provázek Quartet. Children become aware and learn how to appreciate classical music, while enjoying a light brunch. Reservations are \$9 per person. Children under 5 years old are free. Children must be accompanied by one adult. Visit [alexandriava.gov/Arts](http://alexandriava.gov/Arts) and click on Durant Arts Center.

**Tee Off to End Homelessness.** 2-5 p.m. at TopGolf Alexandria, 6625 S Van Dorn St. Fundraiser benefits Community Lodgings. Join for food and drink, three hours of unlimited golf, prizes, and opportunities to mingle with friends and fellow Community Lodgings supporters. Golf abilities are not required, just the desire to have fun and support a worthy mission. \$60. Visit [www.communitylodgings.org](http://www.communitylodgings.org) to register.

**Tea & Fashion Show.** 3-5 p.m. at St. Paul's Alexandria, 228 S. Pitt St. Join the Pimm's & Poppies Chapter of the Daughters of the British Empire (DBE) for an afternoon fashion show and tea party featuring Monte Durham of Say Yes to the Dress: Atlanta as Master of Ceremonies. Proceeds from the event will benefit the local organization Alice's Kids ([www.aliceskids.org](http://www.aliceskids.org)) and the DBE founded Victoria Home ([victoriahome.org](http://victoriahome.org)). \$50. Call 703-328-9948 or visit [www.dbeinva.org](http://www.dbeinva.org).

## MONDAY/JUNE 3

**Garden Sprouts Spring-Nature Playgroup.** 10-11:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. (3-5 yrs.) Preschoolers enjoy nature-themed toys and puzzles while playgroup parents meet one Monday a month. Through games, songs, activities and a garden walk we explore monthly topics. The June topic is Pond. \$8/child. Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/) using code EDA.040C or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173.

## WEDNESDAY/JUNE 5

**Getaway-Maymont & Lavender Fields.** Departs Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road at 8 a.m., returns 5 p.m. (16-Adult) Includes motor coach and admission. Begin the day with a tour of the Gilded Age mansion of Maymont and



My Bodyguard by Akemi Ohira.

## Art Exhibit: 'Transcend.'

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. Through June 2, Wednesday-Sunday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Artists @ Mosaic Gallery, 2905 District Avenue, #105, Fairfax. Visit [www.torpedofactoryartists.com](http://www.torpedofactoryartists.com) for more.

the surrounding gardens. Enjoy lunch, stop at Lavender Fields Farm for an herb class, with choice of lavender lemonade or lavender ice cream. Wear comfortable walking shoes and dress for the weather. Trip cancellation deadline: May 22, 2019. \$113 Register online at

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/) using code:5EB.5170 or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173.

## THURSDAY/JUNE 6

**Pride at The Dog Park.** 1-3 p.m. at The Dog Park, 705 King St. Four-legged friends can celebrate Pride Month in style with rainbow bow ties, collars and flower bows from The Dog Park. The boutique will also be selling LGBTQ-friendly pawprint magnets for pup owners. Call 703-888-2818 or visit [www.thedogparkva.biz](http://www.thedogparkva.biz).

**ALX Pride 2019 Mix & Mingle.** 7-9 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Celebrate D.C.'s Capital Pride Celebration with a special mix-and-mingle Thursday night in Alexandria. Enjoy the Torpedo Factory Art Center's studios and get to know others from the local LGBTQIA community. Call 703-746-4570 or visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org).

**D-Day at 75: Looking Back and Looking Forward.** 7-9 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. The Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee presents a panel to discuss the significance of D-Day. Remember the 75th anniversary of the Normandy landings and consider the impact of this turning point in world history, then and now. Stay for a wine and dessert reception afterwards. \$10 per person. Tickets available onsite or online at [shop.alexandriava.gov](http://shop.alexandriava.gov).

## JUNE 6-30

**Art Exhibit: "Art in Meditation – the Chakras."** Gallery hours at Del

Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. "Art in Meditation – the Chakras" features area artists interpreting the chakra energies. The exhibit, juried by contemporary artist Jeff Erickson, will have an associated Art-To-Go marketplace and special events, First Thursday June 6 and Well Ray June 22. Opening reception Friday, June 7, 7-9 p.m., and summer solstice reception Friday, June 21, 7-9 pm. Visit [DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits](http://DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits).

## JUNE 6-JULY 21

**Art Exhibit: Notes of Color.** Gallery hours at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. The Washington Sculpture Group presents Notes of Color. An opening reception is planned for Sunday, June 8, 4-6 p.m. Visit [nvfaa.org](http://nvfaa.org) or call 703-548-0035.

## FRIDAY/JUNE 7

**Garden Talk: Be A Water-wise Gardener.** 1:30-2:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. (Adults) Gardening is going "green!" Extension Master Gardeners discuss how to conserve and manage water using plant selection, soil preparation, irrigation and many other practices. \$10/person. Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/) using code 025.B34A or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173.

**First Friday: Family Art Night.** 6-9 p.m. at Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. With Father's Day right around the corner, plan to create the perfect gift by attending Alexandria's Office of the Arts First Friday: "Family Art Night." A "meet and greet" begins at 6 p.m. Pizza, soda and water will be on hand, complements of the Office of the Arts. Art activities begin at 6:30 p.m. No experience necessary. Reservation includes one art experience, art supplies, pizza and soda. Reservations are \$9 per person. Children under 5 years old are free. Children must be accompanied by one adult. Call 703-746-5565 or visit [alexandriava.gov/Arts](http://alexandriava.gov/Arts).

**Hurricane Season Reading.** 6:30 p.m. at Hooray for Books!, 1555 King St. Juvenile fiction author Nicole Melleby will visit Hooray for Books! to read her debut novel, Hurricane Season. The story follows sixth-grader Fig Arnold and features LGBTQ+ characters. The children's book is suitable for readers ages 10 and up. Free admission. Visit [www.hooray4books.com](http://www.hooray4books.com) or call 703-548-4092.

**Opening Reception: "Art in Meditation – the Chakras."** 7-9 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. "Art in Meditation – the Chakras" features area artists interpreting the chakra energies. The exhibit, juried by contemporary artist Jeff Erickson, will have an associated Art-To-Go marketplace. Visit [DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits](http://DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits).

## FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 7-9

**Celebrate Fairfax! Festival.** Northern Virginia's largest community-wide event, the 38 th annual Celebrate Fairfax! Festival, is set to take place on the grounds of the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. The Celebrate Fairfax! Festival features 25 acres of concerts, family programs, exhibits, carnival rides and nightly fireworks. Among the festival's highlights are more than 120 performances on seven stages, including Better Than Ezra and Smash Mouth. Call 703-324-3247 or visit [www.celebratefairfax.com](http://www.celebratefairfax.com).

## SATURDAY/JUNE 8

**Summer Saturdays.** 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at

Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Lorton. Join Gunston Hall for a summer of fun. Each Saturday in June, July, and August, stop by for a historic adventure on the grounds and in the Visitor Center. Included with regular admission. Call 703-550-9220 or visit [www.gunstonhall.org/visit/guide/upcoming-events](http://www.gunstonhall.org/visit/guide/upcoming-events).

**Floral Design – Contemporary Pavé Arrangement.** 1-2:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. (16-Adult) Certified Floral Designer Betty Ann Galway shares techniques for constructing and balancing a beautiful, contemporary, pavé floral arrangement of grouped flowers. Pavé design groups flowers in a grid, like a paver, for a gorgeous, modern effect. Make and arrangement to enjoy at home. Later, reuse the container to practice. Materials provided for \$30 supply fee. Program fee is \$39/person. Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/) using code 9C6.A2DC or call 703-642-5173.

## SUNDAY/JUNE 9

**Spring Car Show.** 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at River Farm, 7931 East Boulevard Drive. Enjoy a fun community event benefiting the American Horticultural Society and River Farm. Enjoy classic cars, garden tours, children's activities, raffles, food/drink, botanical art, & ourand a Garden Shop. Rain date is June 16. \$10 per car for spectators; \$20 for show cars (pre-registration encouraged); \$5 for walk-ins/bikes; free for 12 & under. Visit [www.ahsgardening.org/about-river-farm/events-programs/classic-car-show](http://www.ahsgardening.org/about-river-farm/events-programs/classic-car-show) for more.

**Cruising the Past.** 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. (Adults) Explore the glamorous heyday of ocean travel when great passenger liners sped across the Atlantic with cargoes of celebrities and millionaires. View archival photos contrasting the luxury of first class with the discomfort of steerage, and compare the elegance of those bygone ships with their pres-ent-day counterparts. \$36 (program + tea); \$15 (program only). Pro-grams are by reservation only. Call (703) 941-7987, TTY (703) 324-3988.

**Annual Picnic and Birthday Party.** 1-5 p.m. at Pope-Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Highway. Celebrate Frank Lloyd Wright's birthday on the lawn of the Pope-Leighey House. Music, treats, and house tours and more. This event is BYOP – bring your own picnic. Save room for the tasty birthday desserts included in the price of a ticket, and beverages on offer from local vendors. No outside alcohol will be permitted on site. Rain or shine. \$15-\$30. Visit [www.woodlawnpopeleighey.org/](http://www.woodlawnpopeleighey.org/) for more.

## TUESDAY/JUNE 11

**Simpson Gardens Stroll.** 10-11 a.m. at Simpson Park Gardens, 420 E. Monroe St. Stroll through Simpson Gardens with Extension Master Gardeners as they describe the gardens' variety of demonstration beds that combine sustainable gardening practices with appealing aesthetics: waterwise gardening, scented plants, plants that attract pollinators, plants that prefer shade, and plants that have appealing structure and texture. Free. Questions? Telephone 703-228-6414 or email [mgarlalex@gmail.com](mailto:mgarlalex@gmail.com).

## THURSDAY/JUNE 13

**Summer Garden Tour and Tea.** 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Adults. Tour the vibrant demonstration gardens with a

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PHOTO BY THALIA ROMERO

**AHS president Beth Tuttle congratulations an award winner at the Fall 2018 Classic Car Show.**

## Spring Car Show

Enjoy a fun community event benefiting the American Horticultural Society and River Farm. Enjoy classic cars, garden tours, children's activities, raffles, food/drink, botanical art, & ourand a Garden Shop. Sunday, June 9, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at River Farm, 7931 East Boulevard Drive. Rain date is June 16. \$10 per car for spectators; \$20 for show cars (pre-registration encouraged); \$5 for walk-ins/bikes; free for 12 & under. Visit [www.ahsgardening.org/about-river-farm/events-programs/classic-car-show](http://www.ahsgardening.org/about-river-farm/events-programs/classic-car-show) for more.

## ENTERTAINMENT

# 4 Dates to Circle in June

BY HOPE NELSON

**C**raft cider, a waterfront festival, a whirlwind taste of Del Ray's favorite restaurants and a crab feast to cap it all off — such is life in June for Alexandria foodies.

### 11th Annual Taste of Del Ray, June 2

Del Ray's storied annual event is back for another year. Eighteen restaurants are poised to line up and showcase their best dishes in the hopes of winning the People's Choice award. Guests can sample each restaurant's wares as many times as they like, and the docket of participants is diverse. From Cheesetique to Al's Steak House, from Kaizen Tavern to Taqueria Poblano, there's something for nearly every palate. Pat Miller Neighborhood Square at the corner of Mount Vernon Avenue and Oxford Street. 1-3 p.m. \$20.

### Lost Boy Cider Grand Opening, June 8 and 9

Alexandria's first craft cidery is finally ready to open its doors to the public. The cidery, which uses only apples from Virginia to make its array of hard ciders, has made its home out of a renovated 6,000-square-foot warehouse, offering a tasting room as well as its production facility. In addition to Lost Boy's

cider, food will also be available at the grand opening event, which spans two days. 317 Hooffs Run Drive. Noon-9 p.m. both days.

### Portside in Old Town Summer Festival, June 22

Food, music, craft beer — this annual Old Town festival has it all. Pizzeria Paradiso, Rocklands Barbecue and Dolci Gelati will be on hand to dish up a sampling of favorites while guests listen to musical acts ranging from Ethiopian jazz to Latin folk and several stops in between. Feeling a little parched? Port City is once again hosting its waterfront beer garden; for \$6 a beer, you can cool off with a frosty brew while you boogie down. Waterfront Park, 1 Prince St. 2-8 p.m.

### Del Ray Pizzeria Crab Feast, June 29

Del Ray Pizzeria is branching out a bit with its first annual crab feast. Sporting all-you-can-eat blue crab and hush puppies as well as several varieties of beer on tap, the feast will set up shop in the pizzeria's parking lot. It may be a diversion from DRP's regular menu, but isn't variety the spice of life? 2218 Mount Vernon Ave. 3 p.m. \$50.

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

## CALENDAR

master gardener docent who highlights summer's standout plants, and tells stories of Green Spring past and present. Afterward, enjoy a traditional English afternoon tea. \$36 per person. Pro-grams are by reservation only. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/) or call 703-941-7987.

### Archaeology After Dark:

**Cartography of a Port City.** 6:30 p.m. at The Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington St. City of Alexandria Archaeologist Benjamin Skolnik presents a new take on the history of the city as told through 15 seldom-seen maps. Alexandria history is combined with the history of

cartography to show the many ways people, including City Archaeologists, make and use maps. \$12/person; \$10 FOAA/OHA members. Visit [www.foaa.info/events](http://www.foaa.info/events).

### SATURDAY/JUNE 15

**Beech Tree Puppets.** 10 and 11:15 a.m. at Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. Founded by Ingrid and Ole Hass in 2012, brings meaningful stories with sensory-friendly and Beech Tree Puppeteers feel that puppets can break down barriers, and provide insights and resolutions to cross cultural differences, and open people to new ideas and possibilities.

Beech Tree Puppets have performed artful performances to schools, libraries and public theaters in the wider DC area. \$6 per person. To buy online, visit [alexandriava.gov/Arts](http://alexandriava.gov/Arts) click on Durant Arts Center.

**Declaration Day.** 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at George Mason's Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Lorton. Join Gunston Hall in celebrating the anniversary of the Virginia Declaration of Rights, written by George Mason. This family-oriented program kicks off with a naturalization ceremony, followed by a variety of activities for all ages, a museum theater performance, and visits to Gunston Hall's brand-new exhibit: Revolutionary

### WEDNESDAY/JUNE 19

**The Great Gatsby.** 5:30 p.m. at Woodlawn & Pope-Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Highway. Picnic Theatre Company returns to Woodlawn Mansion garden for a Roaring Twenties cocktail hour and performance of F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*. At 5:30 the garden opens for cocktails and picnicking, performance is at 6:30, with no intermission. \$15. Call 703-570-6903 or visit [www.eventbrite.com/e/picnic-theatre-company-presents-the-great-gatsby-tickets-62057367256](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/picnic-theatre-company-presents-the-great-gatsby-tickets-62057367256).

### FRIDAY/JUNE 21

**Garden Talk: Bring on the Hummingbirds.** 1:30-2:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. (Adults) Perhaps one of the most beloved birds in gardening, hummingbirds astonish with their aerial acrobatics, their beauty and the important role they play as garden pollinators. Attend this talk and learn about plants to attract these beautiful birds. \$10/person. Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/) using code 37F.853C or call 703-642-5173.



The Provázek Quartet

## Bagels and Bach

The Alexandria's Office of the Arts presents a "Bagels and Bach" Concert showcasing the Provázek Quartet. Children become aware and learn how to appreciate classical music, while enjoying a light brunch. Sunday, June 2, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. Reservations are \$9 per person. Children under 5 years old are free. Children must be accompanied by one adult. Visit [alexandriava.gov/Arts](http://alexandriava.gov/Arts) click on Durant Arts Center.

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# Revamping City's Approach to Open Space

## Planning Commission to consider changes next week.

BY BRIDGETTE ADU-WADIER  
AND DAN BRENDL  
GAZETTE PACKET

**R**elated to an ongoing initiative to overhaul the city's environmental policies, the Planning Commission will consider enhancements to the city's regulations for open space in new development next Tuesday, June 4.

Creating open space through private development is important "for its ability to relieve pressure on the public parks system," said Karl Mortiz, the city's planning director. Private development generates open space both on- and off-site, the latter through land and/or monetary contributions.

At a joint meeting on Monday, May 20, planning staff, the Environmental Policy Commission and the Park and Recreation Commission discussed how the city should define open space going into the future.

"It can't just be the leftover space on a parcel after the development has been planned. It needs to be intentional and ... an important part of the site," said Moritz, summing up the commissioners' consensus opinion.

The city should think "of open space as a

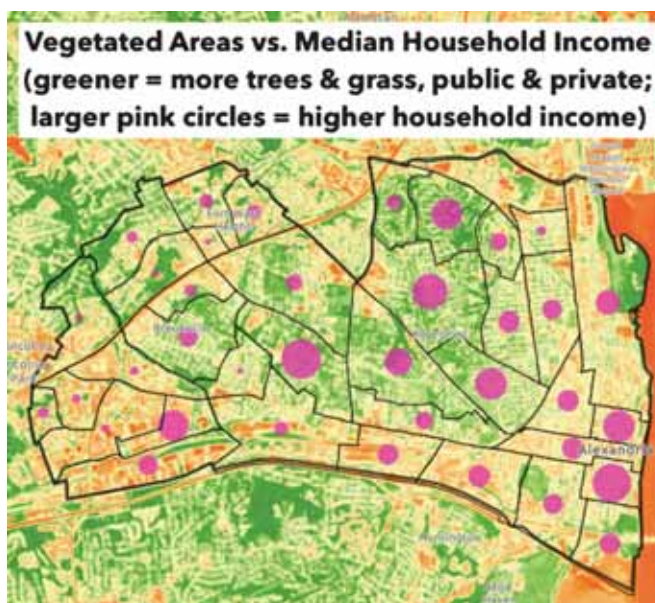
continuum," said Planning Commissioner Stephen Koenig. A "high-capacity" public park might exemplify one end, and a "small back yard," "single balcony" or "small shared spaced on the rooftop" the other.

He said, "We should be actively looking to design excellent open space everywhere we possibly could: on the ground plane and on every aspect of the building."

Whereas most building rooftops are currently bare or covered with large machinery, he thinks the city might require that some large percentage of that displaced ground space go to some intentional open space or environmental purpose: for example, stormwater management, power generation, accessible space for people, etc.

Planning Commissioner David Brown took a slightly different view, saying: "My general attitude is that the regulatory goal ought to be oriented more toward the ground than off-the-ground, because developers have their own economic incentives to make their buildings as attractive as possible," such as by providing private rooftop recreation areas.

Planning Commission Chair Nathan Macek says he wants to consider flexible open space guidelines for higher-density development near mass transit. It might be



MAP AND DATA SOURCES: USDA FARM SERVICE AGENCY  
(MULTISPECTRAL IMAGERY, INCLUDING NEAR INFRARED), ESRI, CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

**"What you're seeing on the map is that open space as currently defined by the city does not necessarily mean 'green' open space. That is one reason you see such variation in green spaces across the city. The [Environmental Policy Commission] is trying to change that by making sure that we prioritize open space that delivers environmental benefits," said Jim Kapsis, the commission's chair.**

appropriate to require less open space on a parcel near a Metro station than on a parcel farther away, he said.

On the other hand, Planning Commis-

sioner Melissa McMahon worries about "death by a thousand cuts: this pressure that we have in ever instance to cut back on open space or to make an exception on how much should be above grade because of the constraints. I agree ... that our most densely developable areas that are near transit should be used as efficiently as possible." But she wants more structured expectations so that parties involved can make a more "calculated" trade-off decision upfront.

Unlike a public park, not everyone has access to a multifamily building's amenities.

Asked to what extent socio-economic considerations have played into the public dialogue about open space, Environmental Policy Commission chair Jim Kapsis said: "One of EPC's goals in this process has been to ... prioritize publicly accessible, ground level open space because it is open to all regardless of socio-economic status and provides the most opportunities to create green, environmentally friendly spaces. That's not to say that there is not a role to play for other kinds of open space, like green roofs, but it's a question of prioritization."

Further, "there is currently no city rule that says that open space has to be green. A rooftop pool or tennis court could be considered open space, for example."



**Rosemont resident Tom Tyler gives instructions to the Wheel Day participants May 26 in Beverley Hills.**



**Spectators Betsy Costle, with dog Pixie, Carolyn Costle, Nick Gentry and Alex Costle-Tyler enjoy Wheels Day May 26 in Beverley Hills.**



**Rosemont riders Brennan Boyle, Georgia Anderson, Genevieve Anderson, Cecily Boyle, Isabel Class and Emin Horton celebrate on Wheels Day, May 26 in Beverley Hills. Sponsored by the Northridge Citizens Association, the event has been an annual Memorial Day weekend tradition since the 1940s.**

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

## 'Wheels Day' North Ridge tradition dates to 1940s.

**S**pectators lined the streets of Beverley Hills as children of all ages participated in the annual Wheels Day parade down Old Dominion Boulevard May 26 in a Memorial Day weekend tradition that dates back to the 1940s.

Sponsored by The North Ridge Citizens' Association, the parade featured decorated bikes and other wheeled toys and traversed a route from the circle at Chalfonte Drive to the Beverley Hills Church. Mayor Justin Wilson was on hand as prizes were awarded in several categories.

— JEANNE THEISMANN

# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 11

are being replaced by the abnormal.

We don't have to look far to see its impacts. In Virginia, we are now at increased risk from code red air days, excessive heat, and tick-borne illness.

At the world's largest naval base in Hampton Roads, military leaders recognize that sea level rise is an imminent threat which is why they have been preparing for it for years.

Virginia's unique Tangier Island could be uninhabitable in as few as 25 years.

A recent UN report says that 1

million of the planet's species are at risk for extinction – including many within our lifetimes – and human behavior, including climate change, is driving this. We have a moment in time – 10 to maybe 15 years – to act aggressively.

The longer we do nothing, the more catastrophic the consequences will be for humans.

However, there is hope. Groups like mine – 1Planet – are activating women at every level to act, organize and, most importantly, vote for action on climate change. In November, voters will choose the candidates to send to the Virginia General Assembly where, last

session, foes of the environment, renewable energy, and climate change solutions threatened all citizens of our state with their inaction. We must elect delegates and senators who will act swiftly and boldly on climate change.

We have the ability to reduce carbon pollution by setting meaningful renewable energy goals for the state, investing in clean energy technologies and boosting energy efficiency and so much more. But the time to act is now, before it is too late.

**Christine Matthews,**  
Co-Founder, 1Planet  
Alexandria

## Remembering Coach Bill Yoast

FROM PAGE 6

Jeffries.

The family will receive friends on Friday, May 31, from 5-8 p.m. at the Demaine Funeral Home, 5308 Backlick Road, in Springfield. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, June 1, at 2 pm at St. John's United Methodist Church, 5312 Backlick Road, also in Springfield. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Gerry Bertier Foundation or the 71 Titans Foundation, http://

71originaltitans.com.

"Such sad news," said Don Simpson Jr. "It was such a privilege to play for him at Hammond and TC."

Stumpf summed up what many of Yoast's players felt: "Coach Yoast had us convinced that we could actually win. He gave us the tools to make it happen and in the end we were victorious. Playing for him was an experience that has never left me after all these years. I am eternally grateful to him."

Be a part of our **Wellbeing** pages, the first week of every month.

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

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

Questions? E-mail [sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com) or call 703-778-9431

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### Legals

### Legals



#### CITY OF ALEXANDRIA FIRST HALF 2019 REAL ESTATE TAX, REFUSE FEE AND STORMWATER UTILITY FEE ARE DUE JUNE 17, 2019

The first half 2019 real estate tax, refuse fee and stormwater utility fee must be paid by June 17, 2019, to avoid late payment penalty and interest.

Pay in person at City Hall or at any SunTrust Bank Branch located in the City, or by credit card or eCheck on the City's website at [alexandriava.gov/Payments](http://alexandriava.gov/Payments). Real estate tax payments can also be mailed to City of Alexandria, PO Box 34750, Alexandria, VA 22334-0750.

Real estate tax information is available on the City's website at [alexandriava.gov/RealEstateTax](http://alexandriava.gov/RealEstateTax). Under Additional Resources, the Real Estate Tax History and Payments link provides detailed tax balances and payments.

For payment questions or to request a tax bill, please call the Treasury Division at 703.746.3902, or email [payments@alexandriava.gov](mailto:payments@alexandriava.gov). For assessment questions or to change a mailing address, please email [realestate@alexandriava.gov](mailto:realestate@alexandriava.gov). For refuse fee questions, please call the Solid Waste Division at 703.746.4410. For stormwater utility fee questions, please call the Stormwater Management Division at 703.746.6499, or email [stormwater@alexandriava.gov](mailto:stormwater@alexandriava.gov).

The Finance Department is open Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. A drop box located on the Royal Street side of City Hall is available 24 hours a day. (Payments must be in the drop box by midnight on June 17, 2019 to be considered on time.)

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## The Weak That Was



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

All's well that ends well.

The fortnight or so from you-know-where has finally ended and I am here to write that my warranty has been extended for another two months. The CT scan showed no tumor growth or movement. The "promise" of immunotherapy so far is keeping its 'promise' — keeping the tumors stable.

Throughout my extremely fortunate cancer experience, I have felt reasonably well and manifested few symptoms/side effects; at least the kind of symptoms/side effects: shortness of breath, coughing, expectorating blood, mind-numbing neuropathy and headaches, among others, about which my oncologist regularly inquires.

Generally speaking then, my health status has always been about the tale of the tape — to invoke a boxing reference — meaning the diagnostic scans: brain MRI, CT scan of the neck/lower abdomen, PET scan and the initial X-Ray which started the whole adventure, to determine my fitness for duty, so to speak.

It is not until my oncologist shares/summarizes the radiologist's findings — and occasionally shows us the actual computer images themselves, that yours truly/Team Lourie knows where we stand.

And, where we stand typically is where we are sitting, in a cramped exam room, face to face with the man who holds my life in the palm of his hand — or more specifically, in the words that he chooses and the gesture/body language he exhibits. It's not exactly "Bath Fitter," but "the reveal" is imminent.

It never gets easy, but it does get easier to endure this kind of potentially life-altering/life-ending moment. Though the familiarity of it hasn't dulled the pain, it has enabled us to balance the pros and cons, up and downs and all-arounds, as we anticipate the words we are about to hear.

During most of these post-scan visits, we've exhaled in relief, but we have had our share of disappointment.

On one occasion, back in late July 2013, I was hospitalized for a week when my lungs accumulated 4.5 liters of fluid, among more significant internal problems (lung collapsing).

Externally, I was unable to speak more than a few words before needing to regroup. As a matter of humorous fact, when my long-time oncology nurse, Ron, saw me that infusion day, he thought I "was a goner," since my oxygen level was so low.

Within a few hours, I was a 'goner' in an ambulance to Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring, Md. where I was eventually admitted. Two days later, a thoracic surgeon operated, and a day or two after that, my lung amazingly reinflated.

As a result, in my head and in my gut, (though I'm no Jethro Gibbs from NCIS), when I show up for my infusions and for my post-scan appointments, there's always a part of me that thinks I might not be spending that evening in my own bed.

When you're a cancer patient/survivor, and this kind of whisking off not to Buffalo but instead to the local hospital affiliated with your HMO has happened once, it's only a matter of time (it's impossible not to believe it's inevitable when you've been staged a IV) before it will happen again. I'm not being negative, I'm just saying.

As we sit and wait at home for my oncologist to email us the scan results, or whether we sit and wait in the on-site exam room, I wouldn't say our respective lives pass before us, but I will certainly admit to the total unpleasantness of it.

That being said, we're the lucky ones. There are nearly 160,000 lung cancer patients who succumb to this terrible disease every year who aren't nearly so lucky.

So when I hear the words "stable" from my oncologist, I am humbled as much as I am relieved, that I have lived to fight another eight weeks until my next scan is scheduled and my next fortnight is fought.

And that's how I live my life: in increments. Increments which I'm grateful to have. It may not be ideal, but it's a living, and it sure beats a dying.

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

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## News

### 35th Senate

FROM PAGE 8

His first political campaign was in 1974, when Saslaw was a 34-year-old contract administrator for Reston electronics firm named H.R.B. Singer. He ran against Mount Vernon Supervisor Herb Harris and Del. Frank Mann (D-5) for the Democratic nomination to run against incumbent U.S. Rep. Stan Parris (R-8). Saslaw lost that primary to Harris, who went on to unseat Parris in an anti-Watergate wave election. The next year, Saslaw set his sights on the 19th District of the House of Delegates, an open seat vacated by Republican James Tate. Saslaw prevailed against a crowded field of four other Democrats, including future Mount Vernon Supervisor Gerry Hyland — a campaign that he won on a \$5,000 budget. As a House freshman, Saslaw responded to a rape case in his district by making it easier for juveniles to be tried as adults.

After serving two terms in the House, he decided to run for a state Senate seat vacated by retiring Sen. Omer Hirst (D-35). Saslaw faced former Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Jean Packard, who was trying to make a comeback after being unseated by Republican Jack Herryty. Saslaw, then a 39-year-old real estate salesman, told voters he would take a more active role in watching the operations of the State Corporation Commission to prevent utility rate increases caused by mismanagement. He won that primary and went on a lengthy career in the Virginia state Senate, where he has served as majority leader and minority leader depending which party has the majority.

During his time in the Senate, Saslaw modified the alcohol-to-food requirement for restaurants to reduce the regulatory burden for businesses. He also passed a law that allows local governments to sell bonds and finance their own roadbuilding, although it was limited to \$15 million during a three-year period. He also passed a law that creates an add-on tax for a newly created tax district along Route 28, an effort that later cost him \$8,000 a year as a gas station magnate. He has opposed efforts to overturn Virginia's right to work law, which dates to the 1940s.

"I don't make any apologies for being pro-business," says Saslaw. "Take a look at a look at the business attraction of Northern Virginia versus the Maryland suburbs. Are you kidding me? We are considered to have one of the most favorable work environments in the country."

If reelected, Saslaw says his top priority would be gun control — reining in the National Rifle Association and the Virginia Citizens Defense League, two groups he says owns the Republican Party. He says Virginia needs universal background checks, and the legal age to purchase firearms should be raised to 21. He says laws that restricting access to abortion clinics should be overturned, and he says he would steer \$1 billion more to K-12 education and \$500 million more toward higher education.

"We're going to have to figure that out," says Saslaw. "I don't want to talk about higher taxes right now."

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