

## Smedley Sworn in as Fire Chief

City celebrates first African American Fire Chief.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**C**orey A. Smedley was officially sworn into office as Chief of the Alexandria Fire Department in a standing room only ceremony Jan. 28 in the Vola Lawson Lobby at City Hall.

Smedley, who was named acting Fire Chief following the retirement of Chief Robert Dube last summer, became the city's first African American Fire Chief upon his permanent appointment to the role in December.

"The Alexandria Fire Department is a core function of city government," said City Manager Mark Jinks. "It's important to have someone in charge who embodies the city's values of respect, collaboration, teamwork and integrity and with Chief Smedley we have that all in one package."

Smedley joined the AFD in 2015 following more than 20 years of service with the Prince George's County Fire Department. While there he rose through the ranks from



**Alexandria Fire Chief Corey Smedley is sworn in by Circuit Court Clerk Greg Parks during a Jan. 28 ceremony at City Hall. Smedley was named to the role in December, becoming the city's first African American Fire Chief.**

firefighter/paramedic, acting technician, lieutenant, captain, battalion chief, assistant chief and deputy fire chief. He also held roles

such as the Special Assistant to the Deputy Chief for Public Safety and Homeland Security, SEE FIRE CHIEF, PAGE 8

PHOTO BY JANET BARNET/GAZETTE PACKET



PHOTO BY SHIRLEY RUHE/GAZETTE PACKET

**Officials participating in the Prescription Drug Take Back Day: APD Captain Gregg Ladislav; City of Alexandria Youth Development Team Leader Noraine Buttar; APD Captain Monica Lisle; City of Alexandria Opioid Response Coordinator Emily Bentley; Allen Lomax, Chair of the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria; Sergeant Valarie Wright, Alexandria Sheriff's Office; Assistant Police Chief Don Hayes; and Police Chief Michael Brown.**

## What to Do with Unused Medication

BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**D**on't know what to do with your leftover medication? Wonder if you can flush medication down the toilet or the sink?

The City of Alexandria has alternatives for safe disposal, both through drug take back days and permanent disposal boxes located around the city.

The City of Alexandria holds Prescription Drug Take Back Days quarterly. Saturday, Jan. 25 Officer Matt O'Malley sits at a table just inside Police Headquarters with a bin for disposal of unused medications. Along with the collection of medications on site, he is handing out packets of DETERRA, which deactivates drugs safely and quickly at home for people who can't make it to a disposal site.

Emma Beall, Coordinator of the

Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria, says they work with Alexandria Senior Services to dispense these packets along with Meals on Wheels. "If you think about it, who probably has unused medications. It's senior citizens."

O'Malley says DETERRA is easy to use. Just open the bag and put in the pills, liquids or patches. Fill halfway up with warm water and wait 30 seconds. Then seal tightly and gently shake pouch and dispose in the normal trash.

During the take back event they accept unused, expired or unwanted prescriptions and over the counter medications including pet medication. The Sheriff's Department drops off the medication collected at Covanta, a waste management company, where it is destroyed.

Alexandria began participating SEE UNUSED, PAGE 5

## Infant Seat Installation at Police Headquarters

BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**C**ars are lining up in the parking lot at Police Headquarters on Saturday, Jan. 25. Jessica Diaz and 10-month old Isabelle are standing beside their white Audi while Alexandria Officer Carl Stowe inspects the installation of her infant car seat at a car seat inspection event held by the Alexandria Police Department.

"I see you have elected to use the latch system. 'I'm going to teach you some tricks.' He continues, 'These are tested but the seat belt and latch are never tested together.' Stowe tells Diaz that he finds the latch easier to make tighter but ultimately it is her de-



**Officer Carl Stowe advises Jessica Diaz who had come in with her daughter, 10-month-old Isabelle to get an inspection of the infant seat.**

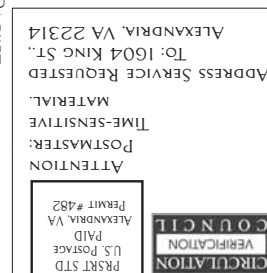
cision." Diaz says, "I feel like I could get Jessica out faster in an emergency using the latch sys-

tem."

Stowe continues, "Again location

SEE INFANT SEAT, PAGE 3

PHOTO BY SHIRLEY RUHE/GAZETTE PACKET





# No matter the price or type, I will help make your housing dreams a reality!



**SOLD**  
1429 Greenbrier Street | Arlington  
Beautifully appointed with large open floor plan  
Offered at \$1,199,000



**SOLD**  
601 W. Windsor Avenue | Jefferson Park  
Renovation sensation!  
Offered at \$969,000



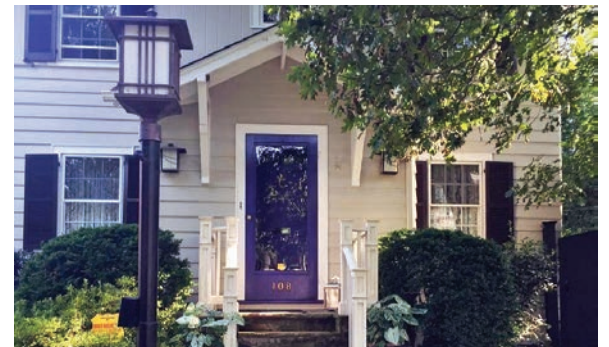
**SOLD**  
2917 Richmond Lane | Monticello Park  
Charming Cape Cod with mature landscaping  
Offered at \$739,000



**SOLD**  
1308 Prince Street | Old Town  
Townhouse with assigned parking space  
Offered at \$745,000



**SOLD**  
320 S. West Street #210 | Duke Condominium  
Delightfully sunny 2-bedroom, 2-bath unit  
Offered at \$699,000



**SOLD**  
108 W. Maple Street | Rosemont  
3 bedrooms, 2 full & half baths  
Offered at \$845,000



**RENTED**  
2181 Jamieson Avenue #1906 | Carlyle Towers  
2 bedrooms, 2 baths, enclosed Balcony  
\$2,650/month



**RENTED**  
621 Wythe Street | Old Town  
1 bedroom, 1 bath, large windows and skylight  
\$1,900/month



**RENTED**  
5904 Mount Eagle Drive #712 | Montebello  
1 bedroom, 1 bath, enclosed balcony  
\$1,650/month

I genuinely appreciate your referrals, please call me if you are moving out of the area. McEneaney Associates, Inc. has an extensive network of agents in other locations, I can help you find a REALTOR® in your next town or your next country!



**Donna Cramer**  
Member, NVAR Top Producers  
703.627.9578 | [dcramer@McEneaney.com](mailto:dcramer@McEneaney.com)  
[www.donnacramer.com](http://www.donnacramer.com)  
109 S. Pitt Street | Alexandria, VA 22314

Equal Housing Opportunity





# Predatory Student Lenders

Northern Virginia lawmakers hope to crack down on student-loan servicing companies.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**A**s a high school student, Katlyn Weiser dreamed of attending George Mason University. She wanted to have a career in public service, being in the room where it happens on Capitol Hill. But instead she found herself under a mountain of debt, struggling to keep up with meeting minimum payments and ultimately being forced to make a difficult decision about her future. She says she'll never forget the day when an agent from loan-servicing company Navient told her that she should probably drop out of school to pay off her student debt.

"I cried," says Weiser. "I cried a lot because I had come so far. I had become the first person in my family to go to college, one of the first people in my high school to go to college, and it was sad to hear that because I had come so far."

Weiser did not listen. She didn't drop out, and she's now a senior at George Mason University. She says she has determined that she can't afford a career in public service, so she plans on being a lobbyist instead. She's one of the student borrowers state Sen. Janet Howell (D-32) wants to help with a bill she calls the Borrowers Bill of Rights. It would use the power of the State Corporation Commission to crack down on what she calls the egregious practices of student loan servicing companies.

"We can regulate these student loan servicers to ensure we're protecting our borrowers from shady practices, and believe me there are shady practices," says Howell. "Every other type of debt is regulated in Virginia except student loans debt. This lack of regulation is egregious given one million borrowers are

**"This lack of regulation is egregious given one million borrowers are collectively carrying more than \$41 billion worth of student debt."**

— Sen. Janet Howell (D-32)

**Katlyn Weiser speaks at a press conference in Richmond in favor of a bill designed to crack down on egregious practices of student loan servicing companies.**

collectively carrying more than \$41 billion worth of student debt."

Democrats have wanted to crack down on student-loan servicing companies for years, but the Republican-led House of Del-

majority over and over. Even when Howell was able to get similar legislation through the Senate, Simon found that the Republican-led House was not interested.

"It's interesting that a number of delegates who have been sympathetic but didn't think this was the right solution voted for the bill in committee this year," said Simon. "So I think we're on a glider path here, although there are a few people who continue to believe that we shouldn't be helping out students for whatever reason."

This year, Democrats are in control of the General Assembly.

That's opened the floodgates for a number of issues, and cracking down on stu-

dent-loan servicing companies is one of them. Howell's bill cracking down on student loan servicing companies passed a Senate committee with a unanimous vote. And Simon has a similar bill that's already passed the House with an 84 to 15 vote.

"When student-loan servicers engage in deceptive and predatory practices, borrowers can face insurmountable barriers to financial security," says Anna Scholl, executive director of Progress Virginia.

The bill requires student loan servicing companies get a license to operate in Virginia from the State Corporation Commission, which would crack down on egregious practices like misrepresenting the amount of money due, recklessly applying loan payments to outstanding balances and failing to report payment history to consumer credit bureaus. Violators would be hit with a \$2,500 fee.

"This bill is not about free college," said Seth Frotman, executive director of the Student Borrower Protection Center. "This bill is about making sure borrowers in the Commonwealth who took on debt to chase the American dream aren't ripped off in the process."

All of the egregious practices outlined in the bill are already illegal.

But borrowers would have to hire a lawyer and file a federal lawsuit to take action, which is not a workable solution for people who are already under a mountain of debt. Instead, this bill makes these actions a violation of state law and empowers the State Corporation Commission to go after bad actors.

That way borrowers who feel they've been wronged could file a complaint with the Bureau of Financial Regulation.

"Why are Virginia borrowers having to resort to lawsuits for their consumer protections?" asked Del. Cia Price (D-95). "It is past time for student loan borrowers in Virginia — like me — to have common-sense protections."



PHOTO BY MICHAEL LEE POPE

## Infant Seat Installation at Police Headquarters

FROM PAGE 1

of the seat is important. The safest place in the back seat is to put the seat in the middle."

"I didn't know that. I'll do that," Diaz says. "Have you registered the seat with the manufacturer yet? Important to do."

Officer Abby Fillinger leans across the back seat from the driver's side. "I am looking for the model number so I can look for any recalls associated with the seat." Lt. Sarah Cooper, a volunteer from Prince William Fire and Rescue, does an on-the-spot check. "No recalls yet."

Fillinger fills out a detailed form on her clipboard. "Jessica's height?"

"24 inches."

"Weight?"

"About 20 pounds. As you can see, she likes to eat."

Cooper says they have inspected about 20

cars in the last two hours since the car inspections began at 8 a.m. The event will go until noon. "Most of them have been installed correctly except the one we just did ahead of this one. But we refine things a little to enable them to strap in more tightly."

In the meantime Fillinger is trying to work with Diaz's strap. "Each latch has an adjustment to pull it thin. See this is wrapped around."

"Oh that is what I was doing wrong."

Alexandria Officer Alex Trapero says 24 people had signed up on the website for today's event and they have had 18 so far with some drop ins. He says, "this is our first child seat event although we have been doing child seat installation upon request of citizens."

He adds, "we're hoping to start having these events once a month."



PHOTO BY SHIRLEY RUHE/GAZETTE PACKET

**Officers Stowe and Fillinger discuss the car seat installation while Lt. Sarah Cooper from Prince William Fire & Rescue (center) checks the car seat model number for recalls.**



## IN THE KITCHEN

# Meet Chef Santiago Lopez at Mia's Italian Kitchen

BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**S**antiago Lopez pulls out a 3-4 pound flank steak from the cooler for the Sunday gravy, the customer favorite at Mia's Italian Kitchen on King Street. The first step is to make the braciola. "I'll clean the flank steak up by removing some of the fat. But I'll keep some to melt into the gravy and give it a nice flavor."

Lopez sticks the tip of a sharp knife into the side of the flank steak and carefully slices it through to create a flap of meat. "I pull this back so I can stuff the flank steak and roll it." First he seasons the meat with a sprinkling of Kosher salt and coarse black pepper, then spreads a mixture of panko crumbs, grated parmesan, parsley, thyme, oregano and small pieces of mozzarella. "The mozzarella helps bind the mix."

Lopez rolls the meat tightly and winds butcher's tape around the roll to secure the meat. "I salted the inside, now the outside."

"I'm gonna get the rest of the meats and sear everything." Lopez pulls out a tray of 12 beef meatballs made with panko bread crumbs, eggs, ricotta and fresh pepper. He sets a tray of 12 chicken thighs on the counter with a tray of 12 three-inch pieces of sweet Italian sausage and 12 hot Italian sausage meatballs. "Of course, this is a recipe that serves 12; each person gets a piece of each meat."

Lopez squirts vegetable oil into an aluminum skillet and turns the burner on high, swirling the oil around to cover the bottom of the pan. "I will cook three chicken thighs at a time. The whole point is to get the crumbs on the bottom, get a nice golden brown on the chicken bits at the bottom of the pan. That's where the flavor is."

He starts another skillet on the adjoining burner and places 12 meatballs in the hot oil. Lopez jiggles the meatballs to turn them over and turns to check the bottom of the chicken thighs. "I cook them about five minutes to get a nice golden brown. I want to get it caramelized."

He then adds four pepperoncini, five cloves of smashed garlic, three bay leaves and a Spanish onion sliced in half.

"After the meats are seared, I throw them in the pot to simmer on a back burner for seven hours. "I don't stir it often because the heat is so low the sauce doesn't stick to the bottom of the pan and it might break up the meatballs."

"This will be served with rigatoni. It will cook for three minutes. We have a pasta extruder in back and make all of our pasta in house." Now he is ready to prepare one portion of Sunday gravy. Lopez checks the rigatoni for al dente and flips it from the basket into a large white bowl. "I don't toss it with the sauce. I want the meat on top. Now that you have all of the meat, I ladle about 7 ounces of sauce on the top. It gets this color from all the juices from the pan."

Finally he garnishes the dish with dried



**Rolling the stuffed flank steak for the braciola.**



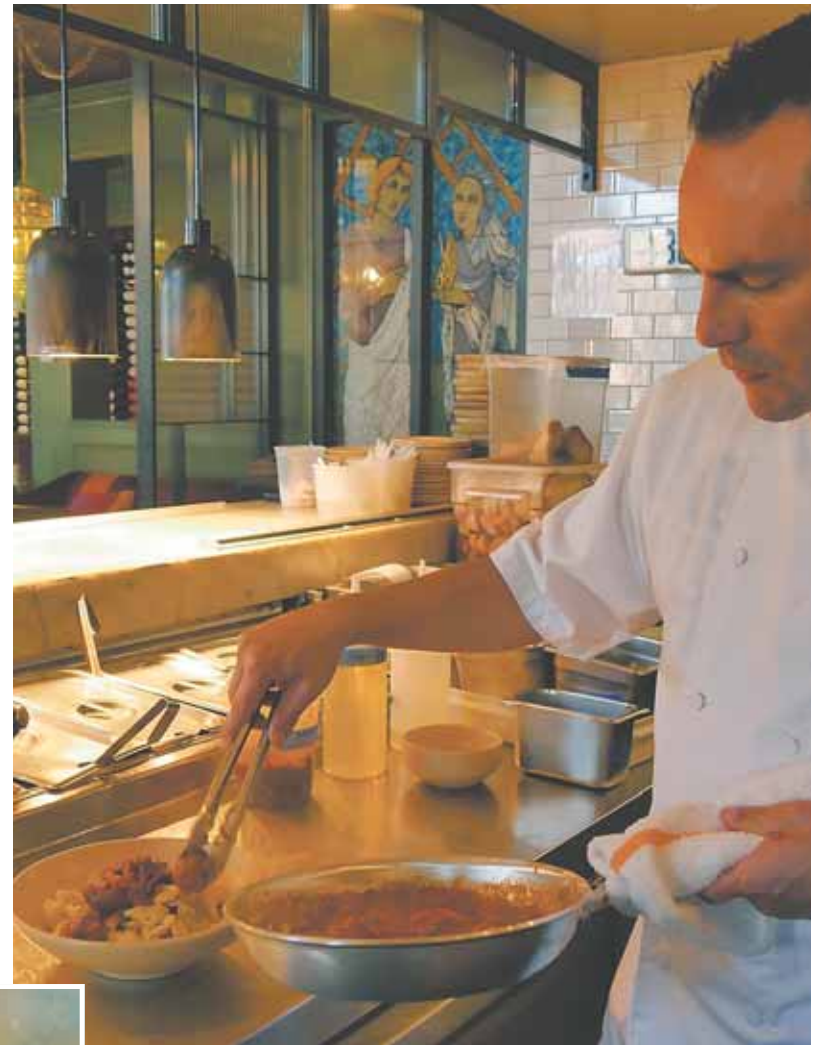
**Sautéing chicken and beef meatballs to get tasty crumbs**



**Finished Sunday Gravy at Mia's Italian Kitchen on King Street**

parsley and thyme. Lopez says this dish is time consuming but worth it. He says he sells about 120 servings a week. Lopez started off to become an engineer. But while he was in school he was working in a restaurant and he discovered he liked cooking better. And he had the added incentive of his grandparents' bakery back in Colombia with those tiny special Spanish pound cakes his grandma made for him whenever he stayed with her. So after two semesters he quit engineering and went to culinary school. Now he is Corporate Chef who oversees all of the 8 Mia's restaurants.

Lopez says his Sunday gravy is called Neapolitan gravy in Italy, and the combination of meats depends on who is making it; everyone has their own recipe. But he comments confidentially, his combination is the best.



**Chef Santiago Lopez placing meats on homemade rigatoni.**

**Lining up meats for the Sunday gravy**

PHOTOS BY  
SHIRLEY RUHE  
GAZETTE  
PACKET



**Tomato "gravy" simmering for 7 hours**



# Unused Medication

FROM PAGE 1  
in the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day in September 2010. They have expanded from spring and fall events to quarterly drug take back days and are now the only locale in the nation to hold four take back days annually. Beall says, "It's really interesting when people drop off their unused medications, you get their vignettes. Sometimes people have had their wisdom teeth out and didn't know what to do with their leftover medications. They are so glad; they didn't know they could return the medications."

Drop off sites include First Baptist Church, Alexandria Police Department Headquarters, Fire Station 210 and the Neighborhood Pharmacy of Del Ray.


Permanent drop boxes are located at the Neighborhood Pharmacy of Del Ray every day with differing hours, Inova Alexandria Hospital from 5 a.m.-9 p.m. daily, and the Alexandria Police Department just inside the entrance 24 hours a day.

SAPCA works with police, fire department, sheriff, and health officials as well as the City Opioid Work Group to sponsor the take

back events. SAPCA is a community coalition made up of law enforcement, schools, City health and recreation agencies, non-profits, parents and youth who dedicate their efforts to reducing underage substance use and abuse in the City of Alexandria.

The availability of medications in family medicine cabinets can inadvertently make access easier for those struggling with addiction. Statistics released by SARPCA indicate that 54 percent of individuals who abused painkillers got them from a friend or relative. In addition, improper disposal of drugs can harm the environment, as sewage treatment plants are not equipped to filter dissolved drugs out of wastewater.

In 2019 Alexandria collected over 1,600 pounds of unused medication at drug take back events. Currently the U.S. is experiencing an opioid epidemic exacerbated by the over prescription of medications, and there were 59 opioid overdoses in Alexandria last year, 11 of which were fatal. According to Beall, they collected 240 pounds of unused and expired medication during Saturday's drug take back day.



**THE CHAMBER ALX**

**2020 WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP FORUM**

Thursday, March 12, 2020  
7:30am-10:30am  
The Westin Alexandria


Visit [www.thechamberalx.com](http://www.thechamberalx.com) for tickets!

**THE CONNECTION**  
Newspapers & Online

**Special Edition:  
PET Connection**

**Publishes:**  
**Feb 26, 2020**

**Ads close:**  
**Feb 20, 2020**



**The Pet Connection will publish on February 26 and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by February 20.**

**This edition provides a great advertising opportunity to reach pet owners where they live in a section sure to attract and hold their attention - be sure to take advantage of our different advertising options.**

**For Print & Digital Advertising Information:  
Please Call 703.778.9431**

**LOCAL MEDIA CONNECTION**  
Newspapers & Online  
703-778-9431  
[www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com)

Reaching Suburban Washington's Leading Households

- Alexandria Gazette Packet
- Arlington Connection
- Burke Connection
- Centre View
- Charlottesville Connection
- Fairfax Connection
- Fairfax Station/City/Lorton Connection
- Great Falls Connection
- McLean Connection
- Mount Vernon Gazette
- Oak Hill/Henderson Connection
- Potomac Almanac
- Reston Connection
- Springfield Connection
- Vienna/Sully Connection

**MULTI-LEVEL REMODELED HOME TOUR**  
**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2020 12-4PM**

Learn how your neighbors are modifying their homes for a better quality of life. Bring family and friends together in a way that fits *your* lifestyle. Create open, private, and specialized spaces for all to visit comfortably.




**Expanded Kitchen**  
**Master Bathroom**  
**Hall Bath**  
**Front Porch**  
**Rear Screened Porch**  
**and more!**

*Remodeled Home Tour*

**Location: 6837 Corder Lane, Lorton, VA 22079**

Major Remodels • Additions • Kitchens + Baths • Basements • Exteriors  
703.425.5588 | [SunDesignInc.com](http://SunDesignInc.com)

**SUN DESIGN**  
ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN-BUILD FIRM



# OPINION

## For More Housing to Help, It Must Be In the Right Place

Increase state money for affordable housing and land-use policies that help address our region's housing supply needs.

BY MAYOR JUSTIN WILSON

**T**he dismal science of housing economics is in vogue as never before. At a politically polarized moment in our history, there is an unlikely coalescing of conventional wisdom across the spectrum. How else could it be explained that Secretary Ben Carson, President Trump's Secretary of Housing and Urban Development and Jason Furman, President Obama's Chair of the Council of Economic Advisers are in violent agreement? How shocking is it that the Brookings Institute and the Cato Institute agree on a policy approach? How unlikely is it that the Sierra Club and the National Association of Home Builders have substantial agreement? All of these disparate voices have come together in agreement that our housing crisis has a common culprit: local governments.

A raft of new legislation has been proposed in Richmond seeking to increase our housing supply from afar. This well-meaning legislation demonstrates a recognition of the problem, but sadly lacks the nuance and precision only possible in the local land-use

process. The legislation usurps local authority, removes the voice of residents from the process, but perhaps worse yet, such legislation could exacerbate existing problems.

With wide swaths of our population being priced out of our nation's urban and suburban areas, local policymakers are grappling with a housing crisis that

**Location, location, location: residential density is best in close proximity to job centers and transit infrastructure.**

threatens our economic growth, chokes our roads, challenges even modest climate efforts and turns the economics of funding government nearly upside down. With the Federal government retreating from the playing field and state governments largely absent, action on housing has fallen solely to local governments.

These are heady times for those that believe it's time to address the supply side of our housing equation as a method to improve affordability. Last year, the Metropolitan Washington Council of

Governments (COG) brought together the region's local governments to make commitments around new housing creation. The new housing targets contemplate 320,000 additional housing units, with most proposed to be near activity centers or transit, and most to be affordable to low and middle-income earners. Each jurisdiction must now work within their local processes to bring these new units to reality. For each jurisdiction they will work to find the right mix of new committed affordable housing and market-rate housing to address the gap between expected future job growth and the existing

housing stock.

In Alexandria, our ownership stock has been largely stagnant for the past decade.

Ten years ago, we had 21,883 single-family homes. Today, we have 200 less. Ten years ago, we had 18,247 condos. Today, we have just about 400 more. Now our rental stock has grown, during that period, from 33,467 apartments a decade ago, to 40,188 today. Included in these numbers are nearly 1,500 committed affordable units in the past 6 years. While we have more work to do to meet our

share of the new COG commitments, we are well-positioned to do so.

The focus of the COG housing commitments and most forward-thinking local planning is to place residential density in close proximity to job centers and transit infrastructure. Doing so reduces commutes, reduces climate impact, reduces costs for residents and increases economic vitality. The consequence of the "broad-brush" legislation being proposed in Richmond would be to not only add density in areas proximate to these job centers and transit infrastructure, but also far-flung areas with little infrastructure. This would compound many of the challenges we face.

A far more enlightened approach for the Commonwealth to take would be to further increase state investment in the development of affordable housing and tie the receipt of such funding to the adoption of land-use policies that help address our region's housing supply needs.

Such an approach would enhance the partnership between the Commonwealth and local jurisdictions and ensure more committed affordable housing in the areas that can benefit from that investment.

## City of Alexandria Seeks Alexandria Park and Recreation Commission Endorsement for the Pocket Parks Improvement Plan

**T**he City of Alexandria presented its Pocket Parks Improvement Plan to the Alexandria Park and Recreation Commission on Thursday, January 16. The public is invited to review and provide comments on the Plan.

The Plan examines the City's 25 pocket parks, which are defined as being municipally owned parks that measure less than half an acre.

The Plan is a study of each park's history, existing conditions and future needs. Through the Plan, strategies are identified and prioritized to achieve short- and long-term incremental improvements for these

parks.

In 2018, City staff conducted an initial outreach, including site observations, surveys, and workshops, to gather an understanding about park users' preferences, including areas that should be enhanced, transformed and preserved. This information was used to develop the draft Plan for the 25 City pocket parks.

Over the summer of 2019, feedback on the draft Plan was solicited through surveys and community meetings.

Staff refined the plans to incorporate the feedback received and developed an implementation strategy for each recommendation. A cost estimator is currently

reviewing the plans to develop the budget. Based on the result, an improvement plan will be established for each of the 25 pocket parks. Recommendations from the plan will inform future budgetary and resource decisions.

View the Plan <https://www.alexandriava.gov/recreation/information/default.aspx?id=65170#PocketParkPlanning> and send comments for the Park and Recreation Commission to Ana Vicinanza, Urban Planner, at [ana.vicinanzo@alexandriava.gov](mailto:ana.vicinanzo@alexandriava.gov) by Feb. 19. The Alexandria Park and Recreation Commission will hold a public hearing about their endorsement of the Plan on Feb.

20, at 7 p.m., at Mount Vernon Recreation Center (2701 Commonwealth Avenue).

For more information, contact Ana Vicinanza, Urban Planner, at [ana.vicinanzo@alexandriava.gov](mailto:ana.vicinanzo@alexandriava.gov) or 703.746.5494.

Note: The Plan supports the implementation of the approved 2002 Strategic Master Plan for Open Space, Park and Recreation, and therefore does not require Planning Commission approval.

For reasonable disability accommodation, contact [ana.vicinanzo@alexandriava.gov](mailto:ana.vicinanzo@alexandriava.gov) or call 703.746.5494, Virginia Relay 711.



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

@AlexGazette

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by  
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to [connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe](http://connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe)

NEWS DEPARTMENT:  
[gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)

Editor & Publisher

Mary Kimm  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)  
@MaryKimm

Jean Card

Production Editor  
[jcard@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jcard@connectionnewspapers.com)

Jeanne Theismann

[jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com)  
@TheismannMedia

Janet Barnett, John Bordner,

Mark Mogle  
Contributing Photographers  
[gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)

Shirley Ruhe

Contributing Photographer and Writer  
[gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)

Eden Brown, Michael Pope,

Hope Nelson  
Contributing Writer  
[gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)

ADVERTISING:

For advertising information  
[sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com)  
703-778-9431

Debbie Funk

Display Advertising/National Sales  
703-778-9444  
[debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com)

Tara Lloyd

Display Advertising, 703-740-7128  
[tlloyd@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:tlloyd@connectionnewspapers.com)

David Griffin

Marketing Assistant  
703-778-9431  
[dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com)

Classified & Employment

Advertising

703-778-9431

Publisher

Jerry Vernon  
703-549-0004  
[jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com)

Art/Design:

Laurence Foong, John Heinly,  
Ali Khaligh

Production Manager:

Geovani Flores

Editor Emeritus:

Mary Anne Weber

CIRCULATION

Circulation Manager:

Ann Oliver  
[circulation@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:circulation@connectionnewspapers.com)

A Connection Newspaper

The Alexandria Gazette Packet is distributed weekly to selected homes in the City of Alexandria. Any owners or occupants of premises that do not wish to receive the paper can notify the publisher by telephone at 703-778-9426 or by email to [circulation@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:circulation@connectionnewspapers.com), and the distributor will be notified to discontinue service.

2018

Virginia  
PRESS  
Association

Award Winning  
Newspaper



# SENIOR LIVING

## Tax Season, Tax Scams

The most common tricks and have to avoid them.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

**T**ax season and tax scams often go hand-in-hand. Scammers will try to steal tax documents, money and even a person's identity and seniors are often their prime target.

"Con artists will target anyone, but older adults are targeted at higher rates because criminals go where the money is, and older adults have the majority of wealth because of their years of hard work and savings," said Amy Nofziger, Director of Fraud Victim Support at the AARP. "Plus, older adults have not grown up with the technology of today, which has grown so fast."

"Older Adults are often targets because they are going through life transitions and scammers can be very convincing," added Rachel Coates, Director of the Arlington County Agency on Aging. "Awareness is critical."

While numerous scams abound, there are some that are currently more prevalent than others. "The complaints we hear...is the IRS phone scam," said Stacy Northrop of the Fairfax County Office of Public Affairs. "This is where the caller will state that a warrant of arrest has been issued for the victim."

"The crook will claim that the recipient in trouble for not paying enough in taxes or not filing properly," added Eric Friedman, Director of the Montgomery County Office of Consumer Protection. "Crooks instill a sense of fear and urgency, then they'll trick the consumer into wiring money or paying over the phone with a prepaid gift card. Consumers make quick decisions that they wouldn't make if there wasn't a sense of urgency."

Some of the features commonly thought to be safeguards may not be so, says Friedman. "You cannot trust Caller ID to tell you who's really on the other end of the phone," he said. "Caller ID is of no value because crooks can say anything over the phone. They can have IRS as the name that appears to make it look official."

Telephone calls and emails are two warning signs of a scam.

"This is not how the government actually operates," said Nofziger of AARP. "You would always first receive a letter from the IRS, and they would never threaten you with arrest or use foul language. If you receive this type of call, hang up the phone."

Fraudulent emails and websites can be created to look as though they are from a government agency.

**"If anyone calls, mails, emails or texts you asking for money, that is a red flag. If they ask you for personal information such as your Medicare number, Social Security number or financial information, it's a huge red flag."**

— Amy Nofziger, Director of Fraud Victim Support at the AARP

**"Crooks instill a sense of fear and urgency. Consumers make quick decisions that they wouldn't make if there wasn't a sense of urgency."**

— Eric Friedman, Montgomery County Office of Consumer Protection

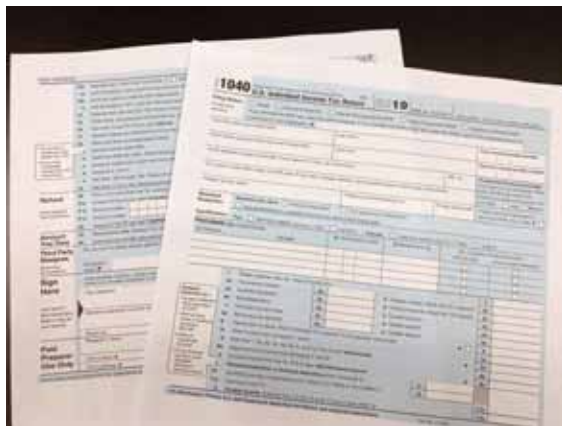


PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

**Know the warning signs to avoid scams this tax season.**

### For Help and More Information

- ❖ AARP Fraud Watch Network at [www.aarp.org/FraudWatchNetwork](http://www.aarp.org/FraudWatchNetwork). AARP Fraud Watch Network Helpline and our trained fraud specialists can help walk you through it: 877-908-3360.
- ❖ Free Help at Montgomery County Libraries: <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/volunteercenter/Resources/Files/taxaideflyer.pdf>
- ❖ Tax ID Theft Awareness Week: <https://www.idtheftcenter.org/tax-identity-theft-awareness-week-2020/>
- ❖ Arlington Adult Protective Services 703-228-1700
- ❖ Fairfax County Silver Shield Anti-Scam Campaign <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/familyservices/older-adults/fairfax-county-silver-shield-anti-scam-campaign>

"Many older adults are unaware that criminals are lurking on what we consider innocent websites or apps, like 'Words with Friends,' Instagram or other social media platforms," said Nofziger. "This is why education and warning people about the red flags is crucial."

Identify theft is also prevalent during tax season, says Friedman of Montgomery County. "Crooks will steal someone's social security number and file [taxes] really early, like in January or February, before the consumer files their return," he said. "When the consumer really does file, the IRS rejects it. When the problem is reported, the IRS will have to investigate which takes months to resolve, which is not good if you're getting a refund."

Scammers seek to obtain money from a victim often in the form of wire transfers or cash, says Norfziger. "It's important to know the red flags of

scams," she said. "Even though the scam tactics might vary, the criminals' demands never change. They want money or personal information. So if anyone calls, mails, emails or texts you asking for money, that is a red flag. If they ask you for personal information such as your Medicare number, Social Security number or financial information, it's a huge red flag."

**THE CONNECTION**  
Newspapers & Online

## Special Edition: PET Connection

**Publishes:**  
*Feb 26, 2020*

**Ads close:**  
*Feb 20, 2020*

**The Pet Connection will publish on February 26 and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by February 20.**

**This edition provides a great advertising opportunity to reach pet owners where they live in a section sure to attract and hold their attention - be sure to take advantage of our different advertising options.**

**For Print & Digital Advertising Information:**  
**Please Call 703.778.9431**

**LOCAL MEDIA CONNECTION**  
Newspapers & Online  
**703-778-9431**  
[www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com)

**Reaching Suburban Washington's Leading Households**

• Alexandria Gazette Packet	• Fairfax Connection	• Oak Hill/Henderson Connection
• Arlington Connection	• Fairfax Station/Citron/Lorton Connection	• Potomac Annapolis
• Burke Connection	• Great Falls Connection	• Reston Connection
• Centre View	• McLean Connection	• Springfield Connection
• Chantilly Connection	• Mount Vernon Gazette	• Vienna/Dulles Connection

**Sign up for  
FREE DIGITAL  
SUBSCRIPTION**

**to any or all of our 15 papers**  
**[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE)**



# City Celebrates first African American Fire Chief

FROM PAGE 1  
Duty Chief for Emergency Operations, Fire Marshal, FedEx Field Stadium Commander and Special Events Commander.

Following his move to Alexandria, Smedley served as Deputy Chief of the Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security and Assistant Chief of Administration prior to his appointment as Acting Fire Chief on December 16, 2019.

Smedley holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of the District of Columbia, a Master of Science from Johns Hopkins University and a Certified Public Manager Credential from George Washington University. He also served in the U.S. Army Reserve.

"We're very excited to celebrate Chief Smedley's promotion to Chief of the Alexandria Fire Department," said Mayor Justin Wilson. "Protecting the safety of life and property is one of the most sacred obligations of government. I feel very confident in Chief Smedley's leadership and his stewardship of the department and the men and women who serve."

**Jean Smedley stands with her son, Chief Corey Smedley, right, and Mayor Justin Wilson at the swearing-in ceremony at City Hall.**



**Fire Chief Corey Smedley, left, is congratulated by Sheriff Dana Lawhorne following Smedley's swearing in Jan. 28 at City Hall.**



**Alexandria Fire Chief Corey Smedley makes remarks following his formal swearing in Jan. 28 at City Hall.**



**Fire Chief Corey Smedley, second from right, with wife Yolanda and sons Justin Evans and Cemille Smedley celebrate following Smedley's formal swearing in Jan. 28 at City Hall.**

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNET/GAZETTE PACKET

## Bon Voyage Feb.1 send off for Historic Hose Carriage.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**T**he Friendship Firehouse Museum will bid a temporary adieu to the historic 1858 Prettyman Hose Carriage with a send-off reception Feb. 1 prior to its removal for restoration and conservation work.

On hand at the reception will be Conservator Josiah Wagener, who will discuss how the conservation treatment will affect the appearance of the apparatus and the techniques he will use for treatment. The hose-reel carriage was made in Alexandria in the North Pitt Street shop of coach maker and Friendship member Robert F. Prettyman. State of the art technology of its time, it provided firefighters a steady stream of water.

The Friendship Fire Company purchased the ornate hose reel carriage in 1858. Through the support of the Friendship Veterans Fire Engine Association, community donors and its win as the No. 1 Virginia Endangered Artifact of 2019, Historic Alexandria is sending the hose carriage off for the much-needed conser-

vation.

"This is a great opportunity to see the Friendship Firehouse Museum," said Friendship Firehouse Veterans Association member Joe Shumard. "On exhibit with the hose carriage are buckets, hoses, axes, and Friendship's mid-19th century suction engine – elaborately decorated with the company's clasped-hands insignia."

Shumard noted that in addition to fighting fires, Friendship members participated in parades and performed ceremonial duties for civic events. Ceremonial artifacts such as helmets, capes and other regalia are exhibited in the Firehouse Meeting Room.

The reception will be held at the Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 S. Alfred St., beginning at 12:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public and refreshments will be served. For more information, visit [www.friendshipfireco.org](http://www.friendshipfireco.org).

**Conservation work is set to begin on the 1858 Prettyman Hose Carriage. A reception will be held Feb. 1 prior to its removal from the Friendship Firehouse Museum.**



**A send off reception for the 1858 Prettyman Hose Carriage will be held Feb. 1 at 12:30 p.m. at the Friendship Firehouse Museum prior to its removal for conservation and restoration work.**

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED





Eddie Longosz, right, Director of Scouting for the Washington Nationals, and Don Hughes, left, president of the Alexandria Sportsman's Club, honor the Athletes of the Month at the Jan. 22 ASC meeting at the Old Dominion Boat Club. Recognized were: Andrew Lavayen, SSSA Wrestling; Jared Cross, SSSA Basketball; Haley Sabol, EHS Basketball; Darius Johnson, EHS Basketball; Ronan Lauinger, T.C. Williams Swimming; Caroline Schie, T.C. Williams Basketball; and Siobhan Chawk, Bishop Ireton Swim and Dive.



Eddie Longosz, Director of Scouting Operations for the reigning World Series Champion Washington Nationals, speaks to the crowd at the Jan. 22 meeting of the Alexandria Sportsman's Club at the Old Dominion Boat Club.

PHOTOS BY LAURA HATCHER PHOTOGRAPHY

## Baseball Banter Sportsman's Club hosts Nationals' Longosz.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

Eddie Longosz, Director of Scouting Operations for the reigning World Series Champion Washington Nationals, was the featured

speaker at the Jan. 22 meeting of the Alexandria Sportsman's Club.

Longosz, who joined the Nationals in 2010, gave the crowd an inside look at team operations before presenting the January Athletes of the Month awards. Recognized at the event were: Recognized were: An-

drew Lavayen, SSSA Wrestling; Jared Cross, SSSA Basketball; Haley Sabol, EHS Basketball; Darius Johnson, EHS Basketball; Ronan Lauinger, T.C. Williams Swimming; Caroline Schie, T.C. Williams Basketball; and Siobhan Chawk, Bishop Ireton Swim and Dive.

Founded in 1947, the ASC is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting athletic and scholastic achievement among Alexandria's youth and celebrating local sports camaraderie and history. For more information, visit [www.alexandriavasports.org](http://www.alexandriavasports.org).

## Power Play

Visit Alexandria launches leadership program.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

The Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington at Mount Vernon was the setting for the Jan. 16 launch of The Leadership Collection at Alexandria, a new initiative by Visit Alexandria to highlight customized leadership training and teambuilding programs for corporations and executives.

More than 60 guests attended the reception, which highlighted three Alexandria-based leadership and team building institutes —the George Washington Leadership Institute at Mount Vernon, McChrystal Group Leadership Institute and Building Momentum.

"Alexandria offers meeting experiences that aren't found in other places, and the new Leadership Collection at Alexandria is the perfect example of that," said

Lorraine Lloyd, vice president of sales and international marketing for Visit Alexandria. "We're thrilled to bring our partners together and offer this new program that provides groundbreaking content with top-end facilitators in one-of-a-kind venues and an inspiring destination that's easily accessible."

Through the Leadership Collection at Alexandria, Visit Alexandria will offer customizable programs targeting meeting planners and CEOs to help corporations improve teamwork and leadership skills. Partnering with Visit Alexandria are the George Washington Leadership Institute at Mount Vernon, Building Momentum, a veteran-owned problem-solving, technology and engineering consulting group, and McChrystal Group Leadership Institute, founded by retired four-star general Stan McChrystal. For more information, visit [www.AlexandriaLeadershipCollection.com](http://www.AlexandriaLeadershipCollection.com).

Clare Moore, right, gives attendees a tour of the vault, which holds Washington's books and rare manuscripts, during The Leadership Collection at Alexandria launch event Jan. 16 at the Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington at Mount Vernon.



Cheyenne Dwyer of Building Momentum, Brad Halsey of Building Momentum, Lorraine Lloyd of Visit Alexandria, Joseph Stoltz of George Washington's Mount Vernon, Marty Schweitzer of McChrystal Group, and Tom Kaiden of Visit Alexandria celebrate the launch of The Leadership Collection at Alexandria on Jan. 16 at the Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington at Mount Vernon



PHOTOS BY ALBERT TING FOR VISIT ALEXANDRIA



# ENTERTAINMENT

## 4 Dates to Circle in February

By HOPE NELSON

**S**tart the month with ice cream and see it through to an Oktoberfest-style anniversary celebration, with plenty of stop-offs in between. What's cooking in Alexandria this February? Read on to find out.

### Ice Cream for Breakfast Day at Jeni's Splendid Ice Creams, Feb. 1

**APPETITE** Why not kick the month off in the most decadent way possible? From 8 a.m. to noon on the first day of the month – happily a Saturday, at that – Jeni's will be scooping up the shop's new skillet cinnamon roll ice cream. Need a little more kick with your cream? Try a

coffee float, which is just what it sounds like – a scoop of ice cream tucked into a mug of coffee. (Pro tip: Get there early to snag a souvenir mug.) All the profits from the four-hour event will go to DoSomething.org. 102 S. Patrick St. 8 a.m.-noon.

### Colossal IX Release Party at Port City Brewing, Feb. 1

Port City Brewing is celebrating its ninth anniversary, and what better way to ring in a new year but with the newest version of its Colossal series. This year's model is a Weizenbock style, bringing a full-bodied, wheat-based beer to the table. If you've missed some of the Colossal brews from years past, several varieties will be on offer with limited supply. Count on live music and

a variety of food trucks to keep things lively all day. And can't make it to the Saturday event? Port City will kick off its weekend celebration with some Friday festivities, as well. 3950 Wheeler Ave. Noon-11 p.m.

### Chocolate and Cheese Class at Cheesetique, Feb. 10

Just in time for Valentine's Day, Cheesetique will help you step up your A-game. Cheesetique owner Jill Erber and chocolatier Robert Kingsbury team up to walk you through an evening of decadence. Learn about how to make chocolate, how to pair said chocolate with both wine and cheese and, naturally, get ready to taste the samplings. An abundance of chocolate, plus half a dozen cheeses and two wines, will be available for taste-testing – all in the

name of education, of course. 2411 Mount Vernon Ave. 7-8:30 p.m. \$55.

### Village Brauhaus One-Year Anniversary Party, Feb. 22

Forget Oktoberfest – the German-style restaurant in Old Town is having a celebration for another reason this February. Village Brauhaus turns a year old this month, and the pub is having a party to toast the occasion. Food specials – and beer specials, naturally – will be on offer all day, and Johnny Koenig and his band will bring in live music from 3 to 7 p.m. 710 King St. 11:30 a.m.-2 a.m.

*Hope Nelson is the author of "Classic Restaurants of Alexandria" and owns the Kitchen Recessionista blog, located at [www.kitchenrecessionista.com](http://www.kitchenrecessionista.com). Email her any time at [hope@kitchenrecessionista.com](mailto:hope@kitchenrecessionista.com).*

## CALENDAR

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

### ONGOING

**"Repetitions."** Now thru Feb. 9. At Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, Studio 29, 105 North Union Street, Alexandria. Repeated patterns, repeated themes, repeated textures and repeated colors all lead to interesting and exciting pieces. Themed work will be eligible for recognition by the jurors. Non-themed work will also be exhibited. Visit the website: [www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com](http://www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com)

**"The King's Shadow."** Now thru April 19. 8 p.m. At The Lab at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. In this season, Shakespeare's Histories: "The King's Shadow" runs January 2nd - April 19th, 2020; "Richard the Second" runs January 2 - April 18, 2020; "Henry the Fourth, Part 1" runs January 30 - April 18, 2020; "Henry the Fourth, Part 2" runs February 13 - April 19, 2020; and "Henry the Fifth" runs March 12 - April 19, 2020. These plays follow the troubled passing of the English crown from the philosopher King Richard II, to the conqueror King Henry IV, to his rogue son, Prince Hal. With his father's deeds looming over him, Hal indulges in a reckless adolescence that tarnishes his reputation. But when the time comes to rule, Hal must take control of how history will remember him, unite his country, and become the legendary King Henry V. Tickets are \$35. Contact [boxoffice@bravespiritstheatre.com](mailto:boxoffice@bravespiritstheatre.com) or [www.bravespiritstheatre.com](http://www.bravespiritstheatre.com).

### NOW THRU DEC. 9

**Life Drawing Sessions.** At Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Looking for a chance to hone your figure drawing skills? Del Ray Artisans offers a range of open life drawing sessions for just this purpose. Just drop in for the session and bring your supplies to draw or paint the live models. Fee ranges from \$8-\$12. All skill levels are welcome. Visit [DelRayArtisans.org/life-drawing](http://DelRayArtisans.org/life-drawing)

### FEB. 29

**Winter Pruning for Woody Plants.**



**The house of Alexandria town founder Col. John Carlyle, who is turning 300.**

## Happy 300th Birthday John Carlyle 8

Saturday/Feb., 12-4 p.m. At Carlyle House Historic Park, Alexandria. Help wish a happy 300th birthday to Alexandria town founder, Col. John Carlyle. Festivities will include 18th-century dancing, live music, and a birthday treat! Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

10 - 11:30 a.m. At American Horticultural Society River Farm, 7931 E. Boulevard Drive, Alexandria. Winter is the best time to prune many trees and shrubs. Come for hands-on training on the how, when, and why to prune hedges, multi-stem shrubs, small trees, and large branches. The results will be healthier and fuller growth, better flowers and fruit, and attractive landscaping. Bring your own tools, and remember to dress for the weather! Entire class is held outdoors. This class is offered by Extension Master Gardeners. Free. Advance registration required by Feb. 26, at [mgnv.org](http://mgnv.org). Space is limited and we cannot accept walk-ins. Call 703-228-6414 or email [mgarlalex@gmail.com](mailto:mgarlalex@gmail.com).

### THURSDAY/JAN. 30

**Chamber Reception.** 6-9 p.m. At National Industries for the Blind, 3000 Potomac Avenue, Alexandria. Alexandria Chamber of Commerce 2020 Chairman's Reception presented by United States Senate Federal Credit Union. They'll be highlighting what's on the horizon for Alexandria as we enter the 2020s. The event will feature food, music,

drinks and a live auction.

### FRIDAY/JAN. 31

**Travel Tech.** 10:15 a.m. – 12 p.m. At Ellen Coolidge Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road, Alexandria. Before you explore the world, see what website and travel apps are available to help you plan your next trip. In the class we will examine free apps and websites that can be used to plan your trip and offer assistance during your stay away. Please feel free to bring your device to follow along. Registration is preferred.

### JAN.31 TO FEB. 1

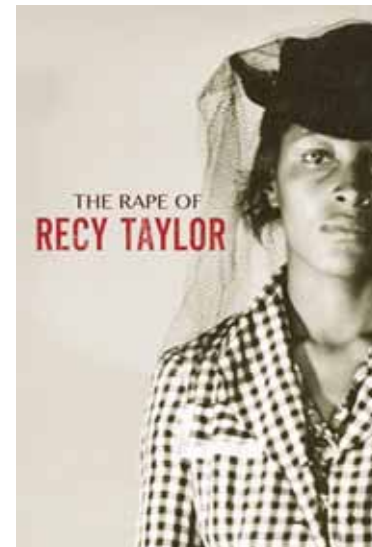
**Tasting Room Colossal IX Release Party.** Friday, Jan. 31, 2020, 12-10 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 1, 2020, 12-11 p.m. At Port City Brewing Company, 3950 Wheeler Avenue, Alexandria. To toast to nine years of brewing, Port City Brewing Company will release COLOSSAL IX, a German-Style Weizenbock and host a two-day Release and Anniversary Party.

### SATURDAY, FEB. 1

**Shoreline Trash Cleanup.** 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. At Belle Haven Park, South Parking Lot, GW Memorial Parkway,

## The Rape of Recy Taylor

Saturday/Feb. 8, 11 a.m. at Alexandria's History Museum at the Lyceum, Alexandria. The Alexandria Black History Museum will be hosting a screening of the award-winning documentary film *The Rape of Recy Taylor* followed by a discussion and audience Q&A at Alexandria's History Museum at the Lyceum. Cost is \$10, reservations required at [alexandriava.gov/shop](http://alexandriava.gov/shop). Recy Taylor, a 24-year-old Black mother and sharecropper, was gang raped by six white boys in 1944 Alabama. Sexual violence like this happened commonly in the Jim Crow South and few women spoke up in fear for their lives. Not Recy Taylor: She bravely identified her rapists. The NAACP sent its rape investigator Rosa Parks to Alabama, who rallied support and triggered an unprecedented outcry for justice. Visit: [therapeofrecytaylor.com](http://therapeofrecytaylor.com).



**The film, *The Rape of Recy Taylor* will be shown on Saturday, Feb. 8 at the Alexandria's History Museum at the Lyceum.**

Alexandria (22307). Join the Friends of Dyke Marsh for a Potomac River shoreline cleanup. Wear warm clothes, sturdy shoes and bring water. Probably not good for children under age 8. No pets, please. Call Glenda Booth at 703-765-5233 or visit the website [www.fodm.org](http://www.fodm.org).  
**Used Book Sale.** 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria. Selection of over 20,000 gently used children's books, fiction, history, biography, home and garden, cooking, crafts, sports, religion, travel, CDs, DVDs, and more. Unless specially priced, \$1 for hard backs, 50 cents for large paperbacks, and 25 cents for mass market paperbacks. Visit <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-sherwood-regional>.

**Storytime with Young Historians.** 11 a.m. At The Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe Street, Alexandria. Bring your children to the Alexandria Black History Museum for cultural stories and creative craft activities that introduce history and promote diversity. The Museum Educator will be reading *The Undeclared* written by author Kwame Alexander and illustrated by Kadir Nelson. All ages are welcome, but

most suitable for children 3-6 years old. Admission is \$3 per person. Tickets are available online at [alexandriava.gov/shop](http://alexandriava.gov/shop). Call 703-746-4356 or visit [alexandriava.gov/blackhistory](http://alexandriava.gov/blackhistory).

**Multi-Level Remodeled Home Tour.** 12-4 p.m. At 6837 Corder Lane, Lorton. Learn how your neighbors are modifying their homes for a better quality of life. Bring family and friends together in a way that fits your lifestyle. Create open, private, and specialized spaces for all to visit comfortably. Presented by Sun Design, an Architectural Design-Build firm. Call 703-425-5588 or visit [www.SunDesignInc.com](http://www.SunDesignInc.com).

**Hose Carriage Send-Off.** 12:30-2 p.m. At Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 S. Alfred Street, Alexandria. The Friendship Fire Company purchased an ornate hose reel carriage in 1858. Now, thanks to the support of the Friendship Veterans Fire Engine Association, community donors, and its win as the No. 1 Virginia Endangered Artifact of 2019, Historic Alexandria is sending the hose carriage off for much-needed conservation. Come and wish the hose carriage Bon Voyage. Visit [www.friendshipfirehouse.net](http://www.friendshipfirehouse.net); or

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11

[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)



# ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 10

contact the museum by calling 703-746-3891.

## Washington Gardener Seed

**Exchange.** 12:30-4:30 p.m. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. (Adults) Washington Gardener Magazine is co-hosting the 15th annual seed exchange at Green Spring Gardens with lectures, a face-to-face seed swap, and more. Bring your extra seeds to swap and leave with a bag full of seeds, new garden friends, and expert planting advice. Verified Friends of Green Spring members \$15 (code C1E.4043), other guests \$20 (code C1E.5B00). Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes) or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173.

**Hot Cocoa Wetland Night Hike.** 5-6:30 p.m. At Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd., Alexandria. Sip hot cocoa and join a naturalist for a winter wetland tour after dark. Look for signs and listen for sounds of beavers, owls, deer and other nocturnal winter animals. Cost is \$9 per person. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Call 703-768-2525 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows).

**Country-Western Dance.** 7-9:30 p.m. at Lincolnia Senior Center, 4710 North Chambliss St., Alexandria. 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.



**The Alexandria All City High School Art Exhibition hosted by the Convergence Arts Initiative returns Feb. 7 – March 28.**

## Student Art Exhibit

Feb. 7 to March 28, At the Gallery at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. The Alexandria All City High School Art Exhibition hosted by the Convergence Arts Initiative returns Feb. 7 – March 28 for its fifth year. 2020's experience will feature over 90 Alexandria high school students representing six high schools including public, private, and independent spanning over 10 different mediums of art. Returning for 2020's collaborative event are students from Bishop Ireton, Episcopal High School, T.C. Williams, St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School, Commonwealth Academy, and The Howard Gardner School.

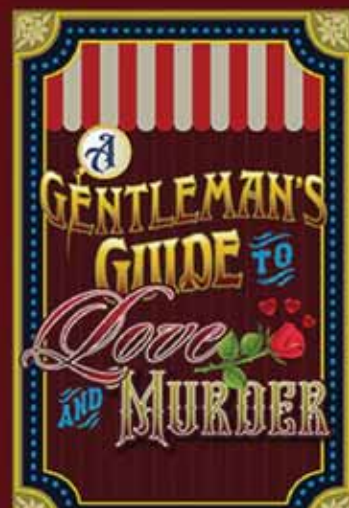
Artists Reception: Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup> 2020. 7 – 9 p.m.

**FHLL Field of Dreams Gala.** 7 p.m. At Mount Vernon Country Club, 5111 Old Mill Road, Alexandria. Join Fort Hunt Little League at the Field of Dreams Fundraiser and Gala. Proceeds will benefit FHLL fields and training programs. Cost is \$100.

Visit the website: [forhuntslittleleague.org](http://forhuntslittleleague.org)


**SUNDAY, FEB. 2**  
**Winter Lecture: Building a Piet**

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 12



A murderous romp filled with unforgettable music, non-stop laughs and show-stopping performances. Not to be missed!

**SHOW DATES:**  
**JAN. 18 – FEB. 8, 2020**



Little Theatre of Alexandria  
600 Wolfe Street • 703-683-0496  
[www.thelittletheatre.com](http://www.thelittletheatre.com)



Play Indoors!

**7 DAYS FREE**



(703) 382-1011  
[www.mtvac.net](http://www.mtvac.net)  
Tennis@mtvac.net



**Same Company, Same Employees,  
Same Great Value - Now Celebrating 20 Years!**

## TWO POOR TEACHERS

**Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling**

**10% down**  
nothing until the job  
is complete for the  
past 17 years



- Master Plumber
- Master Electrician
- Master HVAC

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed  
Since 1999



**Free Estimates**

**703-999-2928** Visit our website: [www.twopoorteachers.com](http://www.twopoorteachers.com)





## Food fit for a king on a family budget

### DAILY FEATURES FOR EVERYONE!

Monday - 1/2 Price Burger Night  
Tuesday - Kids 12 & under Eat Free  
with accompanying adult. 1 child per adult.  
Wednesday - Roast Turkey Special  
Thursday - Lasagna Night  
Friday - Fish Fry  
Saturday & Sunday - Full Brunch Buffet  
with Omelette Station

**734 North St. Asaph Street, Alexandria, VA 22314**



**703-548-1616**  
[RoyalRestaurantVA.com](http://RoyalRestaurantVA.com)

ALEXANDRIA'S NEIGHBORHOOD RESTAURANT • SINCE 1961



## 19/20 Season

## STRING SERENADE



**SATURDAY, FEB 15**   **8 P.M.**

**SUNDAY, FEB 16**   **3 P.M.**

**Featuring:**

### SCHUBERT: SYMPHONY NO. 5

along with works by  
**FLORENCE PRICE,**  
**MARIO CASTELNUOVO-TEDESCO**  
with Berta Rojas, guitar  
and **MOZART!**




**Adult: \$20-\$85 Student: \$10 Youth: \$5**

**(703) 548-0885 • [www.alexsym.org](http://www.alexsym.org)**

## ENTERTAINMENT



**The Yale Whiffenpoofs will perform on Friday, Feb. 7 at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial.**

### Yale Wiffenpoofs Perform

Friday/Feb., 7:30 p.m. At George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria. The Alexandria Harmonizers present the Yale Whiffenpoofs. The group, now with women, is the world's oldest collegiate a cappella ensemble and celebrated for its excellence. The award-winning Harmonizer chorus, now in its 72nd year, will also perform. Cost is \$30. Visit the website: [www.harmonizers.org](http://www.harmonizers.org)

### CALENDAR

FROM PAGE II

**Oudolf Meadow.** 1:30-2:30 p.m. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. (Adults) Join horticulturist Gregg Tepper as he shares the engaging tale of building a Piet Oudolf designed Meadow Garden. With every great project and large planting there is a story, and Gregg shares the background, the details and all the behind-the-scenes magic that made this garden a reality. \$10 per person. Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes) (code D7A.7D99) or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173.

**The President's Own Marine Band.** 2 p.m. At Schlesinger Concert Hall at NOVA, 4915 East Campus Drive, Alexandria. The U.S. Marine Band presents "Traditions." For 222 years, the U.S. Marine Band has brought the finest music to the American people, the Commandant of the Marine Corps, and the President of the United States. As the nation's oldest continually active professional musical organization, "The President's Own" has become an important symbol of our country's living history. In honor of that storied heritage, this traditional program offers Sousa marches, stunning overtures, virtuosic solos, and two of the most important works composed for band: Percy Grainger's Lincolnshire Posy and Gustav Holst's First Suite in E-flat.

**George Washington's Alexandria Tour.** 2-3:30 p.m. At 101 N. Union Street, Alexandria. 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, including John Fitzgerald's warehouse, Captain's Row, Gentry Row, the Apothecary shop, Ramsay House, Market Square, the Carlyle House, Wise's Tavern, Duvall Tavern, Gadsby's Tavern, and Washington's townhouse. The tour begins behind the Torpedo Factory's south entrance, in front of Vol's Dockside Grill. Free. No reservations required. Offered by the Office of Historic Alexandria. Contact 703-

599-4010 or [suej020924@gmail.com](mailto:suej020924@gmail.com).

#### TUESDAY/FEB. 4

**Seeds: Selecting and Starting.** 7 – 8:30 p.m. At Barrett Library, 717 Queen Street, Alexandria. Jumpstart your vegetable garden. Get the scoop on seed selection – hybrid vs. heirloom, which seeds to start indoors and what's required to get them growing. Learn how to make your own starter pots, create simple lighting systems, and practice winter sowing by starting seeds outdoors in milk-jug greenhouses. Germination is complex, but seed starting is reassuringly simple. This class is offered by Extension Master Gardeners. Free. Advance registration requested at [mgnyv.org](http://mgnyv.org). Call 703-228-6414 or email [mgarlalex@gmail.com](mailto:mgarlalex@gmail.com).

#### THURSDAY/FEB. 6

**Decluttering Workshop.** 1-3 p.m. At Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke Street, Alexandria. At Home in Alexandria is sponsoring a Decluttering and Downsizing Workshop featuring experts who will guide you on getting started or getting help in this process. Pre-registration is required. Free. Visit the website [www.athomeinalexandria.org](http://www.athomeinalexandria.org)

#### FRIDAY/FEB. 7

**Opening Reception.** 7-9 p.m. At Del Ray Artisans Gallery in the Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. Opening reception for the "Kondo vs. Chaos" art exhibit (Feb. 7 – March 1), which explores ways artists visualize the world and their preference for order, disarray, or a balance of both. Meet the artists. Gallery hours are: Thursdays 12-6 p.m., Fridays 12-9 p.m., Saturdays 12-9 p.m., and Sundays 12-6 p.m. The gallery is free, open to the public, and accessible. Visit [www.delrayartisans.org/event/kondo-vs-chaos/](http://www.delrayartisans.org/event/kondo-vs-chaos/)

#### FEB. 7 TO MARCH 28

**Student Art Exhibit.** At the Gallery at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. The Alexandria All City High School Art Exhibition

hosted by the Convergence Arts Initiative returns Feb. 7 – March 28 for its fifth year. 2020's experience will feature 90 Alexandria high school students representing six high schools including public, private, and independent spanning over 10 different mediums of art. Returning for 2020's collaborative event are students from Bishop Ireton, Episcopal High School, T.C. Williams, St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School, Commonwealth Academy, and The Howard Gardner School. Artists Reception: Friday, Feb. 21 from 7 – 9 p.m.

#### SATURDAY/FEB. 8

**Alexandria Boutique Warehouse Sale.** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. At Westin Alexandria Old Town, Alexandria. Deemed in the region as the "Super Bowl of Shopping Event," the winter deals event will take place at the Westin Hotel located in the Carlyle District of Old Town Alexandria. The fun, yet casual, free to enter event will include a variety of new boutiques and retailers not only located in Alexandria, but throughout the Metro region. Deal seekers will find the very best from Alexandria's and the regions finest retailers and indie brands with various brands of clothing, shoes, jewelry, home furnishings and more up to 80% off retail prices.

**Speaker Joan Mullholland.** 10:30 a.m. At Sherwood Regional Library 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria. Joan Mullholland, American Civil Rights activist and a Freedom Rider, with video documentary. Sponsored by the Mount Vernon AAUW. Contact Patsy Quick, Mt. Vernon AAUW President, at [pnquick@cox.net](mailto:pnquick@cox.net).

**Art Show Reception.** 1-3 p.m. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Dawn Flores, mixed media (at the Horticulture Center) and Katherine Ko, oil paintings (at the Historic House). Horticulture Center Hours: Monday-Saturday 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Sunday noon-4:30 p.m. Historic House Hours: Wednesday-Sunday noon-4:30 p.m. Free admission. The art show runs 02/04 through 03/29.

[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)



## Cleaning Service



**Nais's Cleaning Services LLC**

Great Service  
Residency Cleaning  
Laundry & Cleaning  
Attention To Detail  
Very Thorough


**Weekly, Bi-Weekly, Monthly**

**703-992-3907**

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**

## Legals



**TAKE NOTICE**

The City Council of the City of Alexandria will be attending Local Government Legislative Day, Thursday, February 6, 2020, at the Omni Richmond Hotel, located at 100 South 12th Street, Richmond, Virginia. There will also be a dinner with the City's Legislative Delegation following the Local Government Legislative Day activities. There will be three or more Council members in attendance.

For information, please call (703) 746-4550.

Gloria A. Sitton, CMG  
City Clerk and Clerk of Council

## Legals

**SUMMONS** CIVIL (ORIGINAL)

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS  
DIVISION OF ST. THOMAS AND ST. JOHN

RC ST. THOMAS, LLC, Plaintiff,

vs. Case No. ST-13-CV-239

PHILIP N. PILGRIM, CHARLES W. FERREL, JOHN AMARI, ACTION FOR DEBT AND  
RICHARD AMARI, and Heirs at Law of NORMA J. AMARI, FORECLOSURE OF  
deceased, and her unknown heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, REAL PROPERTY, and  
lienors, creditors, trustees, or other claimants; and all MORTGAGE  
parties having a claim, right, title or interest in the property Defendants.  
herein.

TO: Richard Amari, Defendant  
ADDRESS: 2121 Jamieson, Apt 502  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Within the time limited by law (see note below) you are hereby required to appear before this Court and answer to a claim filed against you in this action. In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment by default will be taken against you as demanded in the Complaint for **ACTION FOR DEBT AND FORECLOSURE OF REAL PROPERTY MORTGAGE**.

Witness my hand and the Seal of the Court this 25th day of February, 2019.

*ESTRELLA GEORGE*  
Clerk of the Court

By: *[Signature]*  
Deputy Clerk

Richard P. Farrelly, Esq.  
Birch, de Jongh & Hindels, PLLC  
Poinsettia House at Bluebeard's Castle  
1330 Estate Taarnebjerg  
St. Thomas, USVI 00802  
Telephone: (340) 774-1100/Telecopier: (340) 774-7300

NOTE: The Defendant, if served personally, is required to file his/her answer or other defense with the Clerk of this Court, and to serve a copy thereof upon the Plaintiff's attorney within twenty (20) days after service of this Summons, excluding the date of service. If served by publication or by personal service outside of the jurisdiction, the Defendant is required to file his/her answer or other defense with the Clerk of this Court, and to serve a copy thereof upon the attorney for the Plaintiff within thirty (30) days after the completion of the period of publication or personal service outside of the jurisdiction.

## Employment

**Property Manager:**  
Plan & direct all operations on property. Resumes to Mr. Abdul-Baki, Main Street Retail LC, 1010 Pendleton St, Alexandria, Va 22314

## Legals

**ABC LICENSE**

Thai Signature Group LLC trading as Thai Signature Local Thai Street Food and Bar, 722 King St Alexandria VA 22314. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on Premises, Mixed Beverage Restaurant license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Veerayut Wiwattanachaisaeng. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

## Legals

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

AT&T proposes to replace an existing 30' utility light pole with a new 40' utility light pole and install a top-mounted antenna at 43.3' at 530 S Saint Asaph St, Alexandria, VA (20192128). Interested parties may contact Scott Horn (856-809-1202) (1012 Industrial Dr., West Berlin, NJ 08091) with comments regarding potential effects on historic properties.

## Legals

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

AT&T proposes to replace an existing 30' wood utility pole with a new 40' wood utility pole and install a top-mounted antenna at 43.3' at 911 S Jefferson St, Alexandria, VA (20192127). Interested parties may contact Scott Horn (856-809-1202) (1012 Industrial Dr., West Berlin, NJ 08091) with comments regarding potential effects on historic properties.

## Employment

## Forget Daily Commuting

Print and digital media sales consultant for area's most popular and trusted local news source

Manage your own hours from home  
Enjoy flexible schedule plus no daily commute  
Help local businesses grow  
Unique opportunity to be a voice in your community  
Competitive compensation

Call Jerry Vernon

**703-549-0004**

Connection Newspapers & Digital Media  
Trusted Connection to Local Communities

## Announcements

**Donate A Boat or Car Today!**

BoatAngel

**"2-Night Free Vacation!"**

**800-700-BOAT**  
(2628)

**www.boatangel.com**

sponsored by boat angel outreach centers STOP CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN

## Announcements

## Announcements

**OUTER BANKS, NC - VACATION RENTALS**

Over 500 vacation homes from S. Nags Head to Corolla's 4x4!

**Brindley Beach**  
VACATIONS & SALES

**877-642-3224**

**www.brindleybeach.com**

## Announcements

## Announcements

**Orange County Public Schools**  
Orange County, Virginia

**SEEKING TO FILL THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:**

School Nurse  
Math Specialist  
Middle School Math Teacher  
Special Education Teacher  
Custodian

Candidates must apply at **www.ocss-va.org**

## Announcements

## Announcements

**Lifetime METAL ROOFING**  
by VA CAROLINA BUILDINGS, INC

40 YEAR WARRANTY ON THE FINISH - ENERGY EFFICIENT  
SUPERIOR DURABILITY - SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT  
**FACTORY DIRECT - WE FINANCE - CALL NOW!**

**WWW.METALROOFOVER.COM 1-800-893-1242**

## Announcements

**ABSOLUTE AUCTION**

Wed, Feb.19 at 12:30 PM | 147 Dinkel Ave, Mt Crawford, VA

**22,875 SF Office on 6Ac + 3.5Ac Corner on Main St**  
Former Shenandoah Valley Electric headquarters and adjacent development lot  
2mi from Bridgewater College, 7mi from JMU, 1mi from I-81. Bid live or online  
Details at [TRFAuctions.com](http://TRFAuctions.com) | (434) 847-7741 | VAAF501

## Announcements



## Can You Spell Thyroidectomy? (Or Ice Cream?)

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



I couldn't before, Mr. Rogers, but now I can. And I even know what it means, which 10 days ago, in my neighborhood, I wouldn't have had a clue. Now, not only do I have a clue, I have a date for surgery: Jan. 27. Moreover, in addition to a date (and I don't mean my wife, Dina), I have a time and a place, a list of pre-surgical dos and don'ts, and a few items to buy: a post-surgical healing ointment and a special scrub to help minimize the risk of infection. And of course, I've been advised to wear loose-fitting clothing, perhaps a button down cardigan will do. If all goes well, I'll be home in my jammies around supper time when my recovery begins. Details of which are still a bit sketchy. I suppose I'll have to 'recover' to find out.

Let me amend that last sentence: I'll be on a soft-food diet for five days. What might not jump at you is that I don't eat many soft foods (M&Ms melting in one's mouth instead of their hands likely doesn't count). More significantly and quite out of my ordinary, my wife, Dina will be managing and controlling my menu. So far that menu includes eggs, pudding, apple sauce; all good but her last two items: spinach and kale, not good at all. I imagine I'll survive the surgery, but given how rarely Dina and have shared meals together over the years, I may not survive the recovery. And though her heart and head might be in the right place, I'm afraid my knife and fork won't be. During the best of times, I'm challenging to feed. After my surgery, I'm likely going to be at my worst. Although I certainly don't look it, food has always been the bane of my existence.

But at that post-surgical point, aren't I entitled? I mean, when I was a little boy and had my tonsils removed, I remember being given ice cream to eat - in bed. That had never happened before - or since, quite frankly. Soft foods. What's softer than ice cream? Why should I be deprived? I have two types of cancer. Yet so far, I don't see ice cream on the list. Maybe Dina's waiting for confirmation from the surgeon that cold foods are just as soft as hot. If true, I think I'm going to need that in ALL CAPS to convince my wife to give in to my indulgences. After all, one's thyroid gland isn't extracted every day so shouldn't I scream (perhaps whisper would be advisable) for ice cream? Wouldn't it soothe the savage beast that I might be after surgery? Presumably there will be some pain or discomfort and/or side effects from prescription medications I'm obliged to take so why not humor me; I like to laugh.

Except there's really nothing funny about surgery, other than the old joke: it's minor surgery when it's someone else, when it's me, it's major. So even though I've been told on relatively good authority that a thyroidectomy is not exactly major surgery, it's still me that's being anesthetized and operated on for four hours. And though I'd rather it would be somebody else, I don't see how that would help remove my thyroid gland which apparently has spread cancer to my neck and a lymph node. I guess if it has to come out, it might as well come out of me. And then we can get on to the business of learning whether I have one cancer or two and perhaps get an updated assessment of my life expectancy. If I had my druthers, I'd just as soon have only one cancer. Two is too much.

That being said/vented, right now, I just want to wake up after surgery and get home. And when I get there, either that night or for breakfast the next day, there better be a pint or two of ice cream with my name on it. I think it's only fair, don't you?

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

## BUSINESS DIRECTORY

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CALL 703-549-0004 FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION

<b>LANDSCAPING</b> <b>A&amp;S CONSTRUCTION</b> SOD, Mulch, Clean-Up Leaf Removal Hauling. <b>703-863-7465</b>		Good is not good, where better is expected. <b>-Thomas Fuller</b>	
<b>ELECTRICAL</b> <b>K &amp; D ELECTRIC</b> COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE Family Owned & Operated Recessed Lighting Ceiling Fans Phone/CATV Computer Network Cabling Service Upgrades Hot Tubs, etc... Licensed/Bonded/Insured Office 703-335-0654 Mobile 703-499-0522 lektrkman28@gmail.com		<b>LANDSCAPING</b> <b>Quality Tree Service &amp; Landscaping</b> Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured. <b>Winter Cleanup...</b> Tree removal, topping & pruning, shrubbery trimming, mulching, leaf removal, planting, hauling, gutter cleaning, retaining walls, drainage problems, etc. 25 years of experience - Free estimates <b>703-868-5358</b> <b>24 Hour Emergency Tree Service</b>	
<b>GUTTER</b> <b>GUTTER CLEANING</b> Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned Small Repairs • Gutter Guards <b>PINNACLE SERVICES</b> Lic/Ins 703-802-0483 free est. email jamie@lawnsgutters.com web: lawnsandgutters.com Friendly Service with a Friendly Price!		<b>IMPROVEMENTS</b> <b>TILE / MARBLE</b> <b>BATHROOM REMODELING</b> by Brennan Bath and Tile Partial or Full. Kit. Floors, Backsplashes. Specializing in Ceramic, Porcelain, Glass Tiles and Natural Stones. Also repair work. 35 yrs exp. <b>www.brennan-tile.com</b> <b>703-250-2872</b> Licensed • Bonded • Insured	
<b>A&amp;S Landscaping</b> • All Concrete work • Retaining Walls • Patios • Decks • Porches (incl. screened) • Erosion & Grading Solutions • French Drains • Sump Pumps • Driveway Asphalt Sealing <b>703-863-7465</b> LICENSED <b>Serving All of N. Virginia</b>			
<b>LANDSCAPING</b> <b>Patios &amp; Drainage</b> Your neighborhood company since 1987 <b>703-772-0500</b>			
<b>J.E.S. Services</b> Free Estimates • Fully Licensed & Insured • Planting & Landscaping Design • Drainage & Water Problems • Concrete Driveways, Replacement or New • Patios and Walks • Masonry Work or Dry Laid • Paver, Flagstone, Brick, any style you choose • Retaining walls of all types <b>All work Guaranteed</b>			

**Sign up for FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION to any or all of our 15 papers**  
 www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

## BULLETIN BOARD

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

### SATURDAY/FEB. 1

**Foster Parent Orientation.** 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. At Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave, Alexandria. The City of Alexandria will hold a free, no obligation information session for prospective foster parents. An agency representative will be on hand to answer any questions and explain the requirements to foster and/or adopt. To RSVP, call 703-746-5858 or email Christine.Levine@alexandriava.gov.

### ALEXANDRIA SOLICITS FEEDBACK

The City of Alexandria is soliciting feedback on the name of the park at 3550 Commonwealth Avenue, located on the corner of Commonwealth Avenue and Reed Avenue. The public is invited to participate in an online survey now through March 3, 2020 to provide feedback on two proposed names:

1. Unity Park: As stated in the proposal, Unity Park reflects the "hopes and dreams that we have for this park...it would be a place of connection, recreation, and fun for all of the people that live in the neighborhoods surrounding it. It would also serve as a reminder of where we have come from and where we are going. In addition, the name also speaks to the fact that it sits between several neighborhoods and recognizes all the work the residents of the various surrounding neighborhoods put into the original park construction."
2. Shirley Tyler Park: The proposal states that for more than 40 years, Mrs. Shirley Tyler was a community leader in Alexandria. Tyler and her family moved to Arlandria in 1965 where she was a resident until her death in February 2018. They were the first African American homeowners in their neighborhood. Tyler became involved in the Arlandria Civic Association. In 1973, Tyler was appointed to the Alexandria School Board. From 1974 to 1976, she served as vice chair and from 1980 to 1982 served as the first African American female chairperson. She was an educator. From 1969 to 1979, she was a 2nd and 3rd grade teacher at Grace Episcopal School. In 1975, she became the Headmistress and remained in that position until her retirement in 1989.

Visit alexandriava.gov/100128.

### POLICE DEPARTMENT ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Get to know your Police Department. The 10-week Alexandria Community Police Academy provides an opportunity for residents to learn about various aspects of the Police Department, such as administrative philosophy, internal policies and the guiding principles of law and ethical conduct governing the delivery of police services. Classes are a combination of lecture and interactive activities. Class topics will include patrol operations, gangs, crime prevention, crime scene investigations, criminal investigations and the Special Operations Team. The academy will be held every Wednesday from 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Police Department's Headquarters at 3600 Wheeler Ave in the Community Room, located on the 1st floor. Classes begin on March 11, 2020 and will end with a formal graduation ceremony on May 20, 2020.

The program is offered free of charge, however as a condition of participating in the Community Police Academy, each participant will be asked to volunteer for a minimum of 10 hours per year post graduation. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov/policy](http://www.alexandriava.gov/policy) and search Community Police Academy or e-mail the Volunteer Office at [mary.bruno@alexandriava.gov](mailto:mary.bruno@alexandriava.gov). The deadline for registrations is Feb. 7, 2020.

To see other academies offered by the city, visit [www.alexandriava.gov/academies](http://www.alexandriava.gov/academies).

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Help the Alexandria Domestic Violence Program (DVP) and Sexual Assault Center (SAC) make a positive impact for those in need and increase awareness of domestic violence and sexual assault in our community by becoming a volunteer. Volunteers benefit from the unique experience of interacting personally with victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. There are opportunities in DVP for special events volunteers, court advocates and shelter supervisors. Call 703-746-4911 or visit [alexandriava.gov/DomesticViolence](http://alexandriava.gov/DomesticViolence). To become a SAC volunteer, which includes opportunities for Volunteer Hotline Advocates, call Lydia at 703-746-3127 or visit [alexandriava.gov/SexualViolence](http://alexandriava.gov/SexualViolence).

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



# SPECIAL SAVINGS FOR YOUR TOYOTA



**WELCOME TO ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA'S  
PERSONALIZED CAR CARE EXPERIENCE**

**BUY 3  
TIRES  
AND  
GET  
THE  
4TH FOR**



**\$1**

**See Service  
Advisor for details.**

**GOT TIRES?**

INCLUDES ROAD HAZARD PROTECTION, TIRE WARRANTY, AND FREE COURTESY INSPECTION.

**BONUS: ADD A 4 WHEEL  
ALIGNMENT FOR \$39.95**

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/29/20.

**CHECK ENGINE  
LIGHT DIAGNOSIS**

**NO  
CHARGE**

**INITIAL DIAGNOSIS**

**WE WILL RETRIEVE  
VEHICLE CODES  
& GIVE YOU  
AN ESTIMATE  
OF REPAIR COSTS.**



NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/29/20.

*Jack Taylor's*  
**ALEXANDRIA  
TOYOTA**

3750 Richmond Hwy • Alexandria, VA 22305



**SAFETY FIRST ALWAYS!  
Have Your Vehicle Checked  
for Open Campaigns/Recalls  
Recall Hotline: 703-684-0710**

**SERVICE & PARTS DEPT HOURS:**

Monday - Friday, 6:00am to 7:00pm  
Saturday, 7:00am to 5:00pm

**YOU HAVE SATURDAY OFF.  
THAT'S EXACTLY WHY WE DON'T!**



**ToyotaCare  
Customers**

**Don't Forget Your FREE Service.**  
5,000 • 10,000 • 15,000 • 20,000 • 25,000



**Mile Services**  
Call your ASM for details

**ToyotaCare Plus \$329<sup>00</sup>**

Covers up to 4 years/45,000 miles

**ALIGNMENT SPECIAL**

**\$69<sup>95</sup>**

Your car's alignment suffers, and can cause uneven tire wear and steering problems.  
**INCLUDES:** Inspect suspension, ball joints, struts & shocks, tire condition and set tire pressure.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/29/20.

**OIL & FILTER CHANGE**

**\$24<sup>95</sup>**

NON-SYNTHETIC

**\$34<sup>95</sup>**

SYNTHETIC

**Includes:** Genuine Toyota oil filter, up to 5 qts of conventional oil\*, inspect windshield wipers, check tire condition, check battery (with print-out), inspect and adjust all fluid levels, inspect air & cabin air filters.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/29/20.

**SIGHT LINE  
WIPER BLADES**

**BUY 1  
GET 1 FREE**

Sight Line only.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA PARTS CENTER ONLY. GOOD THRU 2/29/20.

**FREE**

**BATTERY CHECK-UP**

Check cold cranking amps and visual inspection of battery condition. Includes battery condition print out.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/29/20.

**NEW HOURS SPECIAL!**

**DROP OFF YOUR VEHICLE BETWEEN 6AM & 7AM  
WITH A SCHEDULED APPOINTMENT & RECEIVE  
12% OFF ANY ONE REPAIR.**

MAXIMUM DISCOUNT, \$150

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA PARTS CENTER ONLY. GOOD THRU 2/29/20.



**ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA**

**BRAKE SPECIAL**

**\$79<sup>95</sup>**

**Includes:** Install Genuine Toyota front brake pads, inspect front & rear rotors & drums, check tire condition and inspect all hardware. Pads only.

**MACHINE ROTORS ADDITIONAL**

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/29/20.

**BG VITAL FLUID SERVICE**

**10% OFF YOUR FIRST SERVICE**

**15% OFF YOUR SECOND SERVICE**

**Power Steering • Automatic Transmission • Brake System**

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/29/20.

**TRUESTART™ BATTERIES**



**\$129<sup>95</sup>**

**INCLUDES BATTERY INSTALLATION**

**Includes:** 84 month warranty, 24 month free replacement, 24 month free roadside assistance. Does not apply to hybrid batteries.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/29/20.

©SMS Productions, Inc. 1-800-289-7671 #201911022

**CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT AT 703-684-0710 OR SCHEDULE ONLINE AT ALEXANDRIATOYOTA.COM**



McEneaney Associates has always had one motto in mind... not to be the biggest, but the best. This year marks our 40th year in Alexandria, and we are celebrating our investment in helping to build our town into the thriving community it is today. To learn more about our Associates and our firm, visit [www.WeAreAlexandria.com](http://www.WeAreAlexandria.com)

#WeAreAlexandria



### Alexandria City | \$1,650,000

Spectacular 5-bedroom home with top-of-the-line designer finishes. Open floor plan with floor-to-ceiling windows that provide an abundance of light and views of the beautiful landscaping. High ceilings, gorgeous stone fireplace, finished lower level, and 2-car garage.

**Lauren Bishop 202.361.5079**  
[www.laurenbishophomes.com](http://www.laurenbishophomes.com)



OPEN SAT 2/1 & SUN 2/2, 2-4

### Beverley Hills | \$839,900

5-bedroom, 3-bath Cape Cod home. Open floor plan on main level features living room with fireplace, dining room and updated gourmet kitchen. Finished lower level with family room, bedroom and bath. Serene large fenced backyard with brick patio. 3000 Edgehill Drive

**Jen Walker 703.675.1566**  
[www.JenWalker.com](http://www.JenWalker.com)



### Sherwood Forest | \$599,000

Lovely, spacious brick home on a quiet cul-de-sac. Open floor plan features wood floors & loads of natural light. Charming kitchen with breakfast bar is open to the dining room. Lower level with family room, 2 bedrooms, full bath & storage. HayesWoodHomes.com

**Gordon Wood 703.447.6138**  
**Chris Hayes 703.944.7737**



OPEN SAT 2/1 & SUN 2/2, 2-4

### Del Ray | \$689,900

Charming 2-bedroom, 2-bath townhouse offers a spacious living room leading to an open kitchen, dining room & small addition. Private fully fenced backyard & 2 off-street parking spaces. Finished basement. Blocks to Metro & "The Avenue." 570 E Nelson Ave.

**Jen Walker 703.675.1566**  
[www.JenWalker.com](http://www.JenWalker.com)



### Old Town | \$1,044,000

Beautiful, light-filled, all-brick, detached townhouse in the heart of Old Town with 2,500 SF. Zoned CL for use as residential or commercial. Main level with cathedral ceilings and skylights. Huge loft with wall of windows. 1013 Princess Street

**Kim Peele 703.244.5852**  
**Hope Peele 703.244.6115**



### Wilton Woods | \$825,000

Spacious, elegant, 5-bedroom, 3.5-bath, center-hall colonial in Clermont Elementary School district. Exceptional condition with over \$150K in recent improvements. Lush landscaping and only a 15-minute drive into Old Town. Move in and enjoy!

**Margaret Benghauser 703.989.6961**  
[www.mbgenghauser.com](http://www.mbgenghauser.com)



### Old Town \$1,649,999

Fabulous location 4 blocks to King Street and a half block to the Potomac River trail. This 4-bedroom, 3.5-bath, brick home features updated bathrooms and a spacious kitchen that opens to a flat enclosed patio perfect for four legged friends and dining al fresco. River views from many rooms.

**Kristen Jones 703.851.2556**  
[www.KristenJones.com](http://www.KristenJones.com)

McENEANEY ASSOCIATES  
IS PLEASED TO WELCOME

**MELISSA  
ROSARIO**

TO THE ALEXANDRIA OFFICE

If you are thinking of buying, selling or renting,  
call Melissa today at **919.518.7288**, or email  
her at **MRosario@McEneaney.com**.

[EnjoyLivingHere.com](http://EnjoyLivingHere.com)



**Serving the Washington, DC Metro Area since 1980.**  
703.549.9292 | 109 S. Pitt Street | Alexandria, VA 22314 | [McEneaney.com](http://McEneaney.com)

