

## Healing City's History of Racial Terror

**Community commemorates 1899 lynching near Market Square.**

BY ELISSA ESHER  
GAZETTE PACKET

**T**he Richmond Planet reported the lynching of a black man named Benjamin Thomas “within sight of the capitol at Washington” on Aug. 8, 1899. On Aug. 8, 2019, Alexandria resident Adrienne Fikes hosted a small gathering on the corner of King Street and Fairfax Street, the site where Thomas died, to commemorate his life, mourn the cause of his death, and, in her words, “acknowledge and heal this city’s legacy of racial terror lynching.”

“Even though 120 years seems like a long time ago, we are still living with the impact of this,” said Fikes. “If we’re ever going to be what we say we are in Alexandria, we’ve got to confront the good and the bad of who we are.”

The event consisted of readings from reports by The Richmond Planet and The Alexandria Gazette, singing, silent reflection, and information on upcoming community events concerning racial injustice in the area.

Thomas, who was accused of assaulting an 8-year-old white girl, was dragged through the streets from his jail cell by some of Alexandria’s “best citizens,” according to The Richmond Planet. He was then hung from a lamppost in front of “hundreds of spectators.” In an attempt to stop them, the mayor of Alexandria at the time told the mob that if Thomas was not tried, convicted and hung in 30 days he would let them hang

SEE COMMEMORATING, PAGE 5



Adrienne Fikes reads an article on the lynching of Benjamin Thomas written Aug. 8, 1899 in The Richmond Planet.

PHOTO BY ELISSA ESHER/GAZETTE PACKET



IDA president Dr. David S.C. Chu, left, speaks with Bill Moyer and Pranav Pandya of Davis Construction at the Aug. 13 groundbreaking of the IDA headquarters building in Potomac Yard.



An architectural rendering of the North-east view of the planned IDA headquarters on display during the Aug. 13 groundbreaking at Potomac Yard.

## ‘Location, Location, Location’ IDA breaks ground at Potomac Yard.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**A**lexandria officials donned hard hats as they joined construction company representatives and real estate partners at the formal groundbreaking of the future headquarters of the Institute for Defense Analyses Aug. 13 at Potomac Yard.

“We’re here to mark the next stage in our journey to our new building,” said IDA president Dr. David S.C. Chu. “I am amazed at how this area has developed. When I first looked at this area, nothing was here but it is growing and we are looking forward to being here in two to three years.”

Located at 730 East Glebe Road, the site is just

over one block from the future Potomac Yard Metro station and in close proximity to the site of Virginia Tech’s new Innovation Campus.

“Talk about location, location, location,” said longtime City Councilwoman Del Pepper. “You can’t lose by being here in Potomac Yard. This is a happening place. It is a growing, thriving part of our city and is quickly becoming Alexandria’s innovation district.”

Currently headquartered in the city’s West End, IDA’s future 370,000-square-foot facility is expected to be completed by early 2022. According to City Councilman Canek Aguirre, Alexandria’s Department of Community and Human Services and Health Department will relocate later that same year to IDA’s current space on Mark Center Drive.

SEE LOCATION, PAGE 7

## Remembering Gwendolyn Menefee-Smith Tenants’ rights activist dies at 75.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**G**wendolyn Menefee-Smith, a crusader for public housing tenants’ rights and an organizer of the Alexandria Tenants Council nearly 50 years ago, died July 23 at Virginia Hospital Center in Arlington. She was 75.

A one-time tenant of public housing, Menefee-Smith worked to address what she saw as an attitude of disrespect and unfair practices against minorities and low-income residents. Through the Alexandria Tenants Council, she worked with city officials and the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority to establish non-discriminatory housing regu-



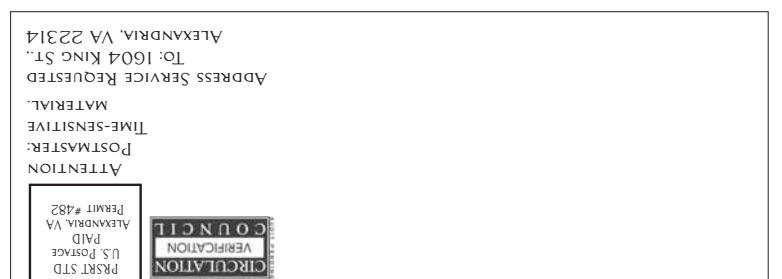
Gwendolyn Menefee-Smith died July 23 at the age of 75.

PHOTO BY NINA TISARA

lations.

“The administrators were so disrespectful and rude and intrusive in your personal life when people

SEE REMEMBERING, PAGE 16







Kate Patterson

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# City Schools Continue To Trail State SOL Averages

## Improvement in math highlighted.

Standards of Learning (SOL) results released Aug. 13 by the Virginia Department of Education show that the Alexandria City Public Schools fell below the statewide SOL averages for the third consecutive year. [See charts at right.]

A bright spot showed the percentage of the city's students testing proficient in math increased by nine points.

"While we are encouraged by these Math results which show a higher level of students testing proficient, we still have much work to do. These results are the result of our strategic focus and the work we have all put in this last year and this work will need to continue. This progress is already being replicated across other subject areas and all grade levels where we anticipate similar growth over the coming school year," said ACPS Chief Academic Officer Dr. Terri H. Mazingo in an Aug. 13 ACPS press release.

**MATH RESULTS** increased across the board in all subgroups. The percentage of Black, Hispanic, English Learner and Economically Disadvantaged students proficient in math all increased by nine percentage points or more. The ACPS rate of growth in math for all students was four percentage points higher than growth seen at the state level, and five percentage points higher for Economically Disadvantaged students also at the state level.

In the History subject area, 72% of all ACPS students passed the Standards of Learning tests, while 70%, 68% and 67% met the standards in Writing, Reading, Science, respectively, according to this federally-adjusted test data. These results either remained flat or saw a slight drop for ACPS.

According to the ACPS press release, "This coming school year, ACPS will have an intentional focus on improving reading skills. Our instructional leaders have been analyzing the data over the past year and have already out-

lined areas for improvement during the planning process for the upcoming school year. This school year will see necessary changes to the Virginia English Standards of Learning, in the same way that the Virginia Math Standards of Learning were updated this past year. ACPS has already taken a variety of proactive measures, including:

- ❖ implementing a new comprehensive elementary reading program;
- ❖ focusing on writing instruction at all grade levels;
- ❖ continuing alignment of the curriculum with Virginia State standards;
- ❖ ongoing data analysis and instructional support using reading inventory results and other assessment measures; and
- ❖ sustaining professional learning at all grade-levels."

**"While we are encouraged by these Math results which show a higher level of students testing proficient, we still have much work to do."**

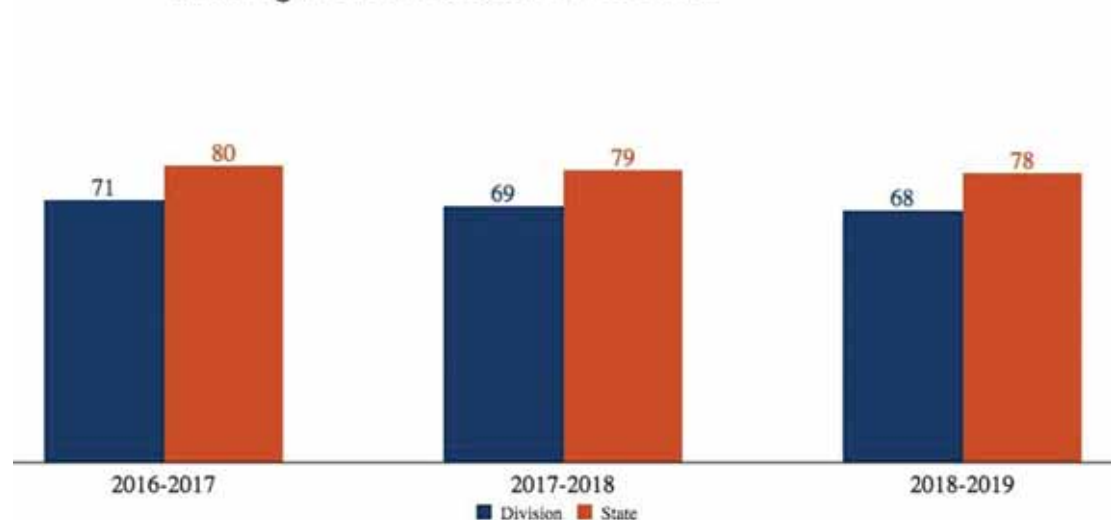
— Dr. Terri H. Mazingo, ACPS Chief Academic Officer

intendent of Schools Dr. Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr. in the Aug. 13 ACPS press release.

State SOL assessments were given to students in grades three through eight in English Language Arts (Reading/Writing), Math, Science and History/Social Studies and in high school core subjects assessed by end-of-course exams. Revisions to the Standards of Accreditation that were approved by the state Board of Education in 2017 and became effective last year reduced the number of SOL tests high school students must pass in order to graduate. Under the revised regulations, students who meet the testing requirement in a content area do not have to take another test in the subject unless additional testing is re-

SEE SOLs BELOW, PAGE 16

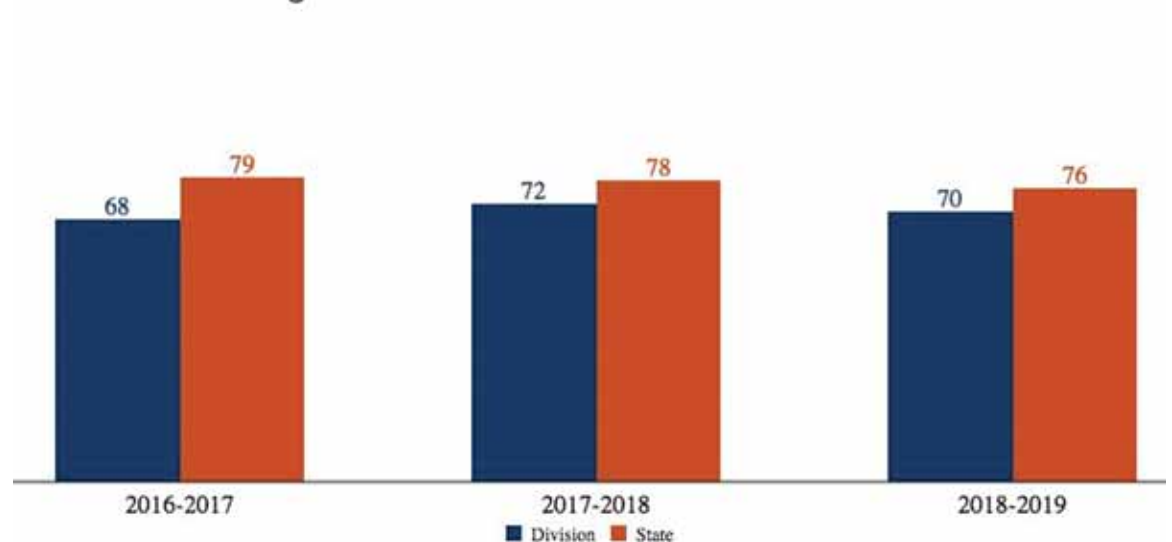
Reading Performance: All Students



SOURCE: [HTTP://SCHOOL QUALITY/VIRGINIA.GOV](http://SCHOOL QUALITY/VIRGINIA.GOV)

Student Achievement by Proficiency Level: Reading

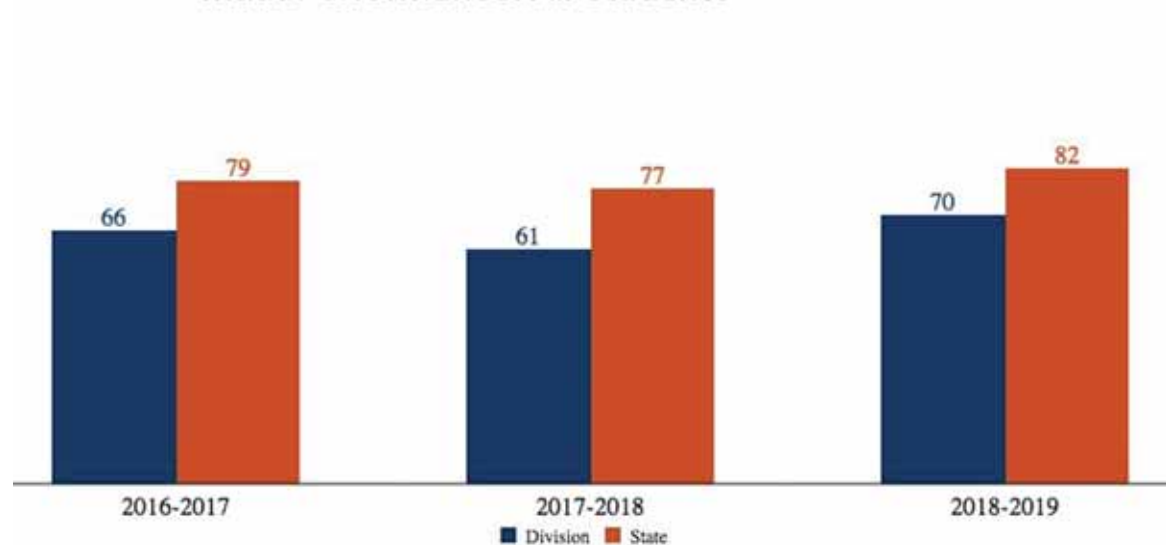
Writing Performance: All Students



SOURCE: [HTTP://SCHOOL QUALITY/VIRGINIA.GOV](http://SCHOOL QUALITY/VIRGINIA.GOV)

Student Achievement by Proficiency Level: Writing

Math Performance: All Students



SOURCE: [HTTP://SCHOOL QUALITY/VIRGINIA.GOV](http://SCHOOL QUALITY/VIRGINIA.GOV)

Student Achievement by Proficiency Level: Math



# Friendship Firehouse Celebrates Its 245th Birthday

**Thousands turn out for annual festival.**

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**A**lexandria's oldest fire company celebrated its 245<sup>th</sup> birthday with a block party that featured family events and demonstrations at the annual Friendship Firehouse Festival Aug. 3 in Old Town.

Presented by the Friendship Veterans Fire Engine Association, festival features included antique fire apparatus, craft booths, community organization displays and tours of the historic Friendship Firehouse Museum.

"We're excited to be here at the festival," said Tracy Dace, founder of the youth nonprofit DREAM House. Dace was visiting Alexandria with a group of 52 from Champaign, Ill., and toured the museum and climbed aboard the fire apparatus. "Everyone is enjoying this."

The Friendship Fire Company was established in 1774 as the first fire company in Alexandria. On display during the festival was the 1858 Prettyman hose reel carriage, voted the favorite Virginia Association of Museums Top 10 Endangered Artifacts.

"This year's festival was a very successful event," said lead coordinator Bill Kehoe. "The weather was hot but visitors and exhibitors alike all had a good time."

According to Kehoe, more than 4,000 visitors attended the event, with over a thousand taking the time to tour the Friendship Firehouse Museum.

In addition to exploring firefighting artifacts and touring city fire trucks, children received free fire helmets and birthday

cake.

"The fire equipment was, of course, the main attraction and there were long lines for kids and adults to get up into the rigs and 'drive' them," Kehoe said. "One unusual feature this year was the long line of folks to get up into the rear tiller seat on the back of the fire truck."

New this year were hourly raffle drawings, organized by Friendship Veterans Fire Association board members Marion Moon, Jeanne Jacob and Tim Winkle. Combined with a "fill the boot" campaign and donation box, several hundred dollars were raised for the 1858 Prettyman Hose Carriage Conservation Fund.

Mayor Justin Wilson, joined by Acting Fire Chief Corey Smedley and Council women Del Pepper and Amy Jackson, cut the birthday cake, which according to Kehoe "was devoured in record time."

"One extra benefit came from the fact that several cars did not heed the no parking signs and were towed away," said Kehoe of the South Alfred Street road closure. "During this process, the Police Department was there to assist. The cops and cars were still on site as the festival started up and bingo, a new exhibit formed. Kids and adults were anxious to get in the squad cars and look around at all of the buttons, etc. It was a huge success. Obviously, we will formally invite them and the Sheriff next year." After decades of coordinating the festival, Kehoe announced that he will be stepping down from that role.

"Age and pace are creeping up on me and I have decided this will be my last festival as the lead coordinator," Kehoe said in an email to board members, who will continue to sponsor the festival.

The Friendship Firehouse Museum is located at 107 S. Alfred St. See [www.friendshipfire.net](http://www.friendshipfire.net).



**Volunteers show attendees how to put out a mock fire during the Aug. 3 Friendship Firehouse Festival.**



PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

**Youth development nonprofit DREAM House founder Tracy Dace and participants from Champaign, Ill., pose for a photo aboard a fire truck at the Aug. 3 Friendship Firehouse Festival.**



**Jaelynn Taylor with grandmother Melissa Ellsworth at the Friendship Firehouse Festival.**



**Corbin Meadows and mom Lindsay chat with volunteer Catherine Weinraub inside the historic Friendship Firehouse Museum.**



**Acting Fire Chief Corey Smedley with retired firefighter Ed Snyder.**



**Easton and Hannah Delong show off their fire hats during the Aug. 3 Friendship Firehouse Festival.**



**Rotary Club of Central Alexandria members Dennis Belmont, John Renner and Florence King at the Aug. 3 Friendship Firehouse Festival.**



# Commemorating 1899 Lynching near Market Square

FROM PAGE 1

him, an act which the report called a “parody of justice.”

“Lynching was not just about the person who was being murdered,” said Fikes. “It was a public message, and that message was very clear: you are in danger for being treated like a human. In this case, that meant having the right to a trial.”

The commemoration also honored 12 black men who were arrested and punished for attempting to save Thomas from the assassins.

Fikes, who is involved with the Equal Justice Initiative, an organization that helps communities confront past injustices, said that the impact of lynching in a community scars both the descendants of those lynched and the assassins.

“The damage done by the hatred and violence of these events isn’t solely found in the African American community,” said Fikes. “It’s doing very real things to the families of the white men who did this. It’s one thing to say you descend from a family who owned slaves, but it’s a whole other thing to have a great grandfather who participated in an atrocity like this in recent history.”

The people who are discovering that their families were somehow involved in this — whether they are related to the one lynched



**A small crowd gathered Aug. 8 at the corner of King Street and Fairfax Street to commemorate the lynching of Benjamin Thomas that took place there in 1899.**

or the murderer — are beginning to reconcile this in some very powerful and courageous ways.”

An informational meeting hosted by the City of Alexandria and the Alexandria Black History Museum will be held at 1 p.m. on Sept. 21 in Charles Houston Recreation

Center to discuss further steps in healing Alexandria’s history of racial terror and to memorialize the two victims of lynching in Alexandria — Joseph McCoy, lynched on April 23, 1897, and Thomas.

“There’s no sense in drudging all this up just to talk about something horrible that



**Tamara Wellons sings a variant of Amazing Grace in commemoration of Benjamin Thomas.**

PHOTOS BY  
ELISSA ESHER  
GAZETTE PACKET

happened and be sad about it,” said Fikes. “We have to look at the structural inequalities that still exist today and use this as an opportunity for us as a community to heal.”

For more information on the informational meeting in September, visit: <https://www.alexandriava.gov/Historic>.

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## PEOPLE

# 'We Were Built for This' Local rapper hopes to find success in hip hop.

BY LIAM BOWMAN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**I**t's 10 minutes to seven and the doors are about to open at Union Stage. Sound check is over and done with, and the performers now mill about the green room, sipping Red Bull and filling the air with nervous chatter.

George Hughes, known by the stage name, HEF, reclines on a black leather couch and tries to calm the nerves of his long-time music-making partner, Zach Siegel. Siegel, the concert's DJ and emcee, is minutes away from heading onstage. He hunches over his phone screen and mutters lyrics under his breath in a last-minute attempt at memorization.

"The more you overthink it, the more you're going to mess yourself up" says Hughes, thumbing passively at his iPhone. "It's like the SATs; you just wing it."

Siegel cracks a smile and lifts his eyes from the screen. "I'm honestly not nervous," he says.

"You shouldn't be," says D&G DAE, the concert's opening act, who walks over and shakes Siegel by the shoulder. "We were built for this."

As showtime approaches, Hughes and Siegel start pacing restively around the room. They crack jokes to ease the tension and talk through what to do on stage. "Before you go out I'm about to say, 'Are you all ready for HEF?' And they're going to go crazy," Siegel says, his voice swelling up.

Hughes first started writing music when his father died. He

took to his passion quietly at first, scribbling lyrics on scraps of paper, which his mother would find scattered about the house. As a teenager, Hughes began to take his music more seriously, but it became more of a struggle. Working alone became a frustration for Hughes, who set out to find a creative ally.

In 2016, during his sophomore year at Bishop Ireton High School, Hughes became aware of Siegel, then a senior at T.C Williams High School who had just started making beats in his basement studio. Hughes took a chance and sent Siegel a message out of the blue. They met for a collaboration and became fast friends.

Since the pair started working together in 2016, they have released several songs on music streaming platforms such as Spotify and SoundCloud, and have seen their popularity steadily grow. The latest collaboration between Hughes and Siegel, Hughes' debut album, "Hef," was released in March 2019 and drew more attention than any of their previous works. "Our first EP has like 215,000 [plays] on Spotify. Our album, in the first month, had 325,000 [plays]," said Hughes.

The duo works independently and still does all the recording in Siegel's basement. The set-up allows them to take their time and work undisturbed, with Hughes coming up with song lyrics, while Siegel works out a beat. "We have everything we need here. It's cheap and we just get to have fun taking



George Hughes performing at Union Stage on Aug. 1.

as long as we want," said Hughes.

The two have tried to capitalize on their internet notoriety and have played several shows around the D.C. area, most recently an Aug. 1 show at Union Stage. "Basically to do shows you have to do small venues, then slightly bigger, and slightly bigger," said Siegel. "It proves that you'll have sales."

Hughes currently splits his time between music and his studies at Northern Virginia Community College. He plans to finish his studies, but hopes to go all in on his music career.

"It's a thrill to see him onstage," said Jane Hughes, who attended her son's show at Union Stage. "I love to see him enjoying himself and being creative."



Zach Siegel (left) and George Hughes in their basement studio.



PHOTO BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

## WMATA's Platform Project

**Virginia Tech rising seniors Liam Walter and Bobby Sherrill take a break from the heat while working at the Eisenhower Avenue Metro on July 24. The Eisenhower Avenue station is one of the six Metro stations south of Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport closed through Sept. 8 as part of WMATA's Platform Improvement Project.**

## WMPA Names New Executive Director

Caroline Mousset has been appointed the next executive director of the Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association. She provides leadership of the organization alongside Artistic Director Ulysses S. James.

"On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we are all very excited to welcome Caroline as our next executive director. In collaboration with the expressive vision and talent that our Artistic Director, Ulysses James, brings to the organization, Caroline's experience in fostering live classical performances and her passion for inspiring community engagement in the arts will create a host of new opportunities for the Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association," said Larry Ries, president of the Board.

Mousset comes to the Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association from The Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C. where she became the fourth director of music in 2009. In her time with The Phillips Collection, she curated, produced, and presented 10 annual concert seasons with 14 years altogether at the museum. Inspired by The Phillips Collection's founder's vision for introducing new artists and works to Washington audiences, Mousset pio-

neered the Leading European Composers series (now called Leading International Composers) in partnership with embassies in Washington, and as of 2016 also with the University of Maryland. Further innovation came in the 2012-13 season with the establishment of the Phillips Camerata, a chamber orchestra in residence with a flexible roster of some of the East Coast's leading instrumentalists. In 2015-16, Mousset oversaw the celebration of 75 years of Sunday Concerts.

The Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization of musicians and music lovers dedicated to making high-quality musical performances and opportunities accessible to the community. WMPA sponsors three orchestras: The WM Youth Orchestra and the WM Concert Orchestra; a free summer chamber concert series; and a composition competition. Visit [www.wmpamusic.org](http://www.wmpamusic.org).







PHOTO BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

**Officials break ground at the future site of the Institute for Defense Analyses headquarters Aug. 13 at Potomac Yard. From left are: IDA Director of Special Projects Dean Graves, IDA Board of Trustees Chair Pete Geren, City Councilwoman Del Pepper, and IDA President Dr. David S.C. Chu.**

## ‘Location, Location, Location’

FROM PAGE 1  
Founded in 1956, IDA is a nonprofit corporation that operates three Federally Funded Research and Development Centers in the public interest. It has been headquartered in Alexandria since 1986 and purchased the Potomac Yard site in 2016 for \$10.1 million.

“Over the last four decades, the City of Alexandria has benefited from the reputation of this Institute,” said Pepper. “Our city and economic development staff worked with IDA leadership and advisors over recent years to help identify sites that would meet the Institute’s growth for decades to come.”

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# OPINION

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#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Beyond Shared Lane Markings

To the Editor:

Some streets in Alexandria are marked with a bicycle symbol with two chevron markings above the bicycle (called shared lane markings or sharrows) and these same streets often include "Bikes May Use Full Lanes" (BMUFL) signs. Why use these markings and signs on some streets and not others? What is their purpose?

Some people may mistakenly believe that shared lane markings and BMUFL signs designate specific streets where bicycle riding is allowed.

Remarks to City Council on July 9 by one resident suggested as much when the speaker indicated that a recommendation to provide shared lane markings on a particular street "is also maybe good news for the biking community ... now they can have a posted shared lane in which they have a right to ride."

It is important to note though that shared lane markings do not provide new rights to people on bicycles; rights and responsibilities of people bicycling on public streets are granted by Virginia code, not by local ordinance or signage.

Per the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), BMUFL signs are "used in locations where it is important to inform road users that bicyclists might occupy the travel lane." The FHWA similarly lists reasons to use shared lane markings — for example, to "Alert road users of the lateral location bicyclists are likely to occupy within the traveled way." In other words, bicycles already have a right to ride on these roads — the signs are simply there to remind other road users of this fact.

Although shared lane markings may have operational benefits, there is no evidence they

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PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

#### A shared lane marking or sharrow

improve safety. The National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) notes that a shared lane marking "should not be considered a substitute for bike lanes, cycle tracks, or other separation treatments." A recent study, "Why cities with high bicycling rates are safer for all road users," confirmed that "Better safety outcomes are instead associated with a greater prevalence of bike facilities — particularly protected and separated bike facilities."

Protected bike facilities make roads safer for both drivers and cyclists. A Rice Kinder Institute for Urban Research study, "Cities with protected bike lanes are safer for everyone, including drivers," concluded "When a street's design is diversified to include protected bike lanes, the safety of both drivers and bikers increases."

In summary, shared lane markings do not provide new rights to people on bicycles; the rights and responsibilities of people bicycling on public streets are granted by Virginia code.

**Erin Meter**

*Treasurer, Alexandria Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, a 501(c)3 volunteer organization that promotes walking and biking in Alexandria.*

### Share Tips about Community

We also need help from our readers for content of our annual Guide.

We're hoping to share special places, activities, events, organizations and volunteer opportunities. What should someone new to your neighborhood know about? What is it that you love most about where you live?

We will publish a selection of local viewpoints along with information useful to newcomers and long-time residents alike, including information on how to vote and more.

See last year's community guides by going to [www.connectionnewspapers.com/PDFs/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/PDFs/) and scrolling down to Newcomers.

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— MARY KIMM

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### This Slope Leads to Safety

To the Editor:

I am writing in response to Dino Drudi's letter entitled, "Slippery Slope Of Gun Control." He makes a comparison between what he sees as the city's attempt to "eliminate a lot of cars" by removing a Seminary Road traffic lane and the slippery slope of a claim of "gun safety" by incrementally restricting guns.

So let's look at cars and the slippery slope they faced not so many years ago. Seat belts: The manufacturers and many drivers didn't want them. Now they are accepted and widely used in this country. Back up cameras: Too expensive, now embraced. Staying with cars, you must be licensed to drive one and demonstrate proficiency prior to being the operator. You need insurance, your car has to be registered. Did all these things and requirements eliminate automobile accidents and deaths? No, but cars, drivers and passengers are much safer today.

Don't be afraid of what makes sense. A universal background check bill, a ban on assault weapons and large capacity magazines and an extreme risk protective order come to mind.

When an overwhelming percentage of voters want something, it's hard for me to see it as a slippery slope.

**John K. (Kevin) Bergen**  
Alexandria

### Hector Eaches Of Alexandria

To the Editor:

One of the soldiers of 17th Virginia Infantry, C.S.A., the unit our soldier statue is

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## Alexandria Gazette Packet

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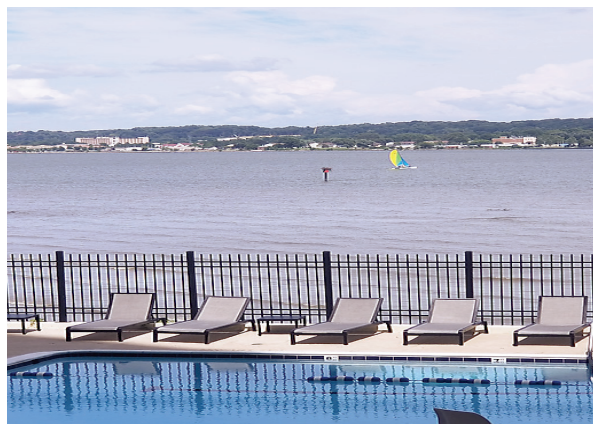
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# News

## 10th Annual Alexandria Summer Sidewalk Sale

**Twist Boutique participates in 10th Annual Alexandria Summer Sidewalk Sale last weekend. The event was led by Visit Alexandria in partnership with the City of Alexandria, Old Town Boutique District, Old Town Business and Del Ray Business Association.**

PHOTO BY ELISSA ESHER  
/GAZETTE PACKET



PHOTO BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

**Mitzi Moore, left, and Carol Supplee of Imagine Artwear prepare for the Alexandria Summer Sidewalk Sale.**



PHOTO BY SARAH MARCELLA CREATIVE FOR VISIT ALEXANDRIA

**Alexandria Symphony Orchestra musicians perform at the Alexandria Visitor Center during the 10th Annual Alexandria Summer Sidewalk Sale.**



PHOTO BY ELISSA ESHER/GAZETTE PACKET

**Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum set up for Alexandria's sidewalk sale.**



PHOTO BY ELISSA ESHER

**The sidewalk sale at The Shoe Hive. More than 50 Alexandria boutiques stepped out of their storefronts and offered discounted summer merchandise.**

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 8

largely dedicated to, was an Alexandrian named Hector Eaches. He did not die in the war, so the statue does not mention his name, but he suffered a wound, experienced the privations of a POW, and buried a friend killed at Fredericksburg. He died later in 1875, and rests in Ivy Hill Cemetery between King and W. Braddock. He was 35.

With all the latent hatred some have against Confederate soldiers, we should learn about who they really were. Hector's surviving letters are in the Alexandria library, and some published in a book titled

Letters to Virginia. The Eaches were Quakers who were against slavery. In the 1850s Hector was working in New York making a living doing portraits. 1861 he came back here to join those who would leave town and form the Confederate States Army further west. Since he was against slavery, it is clear that he did not join to defend it, contrary to what some today would have us believe.

None of Hector's letters mention any political issues. Only "my country" in one letter toward the end of the war. He went into the army out of a sense of duty to defend his state and the country it became a part of. His brother, John Eaches, who also

served in the Confederate Army in Missouri, wrote to Hector in 1863 asking: "I want to know something about the Alexandria boys and what they are doing and have done in the army to distinguish themselves? I know they will do their duty. Praying for your health, and that you may live through this glorious struggle for liberty." John had no other cause either.

One letter by Hector describe how he was wounded at White Oak Swamp, near Richmond, and had to recover in a POW camp with a bullet in his leg. He was on crutches most of the war. In 1863 he was paroled (traded). When the Confederate Army got him back, they assigned him light duty in a

drafting office. At war's end, he had the privilege of having Robert E. Lee sit for him to draw. He sold that picture for \$200 in September 1865, and went back to a career as an artist.

Hector Eaches was a good, kind man. An artist with a great God-given talent who set it aside to risk death, suffered injury, and endured great suffering. He is the true representation of what our soldier statue means. Duty, honor, country. All American soldiers who wore blue and gray embody those things.

**Harold Knudsen**  
Alexandria





PHOTOS BY JOHN COLE

This kitchen and dining area by Anthony Wilder Design/Build includes a workstation concealed behind doors (shown open and closed) to keep the family organized.

# Home Organization For a New School Year

Accessories and design elements to create a smooth start.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

As a new school year looms large over the horizon, the hectic reality of packing lunches, buying school supplies and making space for new backpacks comes into focus. Making time for home organization can decrease stress before the school bus arrives.

The kitchen is often the nucleus or command center of a family's home, especially during the school year. To help quell the chaos, Shannon Kadwell of Anthony Wilder Design/Build suggests centralization. "A snack station and breakfast center can be great for letting the kids get food on their own while you get together meals and lunches," she said. "The snack station [can be] a drawer in the kitchen that kids can go into at anytime to get healthy snacks. Granola bars, nuts, crackers, dried fruit, can be pre-measured for individual servings for easy grab and go."

Getting dressed in the morning can become a source of tension, but Sallie Finney Kjos of Grey Hunt Interiors says that she incorporates an elegant design solution

into the bedrooms of her clients homes that helps ease the day-break anxiety.

"Get a basket for each kid and roll their outfits for the day, tie them together and place them upright in the basket," she said. "Give your kid independence and let them pick out their own clothes. Not only will their outfits match, but you'll know that they didn't create a mess finding the perfect shirt."

In fact, baskets can offer a versatile and chic method of organization throughout one's home says, Courtney Thomas of home accessories store, The Picket Fence.

**"Baskets are an easy and often inexpensive way to contain clutter."**

— Courtney Thomas,  
The Picket Fence

"They are available in endless sizes and styles," she said. "Baskets are an easy and often inexpensive way to contain clutter. Larger ones are perfect for blankets and pillows, smaller ones keep toys corralled, and there are even baskets with file hangers to keep ... papers organized. If baskets aren't your style, we also love using vintage boxes and crates to serve the same function."

Getting creative with clear containers can help maintain order without sacrificing a home's aesthetic, says Thomas. "You can find

options that are much more stylish than the traditional plastic tub," she said. "Since they are see-through it's easy to see what's inside and find what you need. Use mason jars for pencils and crayons." A coffee table can serve double duty as both a home accessory and a clandestine storage space, says Kjos. "They can be a catch all for busy families," she said. "Consider topping them with a few decorative boxes to hold needed items." Over the course of a school year, a home's mud room can become a black hole of backpacks, soccer cleats and lacrosse sticks. "Having a locker with a door for each child gives the mudroom a clean, organized feel," said Kadwell. "The kids don't need to be neat and tidy inside their own spaces."

Back-to-school organization can extend to the laundry rooms, continues Kadwell. "Set up drop stations to have kids drop off clothes that are in need of washing," she said. "Have bins in an easy to get to space for the kids that are labeled whites, darks and towels. Kids can place their clothing in them according to the labels. This helps cut down the laundry time by having them already sorted."

A family calendar to keep track of deadlines, appointments, and events is a must-have, continued Kadwell. "[Place it] at a level kids can see," she said. "This can be a whole wall that you can paint with a magnetic chalk paint and create a paneled wall effect."

**THE CONNECTION**  
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SPECIAL PULLOUT TAB

## Newcomers & Community Guide August 28, 2019

The annual Newcomers and Community Guides for each of our 15 communities with inside facts on what makes each community special, their secret places, the real power players, how to get involved and more.

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Due to the popularity and long shelf life of this issue, an overrun of the publication is made to meet demand. Extra copies are delivered to select Chambers of Commerce, Realtors, Citizens' Associations and local government.

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lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way. 2. not appreciated or understood. 3. no longer owned or known



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# ENTERTAINMENT

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

## ONGOING

**Junior Golf Fairfax Camps, Clinics and Competition.** Burke Lake Golf Center is located at 6915 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Pinecrest Golf Course is located at 6600 Little River Turnpike, Alexandria. Twin Lakes Golf Course is located at 6201 Union Mill Road, Clifton. Oak Marr Golf Complex is located at 3136 Germantown Road, Oakton. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/golf/junior](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/golf/junior).

- ❖ In one-session introductory Junior Golf clinics, kids and teens learn basic golf rules, etiquette of the game, get familiarized with different types of clubs and acquire skills for putting and chipping in a social and relaxed environment. Clubs and practice balls provided. Clinics are offered at Burke Lake, Oak Marr and Pinecrest golf courses for \$15 each in August.
  - ❖ Golf camp week-long sessions are still open – campers learn putting, chipping, iron and woods play from certified instructors in a friendly, group atmosphere. Course etiquette and best safety practices will teach kids and teens fundamentals while they socialize and have fun. Clubs are not required but suggested. All campers will receive a certificate and golf fun pack upon camp completion. Burke Lake Golf Center and Twin Lakes Golf Course offer half day summer camp, Pinecrest Golf Course offers both half and full day summer camp options. Oak Marr Golf Complex offers half day spring and summer camp through Everybody Golf School.
  - ❖ Course-ready juniors will enjoy the Junior Club Championship, Aug. 16, 8 a.m.-noon at Burke Lake Golf Center. Golfers participate in an 18-hole individual stroke competition. Competitors will be separated into three divisions with first, second, and third place prizes available in all divisions. Lunch provided. Call 703-323-1641 to register.
- The Producers – A New Mel Brooks Musical.** Through Aug. 17 at The Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. Max Bialystock, the one time king of Broadway producers, is hungry to strike it rich. Leo Bloom, an accountant with



**High-fire contrast stoneware jewelry holder with earring hanger and ring basin by Chris Coyle of Glenn Dale, Md.; High-fire stoneware bowl glazed ocean blue with spiraled peek-a-boo detailing by Klaudia Levin of Silver Spring, Md.; Impressed porcelain ceramic collander for berries, cherries and more by Ana Cavalcanti of Bethesda, Md.; High-fire sgraffito contrast platter with etched turtle by Shirley Gromen of Arlington, Va.; Petite woodfired geometric vase with pricked detailing by Roni Polisar of Burtonsville, Md.**

## Art Exhibit: Piercings, Clay Body Art and Carving

The season is shaping up to be steamy as designs are working out, clay bodies are shaping up, donning some fierce detailing in “Piercings, Clay Body Art and Carving.” Ceramic Guild art becomes less hippie and more hipster as artists go epic with an aggressive take on decoration outside the bowl. The exhibit runs through Sept. 1, gallery hours at Scope Gallery, Studio 19 of the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St. Call 703-548-6288 or visit [www.scopegallery.org](http://www.scopegallery.org).

dreams of someday becoming a theatre producer, discovers that they could get richer by producing a flop instead of a hit. They start by finding the worst show, worst director, and worst actors. When their new production, “Springtime for Hitler,” turns out to be a smash success, the plan is thrown off and the partners lives are thrown into chaos. Note: This show contains language and adult themes. \$29-\$34. Visit [thelittletheatre.com](http://thelittletheatre.com).

**Registration Open: NVSO.** The Northern Virginia Senior Olympics features more than 60 events that challenge the mind as well as the body. New games this year: jigsaw puzzle and line-dancing. The games run Sept. 14-28. There will be no on-site registration. Paper registrations, available at most local recreation and senior centers, must be postmarked by Aug. 24. Online registrations must be completed by Aug. 31 at [www.nvso.us](http://www.nvso.us).

**Art Exhibit: “Some Like It Hot.”** Through Aug. 25, gallery hours at Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, Studio 29, 105 North Union St. Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery presents its juried show, “Some Like It Hot” featuring work by artists and craftspersons influenced by the weather and the beautiful colors of the summer season. Themed work will be eligible for recognition by the jurors. Non-themed work may also be exhibited. Free admission. Visit

[www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com](http://www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com) or call 703-548-0935.

**Creative Summer Programs.** Through Aug. 31 at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Del Ray Artisans’ Creative Summer Programs is a series of workshops exploring the arts. Learn techniques in photography (macro and SmartPhone), painting, sculpture, mixed media, jewelry-making, sketching, and more; and discover how to use art for affirmation, communication, and intention. Details and registration at [DelRayArtisans.org/programs/creative-summer/](http://DelRayArtisans.org/programs/creative-summer/).

**Art Exhibit: Fresh Meat.** Through Sept. 1, gallery hours at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. “Fresh Meat” features artwork by Del Ray Artisans’ newest members from 2018-2019. “Fresh Meat” highlights new faces and new techniques. Visit [DelRayArtisans.org/event/fresh-meat](http://DelRayArtisans.org/event/fresh-meat) for more.

**Art Exhibit: Piercings, Clay Body Art and Carving.** Through Sept. 1, gallery hours at Scope Gallery, Studio 19 of the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St. The season is shaping up to be steamy as designs are working out, clay bodies are shaping up, donning some fierce detailing in “Piercings, Clay Body Art and Carving.” Ceramic Guild art becomes less hippie and more hipster as artists go epic with an aggressive take on decoration outside the bowl. Call 703-548-6288 or visit

[www.scopegallery.org](http://www.scopegallery.org).

**Art Exhibitions.** Through Sept. 15, Wednesday-Sunday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Artists @ Mosaic, 105 District Ave., Fairfax. For the first time, the Torpedo Factory Artists’ Association is sharing its gallery space with a group of student artists. The Torpedo Factory Artists @ Mosaic is a satellite gallery sponsored by the Torpedo Factory Artists’ Association. Visit [www.torpedofactoryartists.com/mosaic/](http://www.torpedofactoryartists.com/mosaic/) for more.

- ❖ “Make Your Mark” is part of the Torpedo Factory Artists’ Associations’ effort to provide exhibit opportunities for gifted artists in the community. In this show, each of the 13 students taking classes from TFAA artist and arts educator Marsha Staiger present one painting that represents their body of work.
- ❖ “Animal Kingdom” is the theme of the Torpedo Factory artists’ exhibit and will showcase the best of what nature has to offer, including the wild and the tame.

**Art Exhibit: Habitats.** Through Sept. 22, gallery hours at Target Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 North Union St., Studio 2. The newest group exhibition Habitats in Target Gallery, the contemporary exhibitions space of Torpedo Factory Art Center, poses the question, “What makes a habitat a home?” The selected artists address these questions and raise new ones. Work is presented in a diversity of media, from sculpture and photography to video and virtual reality. Visit [torpedofactory.org/partners/target-gallery](http://torpedofactory.org/partners/target-gallery).

**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).

**Band Members Needed.** Join the Mount Vernon Community Band, a group of players who enjoy playing many styles of band music in a relaxed atmosphere. Rehearsals are Tuesdays 7:30-9:30 p.m. in the Mount Vernon High School Band Room, 8515 Old Mount Vernon Road. No auditions. All instruments needed. Contact Eric Leighty directly 703-768-4172 or visit [www.mvbands.com/join-us/](http://www.mvbands.com/join-us/).

**FRIDAY/AUG. 16**

**Mount Vernon Nights: One Nite**

**Stand (R&B).** 7:30-8:30 at Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Performances will feature musical styles from soul to and pop and bluegrass and rock. Bring a picnic dinner and a blanket and enjoy one of Fairfax County’s summer traditions. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/mt-vernon-nights](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/mt-vernon-nights) for more.

**FRIDAY-SUNDAY/AUG. 16-18**

**Emerging Writers Festival.** At Old Town Books, 104 S. Union St. The inaugural Emerging Writers Festival will celebrate, educate, and inspire emerging writers through free and low-cost literacy arts programming. The festival plans to connect readers to new writers and give emerging writers new opportunities and skills. Individuals can kick start their writing practice, learn about pitching editors and agents, take craft classes, or meet their next favorite author. The festival will include more than a dozen free and low-cost writing classes with professional writers, editors, and book industry experts. There will also be a book fair. Visit [www.emergingwritersfestival.com](http://www.emergingwritersfestival.com).

**AUG. 16-25**

**Alexandria Summer Restaurant Week.** For 10 days and two weekends, more than 70 restaurants in Alexandria will offer a \$35 three-course dinner for one or a \$35 dinner for two. More than 35 restaurants will also offer lunch menus at \$15 or \$22 per person in addition to the dinner specials. Brunch lovers can enjoy brunch menus for \$15 or \$22 per person at nearly 20 restaurants. Visit [www.AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com](http://www.AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com) or call 703-838-5005.

**SATURDAY/AUG. 17**

**Honey Bee Day Celebration.** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at River Farm, 7931 E Boulevard Drive. Join the American Horticultural Society for a free, family-friendly celebration of pollinators and pollinator gardening on National Honey Bee Day. Enjoy a variety of activities and tours, and be joined by MOM’s Organic Market - Alexandria, which will provide helpful information on organic lawn care. Free. Visit [www.ahsgardening.org/about-river-farm/events-programs/honey-bee-day](http://www.ahsgardening.org/about-river-farm/events-programs/honey-bee-day) for more. Volunteers wanted to help plant a pollinator garden; sign up at [www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0e4ea4a729aaf58-honey](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0e4ea4a729aaf58-honey).

**Puppet Show: Wonderment Puppet Theater.** 10 and 11:15 a.m. at the Durant Center, 1605 Cameron St. Alexandria’s Office of the Arts hosts monthly puppet shows that are fun for the very young and the young at heart. A greedy troll tries to take over the three goats’ bridge and make a meal out of them. But the goats have different plans for the troll. \$6 per person. Call 703-746-5565 or visit [alexandriava.gov/Webtrac](http://alexandriava.gov/Webtrac), enter as guest.

**Youth Bike Classes.** 10 a.m. at William Ramsay Recreation Center, 5650 Sanger Ave. The City of Alexandria is sponsoring a Youth Learn to Ride bike class, led by the Washington Area Bicyclist Association, for children 6-12. Youth Learn to Ride classes are intended for children who have either never tried to ride a bike or have tried but have not been successful. Each student must bring their own bike and helmet. Students will ride for approximately three hours, with breaks every hour. \$10. Register at [waba.org/blog/2019/07/youth-learn-to-ride/](http://waba.org/blog/2019/07/youth-learn-to-ride/).



**Participants of Swim for Engie III in 2018. Engie Mokhtar is center in light blue and Doug Prince is seated at right (in the Alexandria Masters Swimming t-shirt).**

## Swim for Engie

In honor of Alexandria Residents Engie Mokhtar and Doug Prince. Proceeds from the Swim for Engie Swimathon will go to John Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center. Swimmers of all ages welcome. Saturday, Aug. 24, 8-10 a.m. at Waynewood Pool, 1027 Dalebrook Drive. \$10 suggested donation. Email [swimforengie@gmail.com](mailto:swimforengie@gmail.com) or visit [bit.ly/swim4engie](http://bit.ly/swim4engie) for more.



# ENTERTAINMENT

**Jones Point Meetup.** 11 a.m.-noon at Jones Point Park, Jones Point Drive. Join a national park ranger to explore the long history of this little piece of land and see the last remaining inland lighthouse on the Potomac River, once a beacon to boat captains and commerce on the river. Free. Call 703-235-1530 or visit [www.nps.gov/gwmp/planyourvisit/jonespoint.htm](http://www.nps.gov/gwmp/planyourvisit/jonespoint.htm) for more.

**Dyke Marsh Meetup, Walk with a Ranger.** 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Belle Haven Park/ Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve. Enjoy the outdoors on this 2-mile walk with a national park ranger to see the largest freshwater marsh in the nation's capital. Bring a pair of binoculars for viewing an eagle's nest and other marsh life. Free. Call 703-235-1530 or visit [www.nps.gov/gwmp/planyourvisit/dykemarsh.htm](http://www.nps.gov/gwmp/planyourvisit/dykemarsh.htm).

**Open House.** 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at School of Rock Alexandria, 3260 Duke St. Take a tour of the school, meet instructors and learn more about School of Rock's performance-based music programs. Lessons available in guitar, bass, keyboard, vocals and drums in both group and individual lessons. Free. Call ahead to schedule a free, 30-minute trial lesson, 571-376-7625. Visit [alexandria.schoolofrock.com](http://alexandria.schoolofrock.com) for more.

**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).

**Clear the Shelters.** 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, 4101 Eisenhower Ave. AWLA will take part in the national Clear the Shelters adoption event and adoption fees will be waived for all adoptable animals at the AWLA during this adoption event. To make the event fun for the whole family, the AWLA will be hosting a tent with activities for superheroes of all ages, as well as a yard sale with discounted pet supplies, a bake sale with sweet treats and more. Those who are not ready to adopt, can pledge donations at [AlexandriaAnimals.org/ClearItForward](http://AlexandriaAnimals.org/ClearItForward). Visit [AlexandriaAnimals.org](http://AlexandriaAnimals.org) or call 703-746-4774.

**Mount Vernon Nights: Hooray for Bollywood (Indian Bollywood dance).** 7-8 p.m. at The Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Performances will range from disco to Indian Bollywood and acoustic blues to big band. Bring a picnic dinner and a blanket and enjoy one of Fairfax County's summer traditions. Come early to the Workhouse Arts Center to explore its vibrant arts scene. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance/mt-vernon-nights](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance/mt-vernon-nights) for more.

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

**Twilight Boardwalk Stroll.** 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Join a park naturalist for a guided walk along the forested paths to the wetland and experience the park as it transitions from day into night. Watch and listen for beavers, owls and other nocturnal



## Puppet Show: Wonderment Puppet Theater

Alexandria's Office of the Arts hosts monthly puppet shows that are fun for the very young and the young at heart. A greedy troll tries to take over the three goats' bridge and make a meal out of them. But the goats have different plans for the troll. Saturday, Aug. 17, 10 and 11:15 a.m. at the Durant Center, 1605 Cameron St. \$6 per person. Call 703-746-5565 or visit [alexandriava.gov/Webtrac](http://alexandriava.gov/Webtrac), enter as guest.

residents. For participants age 6-adult. \$9 per person. Call 703-768-2525 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows).

### SUNDAY/AUG. 18

**Beyond Paper and Stone.** 10 a.m.-noon at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. At Beyond Paper and Stone, staff of the Carlyle House would like to share their love of the collections with guests. Various objects will be pulled from the collections to be displayed and discussed. Get up close and personal with objects that are rarely on display in the house. \$15. Visit [www.novaparks.com/parks/carlyle-house-historic-park](http://www.novaparks.com/parks/carlyle-house-historic-park) for reservations.

**Adapted Nature Hike.** 10:30 a.m.-noon at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd., Alexandria. Families. Register children and adults; children must be accompanied by a registered adult. All are welcome to join in a leisurely paced hike through a park. The forested trails will be accessible, smooth and shaded for a fun hike to explore and examine whatever we discover. Restrooms and water fountain/bottle filler inside accessible building, gravel packed trail in shade, then boardwalk on slats, in direct sun when out in the middle of boardwalk but all flat. Benches at beginning and end in shade but not on main trail. Free. Call 703-228-6535 or register online at [registration.arlingtonva.us](http://registration.arlingtonva.us), use code #642959-M.

**"Tea and Tattle."** 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Adults. Rumor, hearsay, scuttlebutt and scandal. Can gossip have a positive impact on society? Hear about the origins and changing definitions of gossip, how people have "dished" hilariously through the ages, and why gossiping was once synonymous with tea-drinking. Program includes a full English afternoon tea. \$36 for the program and tea; \$15 for the program only. Reservations are required. Call 703-941-7987 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/green-spring](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/green-spring).

**Junior Docent Tours.** 2-5 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. These young historians, grades 4 and older, will be on hand to share highlights of the tavern and answer questions as guests journey through the museum. Great for

families as children connect with the building through their peer tour guides as well as for adults looking for some inspiration. Included in regular admission: \$5 adults, \$3 children ages 5-12, and 4 and under are free. Call 703-746-4242 or visit [www.gadsbystavern.org](http://www.gadsbystavern.org) for more.

**Chamber Concert Series.** 3-5 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. The Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association sponsors a chamber music series, weekly through Sept. 15, at the Lyceum in Old Town featuring small ensembles and soloists. This week's performance features the West Shore Trio. Free. Donations are appreciated. Visit [www.wmpamusic.org](http://www.wmpamusic.org) or call 703-799-8229.

**Fort Hunt Park Concerts.** Through Aug. 25, Sundays, 7-8 p.m. at Fort Hunt Park, Pavilion A, 8999 Fort Hunt Road. All are welcome for free community concerts held at Fort Hunt Park every Sunday. Free. Visit [www.nps.gov/gwmp/planyourvisit/forthuntconcerts.htm](http://www.nps.gov/gwmp/planyourvisit/forthuntconcerts.htm) for performer.

### TUESDAY/AUG. 20

**Jones Point Meetup.** 11 a.m.-noon at Jones Point Park, Jones Point Drive. Join a national park ranger to explore the long history of this little piece of land and see the last remaining inland lighthouse on the Potomac River, once a beacon to boat captains and commerce on the river. Free. Call 703-235-1530 or visit [www.nps.gov/gwmp/planyourvisit/jonespoint.htm](http://www.nps.gov/gwmp/planyourvisit/jonespoint.htm) for more.

**Genealogy: Immigration and Naturalization.** 1-3 p.m. at Mount Vernon Genealogical Society, Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Genealogist Sharon MacInnes will speak about researching ancestors who immigrated to America. The presentation is called "Immigration and Naturalization from 1607 Until Today." Free, open to the public. Visit [www.mvgenalogy.org](http://www.mvgenalogy.org) for more.

### THURSDAY/AUG. 22

**Fort Hunt Meetup, Walk with a Ranger.** 10:30-noon at Fort Hunt Park, 8999 Fort Hunt Road. Join a national park ranger on a 1.5 mile walk through historic Fort Hunt Park, be prepared to learn about some

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 Tuesday - Kids 12 & under Eat Free with accompanying adult. 1 child per adult.  
 Wednesday - Roast Turkey Special  
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 Friday - Fish Fry  
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# ENTERTAINMENT

World War II secrets. Meet at Area E parking. Free. Call 703-235-1530 for more.

**Summer Recess.** 4-7 p.m. at 2425 Eisenhower Ave. (on the grassy knoll). Enjoy live music, happy hour, lawn games, and food. Visit [www.FB.com/AlexandriaEcon](http://www.FB.com/AlexandriaEcon) for more.

## FRIDAY/AUG. 23

**Mount Vernon Nights: Lena Seikaly Quartet (jazz).** 7:30-8:30 at Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Performances will feature musical styles from soul to and pop and bluegrass and rock. Bring a picnic dinner and a blanket and enjoy one of Fairfax County's summer traditions. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/mt-vernon-nights](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/mt-vernon-nights) for more.

## SATURDAY/AUG. 24

**Swim for Engie.** 8-10 a.m. at Waynewood Pool, 1027 Dalebrook Drive. Swim for Engie Swimathon in honor of Alexandria Residents Engie Mokhtar and Doug Prince. Proceeds will go to John Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center. Swimmers of all ages welcome. \$10 suggested donation. Email [swimforengie@gmail.com](mailto:swimforengie@gmail.com) or visit [bit.ly/swim4engie](http://bit.ly/swim4engie) for more.

**Watercolor Workshop: Unfinished Paintings.** 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. (Adults) Bring in any incomplete paintings to the session at Green Spring Gardens. Instructor and artist Marni Maree will point participants in the right direction and help resolve problem areas. Whether it's technique, color mixing, composition or value, she'll help. Receive individual attention, instruction and guidance to finish those paintings or begin new ones. Bring supplies to work in class. \$93/person. Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/) using code 99F.BC10 or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173.

**George Washington's Alexandria.** 10 a.m.-11:30 at the Torpedo Factory, 101 N. Union St. Explore historic Old Town Alexandria as George Washington knew it. This 90-minute guided walking tour will explore sites associated with Washington and his closest colleagues. The tour begins behind the Torpedo Factory's south entrance, in front of Volia's Dockside Grill. Free. No reservations required. Offered by the Office of Historic Alexandria. Call 703-379-7460.

**Beyond the Battlefield.** 10 a.m.-noon at Lee-Fendall House Museum & Garden, 614 Oronoco St. A guided walking tour of Civil War sites in Historic Old Town featuring locations and stories associated with soldiers, citizens, and the enslaved, including the occupation of Alexandria and emancipation. \$15 in advance, \$20 gate. Visit [www.leefendallhouse.org](http://www.leefendallhouse.org) or call 703-548-1789.

**Fall and Winter Vegetable Gardening.** 10:30 a.m.-noon at Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. What can one plant when the weather starts to cool? Think healthful greens like kale, collards, bok choy and a wealth of lettuces. Learn what to plant when, and simple tips for success. Learn inexpensive techniques to extend a harvest and even how to enjoy crops in the dead of winter. This event is offered by Extension Master Gardeners. Free. Advance registration requested at [mgnv.org](http://mgnv.org). Questions? Telephone 703-228-6414 or email [mgaralex@gmail.com](mailto:mgaralex@gmail.com).

**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).

**Begonia Container Workshop.** 1-2:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. (16-Adult) Pot up a begonia in a galvanized wall planter for an outdoor garden area with the help of begonia expert Johanna Zinn. Learn about beautiful begonias types that can grow in Virginia and how to care for them. \$38/person for the program and \$25/person for the supply fee. Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/) using code 24A.DA18 or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173.

**Mount Vernon Nights: Roy Bookbinder (acoustic blues).** 7-8 p.m. at The Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Performances will range from disco to Indian Bollywood and acoustic blues to big band. Bring a picnic dinner and a blanket and enjoy one of Fairfax County's summer traditions. Come early to the Workhouse Arts Center to explore its vibrant arts scene. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/mt-vernon-nights](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/mt-vernon-nights) for more.

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/AUG. 24-25

**33rd Annual Begonia Show and Sale.** Saturday, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sunday, noon-3:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Sponsored by the Potomac branch of the American Begonia Society. Be tempted with splashes of color and shapes for homes and greenhouses that last long after frosts have put outdoor gardens to bed. The sale offers a wide va-riety of begonias, including subtropical species. Free. Call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173.

## SUNDAY/AUG. 25

**National Dog Day.** 10 a.m.-noon at 2425 Eisenhower Ave (on the grassy



**Tope Folarin, author of A Particular Kind of Black Man, will have a reading and signing, Saturday, Aug. 17, 7-8 p.m.**

## Emerging Writers Festival

The inaugural Emerging Writers Festival will celebrate, educate, and inspire emerging writers through free and low-cost literacy arts programming. The festival plans to connect readers to new writers and give emerging writers new opportunities and skills. Individuals can kick start their writing practice, learn about pitching editors and agents, take craft classes, or meet their next favorite author. The festival will include more than a dozen free and low-cost writing classes with professional writers, editors, and book industry experts. Tuition scholarships are available to writers in need of financial support. There will also be a book fair featuring vendors selling hand-bound books, small/independent press books, and representatives from local literary arts organizations as well as national organizations like PEN America and the Smithsonian Libraries. Friday-Sunday, Aug. 16-18, at Old Town Books, 104 S. Union St. Visit [www.emergingwritersfestival.com](http://www.emergingwritersfestival.com).



**Leo (Ryan Phillips) and Follies Girls (from left to right Taegan Chirinos, Cheryl Bolt, Erin Pugh, Kathleen West, Shannon Robichaud, Colleen Kleveno).**

## The Producers – A New Mel Brooks Musical

Max Bialystock, the one time king of Broadway producers, is hungry to strike it rich. Leo Bloom, an accountant with dreams of someday becoming a theatre producer, discovers that they could get richer by producing a flop instead of a hit. They start by finding the worst show, worst director, and worst actors. When their new production, "Springtime for Hitler," turns out to be a smash success, the plan is thrown off and the partners lives are thrown into chaos. Note: This show contains language and adult themes. Through Aug. 17 at The Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. \$29-\$34. Visit [thelittletheatre.com](http://thelittletheatre.com)

knoll). On the eve of National Dog Day, enjoy a mid-morning social, featuring local dog businesses and fun fido activities. Visit [www.FB.com/AlexandriaEcon](http://www.FB.com/AlexandriaEcon) for more.

**Dyke Marsh Meetup, Walk with a Ranger.** 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Belle



**Jane Friedman offers a Publishing Masterclass, Saturday, Aug. 17, 3:30-6:30 p.m.**

Haven Park/ Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve. Enjoy the outdoors on this 2-mile walk with a national park ranger to see the largest freshwater marsh in the nation's capital. Bring a pair of binoculars for viewing an eagle's nest and other marsh life. Free. Call 703-235-1530 or visit



PHOTO BY DAVID NOLES

**Novelist Catherine Chung, offers a Fiction Craft Intensive, Saturday, Aug. 17, 10-11:30 a.m.**

[www.nps.gov/gwmp/planyourvisit/dykemarsh.htm](http://www.nps.gov/gwmp/planyourvisit/dykemarsh.htm).

**Junior Docent Tours.** 2-5 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. These young historians, grades 4 and older, will be on hand to share highlights of the tavern and answer questions as guests journey through the museum. Great for families as children connect with the building through their peer tour guides as well as for adults looking for some inspiration. Included in regular admission: \$5 adults, \$3 children ages 5-12, and 4 and under are free. Call 703-746-4242 or visit [www.gadsbystavern.org](http://www.gadsbystavern.org) for more.

**Chamber Concert Series.** 3-5 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. The Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association sponsors a chamber music series, weekly through Sept. 15, at the Lyceum in Old Town featuring small ensembles and soloists. This week's performance features William McDaniel, piano. Free. Donations are appreciated. Visit [www.wmpamusic.org](http://www.wmpamusic.org) or call 703-799-8229.

**The Carter Gospel Singers.** 4 p.m. at the Woodlawn-Faith United Methodist Church, 7010 Harrison Lane. The Carter Gospel Singers of Alexandria will be celebrating 50 years of singing ministry in honor of the original Carter Chorus Singers. The anniversary them is "We have come this far by faith." Call 571-552-0994 or visit [www.woodlawnfaith.org](http://www.woodlawnfaith.org) for more.

**Fort Hunt Park Concerts.** Through Aug. 25, Sundays, 7-8 p.m. at Fort Hunt Park, Pavilion A, 8999 Fort Hunt Road. All are welcome for free community concerts held at Fort Hunt Park every Sunday. Free. Visit [www.nps.gov/gwmp/planyourvisit/forthuntconcerts.htm](http://www.nps.gov/gwmp/planyourvisit/forthuntconcerts.htm) for performer.



# ENTERTAINMENT

## MONDAY/AUG. 26

**Back to School.** Fairfax County Public Schools first day of the 2019-2020 school year. Visit [www.fcps.edu/calendars/2019-20-standard-school-year-calendar](http://www.fcps.edu/calendars/2019-20-standard-school-year-calendar).

## TUESDAY/AUG. 27

**Jones Point Meetup.** 11 a.m.-noon at Jones Point Park, Jones Point Drive. Join a national park ranger to explore the long history of this little piece of land and see the last remaining inland lighthouse on the Potomac River, once a beacon to boat captains and commerce on the river. Free. Call 703-235-1530 or visit [www.nps.gov/gwmp/playourvisit/jonespoint.htm](http://www.nps.gov/gwmp/playourvisit/jonespoint.htm) for more.

**Twilight & Tipple Tours.** 6-9 p.m. at Pope-Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Highway. Experience Frank Lloyd Wright's Pope-Leighey House by twilight. This tour series is a rare chance to see one of Wright's houses illuminated against a night sky. Grab a drink, included in the price of the tour ticket, and walk through the house on a leisurely, open house style tour with plenty of time to take stunning photos. \$35. Visit [www.woodlawnpopeleighey.org/](http://www.woodlawnpopeleighey.org/) for more.

## AUG. 27-SEPT. 29

**Art Exhibit: "It's a Jungle Out There."** Gallery hours at Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery, Studio 29, Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St. Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery presents its juried show, "It's a Jungle Out There." Cheetahs, lions, rhinos, monkeys, hippos, and the lands that they inhabit serve as inspiration for the pieces in this show. Themed work will be eligible for recognition by the jurors. Non-themed work may also be exhibited. Visit [www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com](http://www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com) or call 703-548-0935.

## THURSDAY/AUG. 29

**Fort Hunt Meetup, Walk with a Ranger.** 10:30-noon at Fort Hunt Park, 8999 Fort Hunt Road. Join a national park ranger on a 1.5 mile walk through historic Fort Hunt Park, be prepared to learn about some World War II secrets. Meet at Area E parking. Free. Call 703-235-1530 for more.

## FRIDAY/AUG. 30

**Mount Vernon Nights: Mars Rodeo (rock).** 7:30-8:30 at Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Performances will feature musical styles from soul to and pop and bluegrass and rock. Bring a picnic dinner and a blanket and enjoy

one of Fairfax County's summer traditions. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance/mt-vernon-nights](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance/mt-vernon-nights) for more.

## SATURDAY/AUG. 31

**Youth Bike Classes.** 10 a.m. at William Ramsay Recreation Center, 5650 Sanger Ave. The City of Alexandria is sponsoring a Youth Learn to Ride bike class, led by the Washington Area Bicyclist Association, for children 6-12. Youth Learn to Ride classes are intended for children who have either never tried to ride a bike or have tried but have not been successful. Each student must bring their own bike and helmet. Students will ride for approximately three hours, with breaks every hour. \$10. Register at [waba.org/blog/2019/07/youth-learn-to-ride/](http://waba.org/blog/2019/07/youth-learn-to-ride/).

**Dyke Marsh Meetup, Walk with a Ranger.** 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Belle Haven Park/ Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve. Enjoy the outdoors on this 2-mile walk with a national park ranger to see the largest freshwater marsh in the nation's capital. Bring a pair of binoculars for viewing an eagle's nest and other marsh life. Free. Call 703-235-1530 or visit [www.nps.gov/gwmp/playourvisit/dykemarsh.htm](http://www.nps.gov/gwmp/playourvisit/dykemarsh.htm).

**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).

**Chamber Concert Series.** 3-5 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. The Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association sponsors a chamber music series, weekly through Sept. 15, at the Lyceum in Old Town featuring small ensembles and soloists. This week's performance features Sasha Beresovsky, piano. Free. Donations are appreciated. Visit [www.wmpamusic.org](http://www.wmpamusic.org) or call 703-799-8229.

**Mount Vernon Nights: The Slocan Ramblers (bluegrass).** 7-8 p.m. at The Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Performances will range from disco to Indian Bollywood and acoustic blues to big band. Bring a picnic dinner and a blanket and enjoy one of Fairfax County's summer traditions. Come early to the Workhouse Arts Center to explore its vibrant arts scene. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance/mt-vernon-nights](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance/mt-vernon-nights) for more.

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## JOIN THE FIGHT FOR ALZHEIMER'S FIRST SURVIVOR.



At the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's®, people carry flowers representing their connection to Alzheimer's — a disease that currently has no cure. But what if one day there was a flower for Alzheimer's first survivor? What if there were millions of them? Help make that beautiful day happen by joining us for the world's largest fundraiser to fight the disease. Register today at [alz.org/walk](http://alz.org/walk).

### Walk to End Alzheimer's

Sept. 29 • Reston Town Center  
Oct. 12 • National Mall

Additional Walks available.  
Find one near you at [alz.org/walk](http://alz.org/walk)  
or call 703.359.4440.



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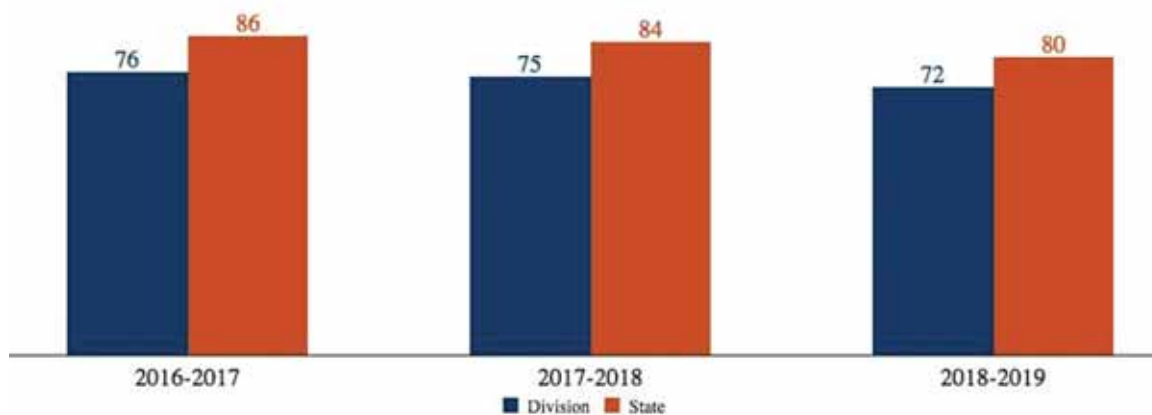
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## History Performance: All Students



SOURCE: [HTTP://SCHOOL QUALITY/VIRGINIA.GOV](http://SCHOOL QUALITY/VIRGINIA.GOV)

### Student Achievement by Proficiency Level: History

## City SOLs Below State Averages

FROM PAGE 3

quired for the school to comply with federal testing requirements. Previously, high school students continued to take end-of-course tests even if they had already earned the credits in the content area necessary to graduate.

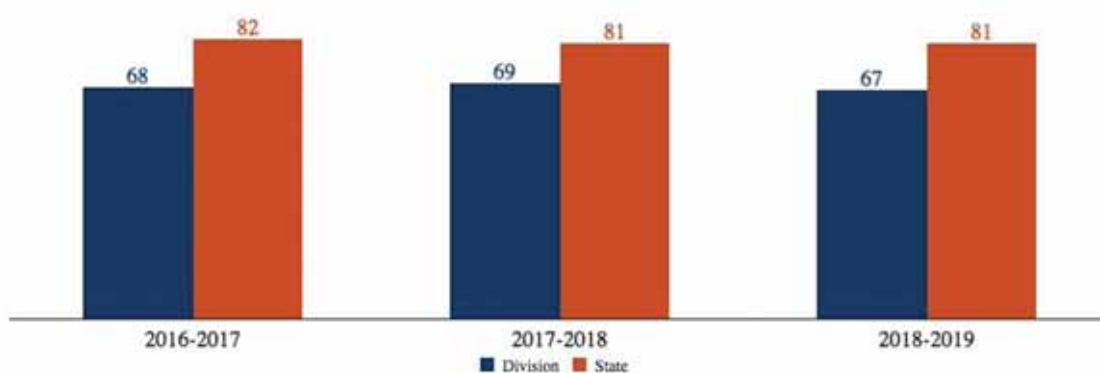
The 2018-19 school year saw the introduction of new math SOL tests, reflecting revisions to the state mathematics standards approved by the state Board of Education in 2016. The introduction of the new tests marked the end of the three-year transition to the revised standards.

The ACPS press release concluded: "Although we still have much work to do with academic achieve-

ment in ACPS, SOLs are just one measure of student success. Beyond the test scores ACPS also looks at career readiness, meeting the social and emotional needs of all students, building character, the experiences they have inside and outside of the classroom, and how they give back to the community.

"Final school accreditation ratings for the 2019-20 school year will be announced on Sept. 26. The combined rates used to calculate accreditation ratings include adjustments for successful instructional support, growth of students towards proficiency in reading and mathematics, allowances for transfer students and English learners, and other provisions approved by the state Board of Education."

## Science Performance: All Students



SOURCE: [HTTP://SCHOOL QUALITY/VIRGINIA.GOV](http://SCHOOL QUALITY/VIRGINIA.GOV)

### Student Achievement by Proficiency Level: Science

## BULLETIN BOARD

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

### DONATIONS

**School Supplies Needed.** Through Sept. 1, join Democracy Federal Credit Union to collect back-to-school supply donations for the local community. All are welcome to drop by a Democracy FCU branch to donate school supply items and/or

monetary donations that will benefit students at Jefferson-Houston Elementary School. Patrons are asked to donate new, unopened school supplies in to the school bus bin; monetary donations may be made at any branch teller window. Students' and teachers' wish list items include basic school supplies, such as, wide or college ruled notebooks, #2 pencils, crayons, scissors, glue, markers, pocket folders, erasers, hand sanitizer, Kleenex, rulers, etc. Visit [www.DemocracyFCU.org](http://www.DemocracyFCU.org).

### SAFETY

**Free Medication and Firearm Locking Devices.** The City of Alexandria is offering free locking medication boxes and firearm trigger or cable locks as part of Lock and Talk Northern Virginia. This safety program is a collaborative initiative of the Suicide Prevention Alliance of Northern Virginia. The free firearm locks and medication lock boxes offered from this program include information on safe handling, along

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 18



PHOTO BY NINA TISARA

**Gwendolyn Menefee-Smith, at right, was selected as a Living Legend of Alexandria in 2012 along with Dorothy Turner for their advocacy for public housing tenants' rights.**

## Remembering Gwendolyn Menefee-Smith

FROM PAGE 1

just needed a safe, decent place to live," said Menefee-Smith when selected as a Living Legend of Alexandria in 2012. "Just because you're in public housing, it does not need to be a death sentence. We were taxpayers, law-abiding decent citizens and we had a right to have voices in how and where we lived."

Born Sept. 23, 1943, in Birmingham, Ala., Menefee-Smith was the 11th of 12 children born to Willman Mann, a coal miner, and his wife Rosemary. Known to her family and close friends as Peggy, Menefee-Smith spent her childhood summers visiting a grandfather who lived on Princess Street before moving to the city full time as a teenager.

"She was always looking out for me," said Henrietta Johnson, the baby of the family by five years. "Wherever she went, I went. I think I was a teenager before she let me cross the street alone."

Johnson admits that she was the "hard-headed" one in the family but credits Menefee-Smith with keeping her grounded.

"Peggy was the best big sister you could ever want," Johnson

said. "She is the reason I finished school and went to college. I liked the bad boys but she kept me out of trouble and was the reason I did something with my life."

In the early 1960s, Menefee-Smith and her then husband, Luther Menefee, began raising a family. Following a divorce, the single mother had limited

resources and temporarily ended up in a public housing apartment.

Undeterred by her challenges, Menefee-Smith utilized scholarships and transportation assistance to attend Northern Virginia Community College, then George Mason University to earn a bachelor's de-

gree in social welfare. She attended Howard University on a scholarship and obtained a master's degree while simultaneously working 20 hours a week.

Along with close friend Dorothy Turner, Menefee-Smith extended her advocacy to voter registration drives and support for politicians who were sensitive to the needs of the minority community.

"My sister did a lot of things for a lot of people," Johnson

SEE MENEFEE-SMITH, PAGE 18



## Legals

**Disabled Group Homes** in Arlington have rooms available. Private bedroom and shared bathrooms and common areas. Must be Section 8 eligible. Call 703-818-6588 for more information.

## Employment

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

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## CALENDAR

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## Obituary

## Obituary

### MURPHY

#### Elena D. Murphy (age 86)



On Saturday, August 3, 2019, of Alexandria, VA. Devoted mother to Zell, Mimi, and Mark and mother-in-law to Audrey. Also survived by her brother George Daskaloff. Predeceased by her husband Zell Louis Murphy, father Atanas Daskaloff, mother Magdalena, brother Milan and sister Mimi. Services and celebration of life to be held on Saturday, August 17 at 11 a.m. at the Everly-Wheatley Funeral Home, 1500 West Braddock Rd., Alexandria, VA 22302. Interment will follow at Mount Comfort Cemetery, 6600 South Kings Hwy., Alexandria, VA 22306.

## Obituary

## Obituary

### Canda Banks Smith

October 17, 1929 - August 5, 2019

Canda Banks Smith passed away peacefully on August 5, 2019 surrounded by her family. She was born in Suffolk, VA on October 17, 1929, the daughter of the late John Thomas Banks and Edla Ruth Eure. Canda received an undergraduate degree in voice and piano from Anderson Junior College. Many years later, she received a B.A. and M.A. in Education from the College of Notre Dame in Baltimore, MD.



In August 1951, she married her husband of 65 years, the late Dr. Robert Luther Smith, CDR, USN (Ret.), a career Naval Service Officer. She was a resident of Alexandria since September 1970 and taught preschool for many years. Canda was an active volunteer in numerous organizations throughout her lifetime, including the American Heart Association and American Red Cross. She served in the Board of Lady Managers at the Inova Alexandria Hospital since 2001. She also served on the Inova Health Foundation Board until 2015 and was made an Emeritus member due to her exemplary service.

Canda was a caring and positive force in the world. She enjoyed singing, playing the piano, reading and spending time with her family. She is survived by three daughters Kimberley Smith-Kidd, Valerie S. Eudy, and Alexandra S. Edwards; five grandchildren Carter Schildknecht, Cecily Kidd, Lt. Claire Eudy USN, Alex Kidd and Chris Kidd; and three great grandchildren.

A memorial gathering will be held at Everly-Wheatley Funeral Home in Alexandria, VA on Saturday, August 24, 2019 from 2-4pm. Canda will be buried with her husband at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial contributions be made to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Alexandria, VA or the Inova Health Foundation, c/o Jennifer McGilhon, 8110 Gatehouse Road, Suite 200E, Falls Church VA, 22042.

## Obituary

## Obituary



**Ellen L. Bazzle** peacefully passed away at the Mt Vernon Rehabilitation Center in Alexandria, VA on August 9, 2019 just shy of her 94th birthday after a brief illness. She was born on August 23, 1925 to Mark and Annie Shanko. She had one sister Francis Bondranko. She was married to the love of her life Alexandria Policeman James (Jim) Bazzle aka Corporal Bazzle on Grounds Hog Day 1947. They shared 56 years of marital bliss.

They raised two children, Betty Hill (Charlie) and Bob Bazzle (Karen). She was also blessed with two grandchildren, Chip Hill(Kelly) and Chelsea Billings(Ben) and one great grandchild, Bennet Hill.

Ellen was a legal secretary for the law firm of Gannon, Cottrell and Ward in Alexandria for many years. She enjoyed many crafts in her retirement years including crocheting, pillow making and her famous flower pens which can be found anywhere in Alexandria she may have visited. Upon Jim's passing in 2003 she moved in with her daughter and son-in-law. They spent many happy years together.

Ellen was preceded in death by her husband Jim, her sister Francis and their mother and father.

She is survived by her daughter Betty and son-in-law Charlie, her son Bob and his wife Karen as well as the grandchildren Chip and Chelsea and great grandson Bennet as well as other cousins, nieces and nephews.

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

**-Werner Heisenberg**

## Obituary

## Obituary



**Tryon, NC - Eleanor Louise Rierson Lever**, a long-time resident of Alexandria, VA, died peacefully on Sunday, August 4, 2019, at White Oak Manor in Tryon, NC. She was 92 years old.

Mrs. Lever was born on July 30, 1927, in Roanoke County, VA to Maynard Washington, and Katherine Kittinger Rierson. She attended Roanoke College and graduated in 1950 from the Woman's College of the University of North Carolina, Greensboro. She began her teaching career in Laurinburg, NC.

She married Ellis R. Lever, of Newberry, SC in 1952. The Levers moved to Charlotte, NC where she taught school and her husband worked for the Charlotte Observer. They later moved to Alexandria, VA, where Mrs. Lever taught in the Alexandria Public School System, and her husband worked for The Washington Post.

Mrs. Lever was a patient and supportive teacher with a passion for literacy. She was a member of the Alexandria Retired Teachers Association, Delta Kappa Gamma Society for women educators, and the Kate Waller Barrett Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. In her retirement, she became an avid gardener and loved spending time with her family.

She is survived by her daughters, Leah Lever Creighton and her husband, Bill, and Katherine Lever Jacobs, as well as four grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and her nephew Larry R. Jones.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ellis, and her sister, Emily Rierson Jones.

Mrs. Lever will be buried in a private ceremony. Her daughters ask that you please consider a donation to the Hospice of the Carolina Foothills P.O. Box 336 Forest City, NC 28043.

An Online guest register is available at [www.mcfarlandfuneralchapel.com](http://www.mcfarlandfuneralchapel.com)  
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## Don't Monkee Around With Me



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I mean, he didn't even examine me, which he rarely does. (The CT scan pretty much tells him what he needs to know, so he says.)

In addition (or is that subtraction), he didn't even ask me the standard questions he typically does about my quality of life, activities of daily living and general health and welfare. In fact, near the presumptive end of our appointment, as peculiar and uncharacteristic of an appointment as it was, I felt compelled to blurt out the answers to all the questions that he didn't bother to ask that for years he's always asked: any pain, shortness of breath, coughing, headaches, neuropathy, muscle weakness or any new or persistent symptoms? All he could muster was a perfunctory "Do you need any prescriptions filled?"

And then the semi-out-of-the-blue-bombshell: "Are you familiar with Palliative Care?"

Followed by the offer to refer us to a book that he thought we might find helpful/useful. Helpful? Useful?

I didn't say it at the time because the entire appointment was so odd and impersonal almost. But WHAT?! Palliative Care? What are you talking about? He has never brought up palliative care before. (Although way back when, he had given us a brochure titled "Final Wishes.")

You see, we know about palliative care. We've attended multiple conferences organized by LUNGevity, "the largest national lung cancer-focused non-profit in the country" where palliative care doctors often have spoken. Palliative Care is not hospice care but it's a transitional level of care to be sure.

If I'm transitioning, I wish somebody would have told me, and not by asking about my familiarity with this type of care.

In a word, palliative care is a type of down-sizing, as best as I can describe its subtleties; separate and apart from hospice care which is, if you don't know it, "the last train to Clarksville," if you get my euphemism (and hopefully someone is meeting you at the station)? But so far as I've been told, I'm not on the last train to Clarksville or any other final destination.

In fact, I rarely take the train. Not that being on or off the train matters when one comes to the end of the line.

Nevertheless, as I review in my mind what my oncologist said this past Monday, I have to wonder if he was feeding me a line, throwing me a line or just reciting a line that is required of oncologists in their regular communications with their cancer patients – a sort of caveat emptor for long-time cancer survivors who are inexplicably still alive (as evidence of such sentiment, my oncologist refers to me as his "third miracle").

But I didn't feel much like a miracle on Monday. I felt more like a dope. Like I was being told something I didn't realize, sort of an emperor has no clothes "something." It was a feeling I had never experienced before; during or after any of our appointments.

Previously, even at the initial Team Lourie meeting in late February 2009 when the hammer came down, I had – though having it in utter disbelief – a grasp of the obvious: "terminal cancer," with a "13-month-to-two-year" prognosis to boot. The particulars of which would be sorted out over the following weeks and months beginning with my first chemotherapy six days later.

And boy were they ever sorted. Ten years and almost six months later, I'm still sorting.

Was I just given an updated "terminal" diagnosis/prognosis or was my oncologist merely having an off day?

Obviously he knows that his words carry enormous weight and significance and create terrible burdens for his patients and their families. But he can't simply toss out the phrase palliative care like it has no impact. Its impact is huge.

It's akin to being hit by a speeding train, the likes of which would prevent one from getting anywhere near Clarksville, let alone being on the last train.

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

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

## NEWS

### Menefee-Smith

FROM PAGE 16

said. "She was a foster parent and worked on adoption programs. She was especially passionate about getting kids into good homes."

For several years, Menefee-Smith worked for ARHA then moved to a company in Washington, D.C., that provided health care for the elderly.

"There aren't enough words to describe the giving and caring spirit of Gwen Menefee-Smith," said ARHA director of Resident and Community Services Gaynelle Bowden-Diaz. "She played a pivotal role in the preservation of affordable housing and will always be remembered for her passion and commitment to others."

In 2010, Menefee-Smith and Turner were presented with the ARHA Commissioners' Special Recognition Award for their dedication and service to the ARHA community and the residents of Alexandria. In 2012 the two were together selected as Living Legends of Alexandria.

Menefee-Smith was preceded in death by her husband, Donald Smith. She is survived by her children, Eddie Menefee, Cassandra Menefee, Steven Menefee and Sheila Menefee; grandchildren, Devon Menefee, Cedric Bowden, Dennis Bowden, Lakisha Gravely and Frances Bowden. She is also survived by her siblings, Janie Watkins, Clara Coleman, Henrietta Johnson, Catherine McNeil and Walter Mann.

A memorial service will be held Friday, Aug. 16, at 11 a.m. at Alfred Street Baptist Church, 301 S. Alfred St. A visitation will begin at 10 a.m. Interment will take place at Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

"I can't begin to tell you the loss," Johnson said. "All my sisters were good sisters but Peggy and I had a special connection — I can hear her fussin' at me now. I really was the problem child but she was always there for me and I thank God for that every day."

## BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 16

with tips on how to secure firearms and medications. Alexandria residents and employees may call 703-746-3436 to obtain these free life-saving devices. Suicide can be prevented. Anyone at risk of suicide, or who knows someone at risk, should get help right away. Treatment works and people recover. Call PRS CrisisLink at 703-527-4077, text "CONNECT" to 85511 or call City of Alexandria Emergency Services at 703-746-3401. For life-threatening situations, call 911 immediately.

THROUGH AUG. 19

**Disaster Loan Outreach Centers.** Arlington and Fairfax counties are opening Local Recovery Centers (LRC) to assist residents and businesses affected by the July 8, 2019 flood. This is in conjunction with the governor's announcement that low-interest federal loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) are available to help homeowners, renters and businesses rebuild from storm damage. Visit alexandriava.gov/Flooding for details.

MONDAY/AUG. 19

**Parkinson Social Network Café Alexandria.**

11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Brandywine Living at Alexandria, 5550 Cardinal Place, Alexandria. Come together to chat about anything, share experiences and enjoy a light meal. Free. Register at parkinsonsocialnetwork.org/events/cafes/.



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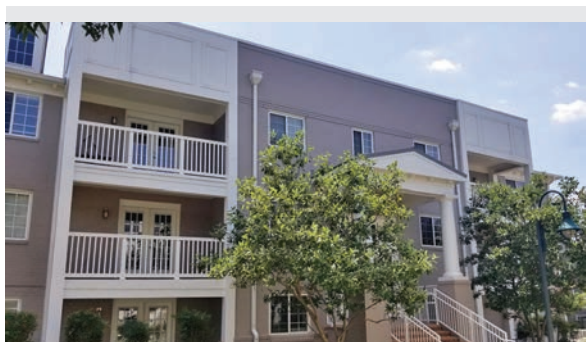
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