

## Bob Calhoun

Former vice mayor, state senator dies at 83.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**B**ob Calhoun, a political statesman who represented Alexandria in elected office for 20 years, died Aug. 6 at his country wildlife preserve in Berryville, Va., following a battle with prostate cancer. He was 83 years old.

“Bob was always interested in politics,” said Calhoun’s wife Sandra. “His grandmother was an influential Democratic backer in the Chicago area while the other side of his family were fervent Republicans. So I guess you could say it was kind of in his blood.”

A resident of Alexandria for 55 years, Calhoun served on the City Council from 1976-1981 and again from 1984-1988. He was elected vice mayor for the 1979-1981 term. He represented Virginia’s 30th district in the State Senate from 1989-1996.

Robert Lathan Calhoun was born July 22, 1937, in Oak Park, Ill. He was the only son of Robert and Madeline Calhoun. He and his sister Carma were raised in Glen Ellen, Ill., and Indianapolis, Ind., where he participated in Scouting and played clarinet in the school band. He earned an undergraduate degree from Tufts University and graduate degrees in law and economics from Yale University.

It was during his time at Yale that Calhoun met Sandra “Sandy” Bensen. The two were married Aug. 8, 1964, and made their home in Northern Virginia as Calhoun was beginning his career as an advisor to Commissioner Charles Webb at the Interstate Commerce Commission. He served in that role from 1963-1970 before moving on as Deputy Director of Policy Review for Under Secretary Charles D. Baker.



PHOTO BY NINA TISARA/TISARA PHOTOGRAPHY

**Bob Calhoun, a former vice mayor and Virginia state senator, died Aug. 6 at the age of 83.**

Calhoun went into private practice as a partner in the Boston-based law firm Sullivan & Worcester from 1972-1996 before becoming Of Counsel at the Alexandria firm Redmon, Peyton & Braswell. He retired in 2019.

“The move to Redmon, Peyton & Braswell was a good one for Bob,” Sandra Calhoun said. “It was difficult being a partner in a firm and balancing his obligations as a politician.”

A Republican, Calhoun was that rare politician known for working productively and amicably with Democrats during his time on City Council and in the State Senate. He was praised by Senator Wiley F. Mitchell, his predecessor, as a superb legislative mechanic; by former Delegate David Speck as the “most broadly knowledgeable politi-

SEE BOB CALHOUN, PAGE 12

## Night Court

Lawmakers to consider eliminating no-knock warrants and creating new hurdles for nighttime search warrants.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**T**he sad and tragic case of how a police department in Kentucky mishandled the execution of a warrant after midnight has prompted soul-searching among police agencies and law-enforcement officers across the country. Now lawmakers in Virginia are about to consider banning no-knock warrants and creating a new requirement that judges — not magistrates — sign off on search warrants executed at night.

“Kicking down people’s doors in the middle of the night is bad,” said Andrew Elders, policy director for an advocacy group known as Justice Forward Virginia pressing lawmakers for reform. “It creates volatile situations where people are more likely to feel threatened, and someone is more likely to get hurt in the end.”

Members of the General Assembly will be returning to Richmond next week for a special session to re-write the budget in the wake of COVID and consider a host of criminal-justice reforms. Although the special session on criminal justice reform was called in response to the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis, the death of Breonna Taylor in Louisville has sparked calls for reforming how no-knock warrants are executed, especially in the dead of night. Last week, Senate Democrats introduced a bill to eliminate no-knock warrants and require a judge to sign



PHOTO BY MICHAEL LEE POPE/GAZETTE PACKET

**Judges in courthouses across Virginia may soon need to be on call at night to consider search warrants.**

off on nighttime search warrants.

“All that does is allow a criminal to hang up a shield to say they’re in business at night,” said Herndon Police Chief Maggie DeBoard. “Criminals with full rein to run their sex trafficking and all the things they do at night without us having the ability to quickly get into a residence or an establishment anywhere where we don’t have the legal right to be without a search warrant.”

**HERE IN ALEXANDRIA**, police executed six no-knock warrants in 2018 and five in 2019. For far this year, according to Alexandria Police Department spokesman Courtney Ballantine, one no-knock warrant has been issued so far this year in the city. He says the police department views these kinds of warrants as a necessary way to handle difficult situations a handful of times each year.

“Banning them concerns us because there

is a reason for them,” said Ballantine. “It’s either to take somebody into custody who’s very violent or has the potential to be violent or to protect evidence.”

The Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police opposes the effort to ban no-knock warrants, setting up a clash next week in Richmond between law-enforcement agencies and the Democrat majorities in the House and Senate. When Democrats finally seized power earlier this year after a generation out of power, they considered several criminal justice reform efforts but ended up delaying most of them while the Virginia Crime Commission studied various proposals. Now that the issue is red hot because of nationwide protests in reaction to the deaths of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor, House and Senate Democrats are feeling the heat to take action now.

“It would be my preference that we not say the police can enter your home without announcing themselves,” said Claire Gastanaga, executive director of the ACLU of Virginia. “I want to be sure that when warrants are served on people, they are done with probable cause and that they are done in a way that’s respectful of the person’s inherent right against search and seizure, particularly in their own home.”

**THE ROLE OF JUDGES** is a central part of the debate over search warrants, and many

SEE NIGHT COURT, PAGE 9



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Benjamin Thomas was dragged from the old Alexandria jail at the intersection of St. Asaph and Princess streets and dragged to the corner of King and Fairfax streets, where he was lynched by an angry mob. He was 16 at the time of his death.



PHOTO COURTESY ALEXANDRIA LIBRARY LOCAL HISTORY/SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Known at the time as Leadbeater Corner, the intersection of King and Fairfax streets was the site of the Aug. 8, 1899, lynching of 16-year-old Benjamin Thomas.

# Blood Stained Hands

City marks 1899 lynching of Benjamin Thomas, who was 16.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

It happened just after midnight. On Aug. 8, 1899, 16-year-old Benjamin Thomas was attacked at the city jail on Saint Asaph Street and dragged half a mile by an angry mob of white citizens in what would become the second lynching of an African American man in two years.

On Aug. 8, Mayor Justin Wilson and Sheriff Dana Lawhorne were among those commemorating the 121st anniversary of the event by placing a wreath at the site of the lynching at the corner of King and Fairfax street, known at the time as Leadbeater Corner.

In the Benjamin Thomas Remembrance Ceremony, Wilson recounted the details of the event and led Lawhorne and attendees in reciting the names of 15 African American men who “risked their own safety and freedom” to try to defend Thomas.

“My predecessor had an unfortunate role in this event and it’s important that we are here today,” Wilson said. “This lynching is a testament to what our society is capable of in its worst moments.”

The wreath for the ceremony was sponsored by Del Ray Citizens Association and created by Helen Olivia.

Thomas was born around 1883 in Alexandria. His parents were George Thomas, a laborer, and Elizabeth Washington, a laundress. It is likely that all of the Thomas and Washington family members living prior to the Civil War were enslaved, as none appeared as free people of color on either the 1850 or 1860 Federal Census.

Prior to his death, Thomas resided with his mother, Elizabeth, at 700 North Patrick Street. Next door at 702 lived a white family, whose 8-year-old daughter Lillian Kloch accused Thomas of accosting her although there were no witnesses and she was not harmed.

Mayor George L. Simpson ordered Thom-



PHOTO BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

McArthur Myers, Maddie McCoy and Audrey Davis, director of the Alexandria Black History Museum, stand at the corner of King and Fairfax streets Aug. 8 to commemorate the 121st anniversary of the lynching of 16-year-old Benjamin Thomas in 1899.

as held at the city jail but according to newspaper reports at the time, he refused to provide adequate protection for the teen or to allow members of the black community to help protect the jail from the mob.

Thomas was dragged from the jail with a rope around his neck, pelted with iron sticks and rocks, shot multiple times and hung from a street post at the prominent corner across from Market Square. No one was ever held accountable or prosecuted for the crime.

The day after the lynching, the Thomas family left the house on Patrick Street and

**“The blood of Ben Thomas will be forever upon this city and upon the hands of those who participated in the crime.”**

— Shiloh Baptist Church Rev. Henry H. Warring, Aug. 28, 1899



PHOTO BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

A wreath is placed at the corner of King and Fairfax streets, the site of the 1899 lynching of 16-year-old Benjamin Thomas, to commemorate the 121st anniversary of the event. The names of 15 African American men who risked their lives to defend Thomas were read aloud by Mayor Justin Wilson at the Aug. 8 ceremony.

moved to a home on Pendleton Street.

On Aug. 28, 1899, hundreds turned out for a memorial service for Thomas at Shiloh Baptist Church.

“The blood of Ben Thomas will be forever upon this city and upon the hands of those who participated in the crime,” said Shiloh’s pastor Rev. Henry Warring.

Two years before, on April 23, 1897, another African American teenager, Joseph McCoy, was lynched in Alexandria. A white mob attacked the city’s police station and pulled McCoy from his cell, dragged him with a rope around his neck, and then hanged him on the corner of Cameron and Lee Streets, only three blocks from where Thomas would be murdered.

Complete details of the lynching have been researched by the 13-member Research Committee of the Alexandria Community Remembrance Project. More information can be found at [www.alexandriava.gov/historic/blackhistory/](http://www.alexandriava.gov/historic/blackhistory/)



# Senior Services of Alexandria ‘Shout Out’ to Its Volunteers

Senior Services of Alexandria would like to give a special “shout out” to its volunteers who have delivered Meals on Wheels, Frozen Meals, Groceries to Go, and served as Friendly Visitors to isolated seniors during the last several months. Special recognition also goes to our group of 90 strong Senior Ambassadors who continue to share important information about services and programs for older adults within their communities. SSA couldn’t carry out its mission without these dedicated individuals. Delivering over 2,000 meals a week, groceries to over 100 households, and connecting virtually with over 70 isolated seniors, SSA volunteers continue to support older adults during these challenging times. Here are just some of the “faces” of SSA’s volunteers... We thank each and every one of them!



SSA's Senior Ambassadors “Zooming” with Mayor Justin Wilson



Groceries to Go Volunteer and Fire Dept. Employee Cameron Hall



Thanks to Presto Valet and EC Robinson Upholstery & Antiques for the donations of face masks for SSA clients



Long-time Animeals volunteer Dan making sure seniors' pets are receiving their food during the Pandemic.



Groceries to Go Volunteer Jackie Chatwick really enjoying volunteering



Handmade cards by Students at the Potomac School in McLean for Meals on Wheels Clients



Kate Theisen – Groceries to Go Volunteer & Senior Ambassador



## News

### Senior Services of Alexandria 'Shout Out' to its Volunteers

Friendly Visitor Kim Sides and her friends made cards for residents at the Hermitage Northern Virginia



Meals on Wheels Volunteer Laura Naide with her husband Eric



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# OPINION

## If Not Now, When? Rename Alexandria's High School

To Chairperson Anderson and School Board Members:

Shared with the Gazette Packet

On behalf of the membership of the Departmental Progressive Club which includes many T.C. Williams High School alumni, we strongly and urgently request that the Alexandria School Board adopt and unanimously pass a resolution to remove the name of T.C. Williams from Alexandria's public high school effective immediately. It is insulting and hurtful that the Alexandria School Board would require the students of one of the most culturally diverse schools in the nation to spend another day in a building named in honor of a blatant racist and segregationist.

The Departmental Progressive Club was founded in 1927 in response to a government sponsored discriminatory law mandating racial segregation in all places of public entertainment and assembly, effectively barring African Americans from all public facilities which also included the library. Among the many things our institution provided was safe harbor for African American parents and children of Alexandria to read and to study.

During the course of its 93 years, our membership has witnessed and participated in the transformation of the City. Our members have been trailblazers in the fight for equality and civil rights. It includes current and past members of Alexandria's City Council and School Board. Our building sits in a community that was once home to the families of the majority of our membership. Alexandria has made progress since 1927. It is time for the School Board to join in this change and progress.

Unfortunately, the renaming of Alexandria's only high school is not a new issue. For nearly twenty years, the Alexandria NAACP under the leadership of Howard Woodson and other organizations tried to right this wrong. Those organizations pleaded with the City and the School Board to find a more suitable name for our high school that properly reflected the diversity of the Alexandria community and respected the sensibilities of our students of Color. The excuses offered now are reminiscent of those offered for the past two decades. Now is the time to step away from all such excuses and correct the injustice.

If not now, when?

When speaking about the proposed civil rights bill during the historic March on Washington in 1963, the late Congressman John Lewis said "we do not want our freedom gradually we want to be free now ... We are tired of being patient. We want our freedom and we want it now."

Similarly, we are tired of being patient about this issue. We have waited for decades for this matter to be addressed and the time is now for the School Board to act upon the clearly stated desires of the community and to do the right thing by abandoning the name of an acknowledged racist for this community's only high school. The School Board has the power now to right an injustice and insult to Alexandria's diverse population. The Departmental Progressive Club implores the School Board to use its power.

**Merrick T. Malone**, President  
Departmental Progressive Club  
Alexandria

## Witnessing Worship, Converging Paths

My husband and I had a wonderful experience recently at Alexandria History Museum at The Lyceum here in Old Town Alexandria. In this time when many of us feel we can't travel or can't savor the same kind of cultural experiences we used to before COVID-19, we were truly delighted to "get away" safely to view amazing art locally. We went to The Lyceum ([www.alexandriava.gov/Lyceum](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Lyceum)) to see a remarkable black and white photography exhibit. We had passed this historic building for years, but had never visited.

We were eager to see the art of the talented and long-time Alexandrian, Nina Tisara. "Witnessing Worship" is a reprise of her year-long 1985 project that was funded in part by a grant from the Alexandria Commission For the Arts.

The photos are all breathtaking, both for their artistic beauty but also for the display of such a diverse range of people worshiping in many different faith traditions. Each picture shows a particular Alexandrian place of worship and its people. We found Ms. Tisara's carefully composed images to be moving and uplifting, which is why I am writing this letter. I want to tell others to consider visiting The Lyceum for a welcome dose of fine art. My husband and I walked away thinking we had seen a visual sermon of sorts: human beings alone, or with family and friends, in song or in reflective prayer; such a range of humanity, all worshiping and within a backdrop of a special church, temple, synagogue, prison room, shrine or garden.

During this time of staying at home and with so many up-ended routines, seeing art here locally, and also art that reflects fellow Alexandrians and their homes of worships, is inspiring and nourishes one's soul.

So, I wish to spread the word to you and your readers so that you too can be moved and uplifted as we were. "Witnessing Worship" will be on display until Nov. 1, 2021, thus there's time. But don't wait. Everyone deserves a treat like this.

The Alexandria History Museum at The Lyceum is located at 201 South Washington Street in Old Town Alexandria. The museum team has created an admission system wherein visitors sign up to visit at a specific time so one can

be safe due to the social distancing created by those timed slots (<https://www.alexandriava.gov/Lyceum#EventTickets>). The staff has also taken great precautions so any viewer feels very comfortable. The online sign-in was tricky at first for us to use, but we figured it out. And, if you need help getting your timed slot, just call ahead during open hours to get assistance with your time slot.

Here are further details on the exhibit.

In 1985, photographer Nina Tisara documented fifty worship groups throughout the City of Alexandria. The 106 images, now in the Alexandria History Museum collection, provide a portrait of Alexandria's worship community at that time.

Ms. Tisara photographed worship in many different churches, as well as synagogues and a home where Buddhist monks lived and worshipped. There were no mosques within the city, so none were available to be included.

Nina Tisara sought to document "the breadth, variety, and vitality of worship in the city." She came to call her project Converging Paths because the experience led her to conclude that, despite the many different paths worship takes, "we are all kin."

**Katherine C. Tobin, Ph.D.**  
Alexandria

Editor's note: You can view a sample of the exhibit at [www.alexandriava.gov/uploaded-Files/historic/info/lyceum/WitnessingWorshipExhibit.pdf](http://www.alexandriava.gov/uploaded-Files/historic/info/lyceum/WitnessingWorshipExhibit.pdf)

## First Homicide of the Year

This article is most notable for what it omitted. The perpetrator who "...should be considered armed and dangerous, and poses a potential threat to anyone who comes in contact with him" (per your article) had been released from prison because of COVID-19. Moreover he was released over the objection of prosecutors. This murder could have and should have never happened.

**David A Norcross**  
Alexandria

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

### STAY AT HOME GALA

The Fund for Alexandria's Child will host its annual Stay at Home Gala on Friday, Aug. 14, from 8 to 10 p.m. as a virtual event. The purpose of the gala is to bring as many people together from the community as possible to respond to the challenges so many are facing this year. This year's event will include a virtual auction, entertainment, special guests and more. Visit [alexandriava.gov/TheFundForAlexChild](http://alexandriava.gov/TheFundForAlexChild) for more information, and to donate or pre-register for the gala and auction.

### SATURDAY/AUG. 15

World Elephant Day. 1-3 p.m. At Revel Wine & Craft Beer Bar, 1600A Belle View Boulevard, Alexandria. World Elephant Day brings awareness for elephant conservation and why this keystone species is so important to the world. Donations welcome (not required) for Game Rangers International. Visit the website: <https://www.gamerangersinternational.org>.

### ALEXANDRIA SUMMER SIDEWALK SALE

The Alexandria Summer Sidewalk Sale will take place Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 15 and 16, 2020, throughout Old Town and Del Ray. The event, which is led by Visit Alexandria in partnership with the City of Alexandria, Old Town Boutique District, Old Town Business Association and Del Ray Business Association, features free parking and more than 50 Alexandria boutiques stepping out of their storefronts and offering discounted summer merchandise. Shoppers are invited to don

their most stylish face covering and follow the map of participating stores to safely stroll outdoors along Alexandria's red brick sidewalks for end-of-summer savings from locally owned boutiques. The map will be posted online the week of the event and will be available for pickup at the information tent in the triangle park at the corner of King and Fayette streets and at the Alexandria Visitor Center, 221 King Street. Visit [AlexandriaVA.com/SidewalkSale](http://AlexandriaVA.com/SidewalkSale)

### TUESDAY/AUG. 18

Connecticut Genealogical Research. 1-2:30 p.m. Zoom meeting. Genealogist Linda MacLachlan will speak about "Finding Early Connecticut Vital Records." Email registration by Aug. 14 to [contact-us@mvgenealogy.org](mailto:contact-us@mvgenealogy.org). See [www.mvgenealogy.org/eventListings.php?nm=20](http://www.mvgenealogy.org/eventListings.php?nm=20). Mount Vernon Genealogical Society monthly meeting; online access information to be emailed to members and registered nonmembers. Visit the website: [www.mvgenealogy.org](http://www.mvgenealogy.org)

### ESCALATORS TO BE REPAIRED

Beginning Aug. 19, 2020, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority will begin work to reconstruct and replace the escalator banks and escalators at the south entrance of the Huntington Metrorail Station. The construction is being expedited to impact the least number of customers while the Metrorail ridership is low due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation. Construction activities are scheduled to last until mid-January 2021. During construction, the south entrance to the station will be closed but free ADA accessible shuttle buses will operate between the south and north entrances every 10-15 minutes during Metrorail's operating hours.

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## From Firefighter to Poet: Kendall Thompson

BY CHAR MCCARGO BAH

**A**fter graduating from T. C. Williams in the Class of 1984, Kendall Thompson embarked on a career as a firefighter in 1986. He recalls his first day on the job there was a Lorton Prison uprising in Southern Fairfax County. "There were hundreds of emergency personnel responding to mitigate this emergency," Thompson said. "The use of force was what I remembered the most. It took several days for the situation to be fully controlled." A different type of person would have ended his career on that first day but Kendall Thompson continued working as a firefighter until he retired 30 years later.

He has many memories of his days as a firefighter, but one incident stood out during his career that made a positive impact on him. A young woman had a car accident and she was semi-conscious. Kendall's fire station was the responding unit that was on the scene of the accident that provided care for the victim until the medical responders got there. He was not sure if the woman heard him, but he told her what he was doing and for her to hang in there. Kendall said, "About 15-years later, this woman called my fire station to thank me for saving her life. She also told me that she became a firefighter because of me."

As a firefighter, husband and father, Kendall found little time in his schedule to pursue his passion as a poet until technology provided the Smartphone. Poetry was a childhood passion. Ms. Clark introduced poetry to him at Lyles-Crouch Elementary School. He has written poems throughout his adult life. When Kendall had some small breaks during his workday, he would write his poems on the notes' application on his smartphone, so when he got home, he would spend quality time with his family.

With 30 years of service, Kendall Thompson retired from the Fairfax County Public



PHOTO PROVIDED BY KENDALL THOMPSON

**Left to right: Christopher Thompson, Clayton Thompson II and Kendall Thompson (Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Retired).**

Safety Headquarters. Now he has time to pursue his passion – writing poems.

Kendall Thompson is the son of Clayton Thompson Sr., and Irene Drayton. He grew up at 1308 Madison Street in the Andrew Adkins Housing Development in Alexandria with his parents and ten siblings. His siblings are Brenda Laster, Clayton Thompson Jr., Jeffrey Thompson, Iris Thompson, Marsha Smith, Lisa Mountain, Norma Blackmon, Christopher Thompson, Victor Thompson and Michele Thompson. He has two living uncles, William H. Thompson Sr., and Eugene Thompson who was the first director of the Alexandria Black History Museum; and an aunt, Lillian Thompson.

Kendall is married to Kathy and they have two children.

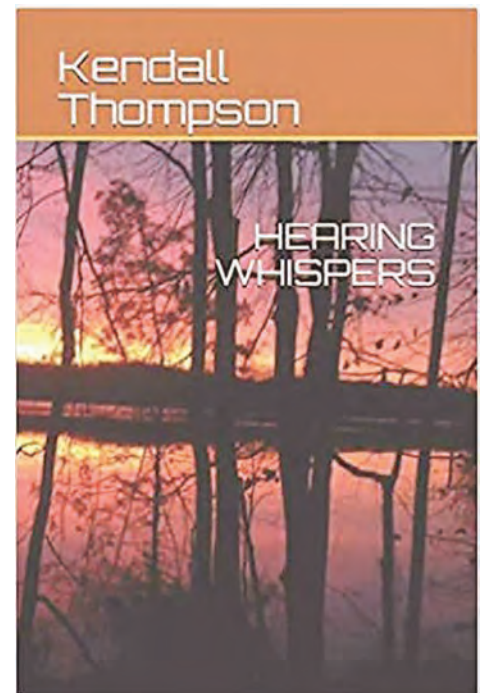
Kendall gets his inspiration for his poems from what he feels at a particular moment, and one of his poems is about that moment when he told the accident victim not to worry, that medical responders were on their way.

"A Thank You's Thank you!"

"So thank you, one who remains nameless  
You've given me, what was, the need

You helped with the realization

What I did in life, I would have done for free"



Kendall's book jacket titled, "Hearing Whispers."

Written by Kendall Thompson

Kendall has published several books of poetry, and one of his books, "Hearing Whispers," deals with the loss of a loved one. Anyone who has lost a loved one can connect to his book. The poet expresses his feelings in his poems about his own losses.

You can find his books through Amazon.com.

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

### BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 7

#### VOTE BY MAIL APPLICATIONS

The Alexandria Office of Voter Registration and Elections encourages voters who wish to vote by absentee ballot to apply at [elections.virginia.gov](http://elections.virginia.gov). Many voters recently received pre-filled mail ballot applications from the "Center for Voter Information." This is an independent organization not affiliated with any government agency. The form is the correct Virginia Vote by Mail Application and can be used by voters to request a ballot for the November 3 general election. Voters can fold the application and return it in the provided envelope. The Center for Voter Information uses publicly available data sources. Visit [alexandriava.gov/Elections](http://alexandriava.gov/Elections) for more information about voting in Alexandria.

#### RESOURCE TEXT LINE IN SPANISH

The City of Alexandria has launched a free service to provide Spanish-speaking subscribers with accu-

rate and timely text messages with information that is important to them and their families, throughout COVID-19 and thereafter. Topics include jobs and training; housing and rent assistance; food assistance; the public charge rule; healthcare and mental health; local COVID-19 information; childcare and more, including opportunities to ensure the voices of the Latinx community are heard. Text ALEXINFOESP to 888777 to receive messages in Spanish from the City. To receive messages in English about COVID-19, text ALEXCOVID19 to 888777.

#### YOGA ON THE MAGNOLIA TERRACE

Tuesdays, Aug. 18, & 25 (5 p.m.); Saturdays, Aug. 22, 29 (10:30 a.m.) At Carlyle House. \$5 a class or a pass 5 for \$20. Join the yoga instructor for an hour long Vinyasa Flow Yoga. A gentle flow yoga class that uses the breath to flow from one pose to the other. We will build heat with sun salutations then progress to balance, deep

stretching and finally relaxing meditation. Please bring water, a towel, and yoga mat. Wear comfortable yoga wear. Class may be cancelled due to extreme weather, call the site to check class status. Space is limited, reserve a spot by calling 703-549-2997.

#### MASONIC MEMORIAL REOPENS

The George Washington Masonic National Memorial has reopened after four months of closure due to the regional coronavirus response. Open to the public seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., the Memorial offers a guided tour about George Washington's life and his participation in the Freemasons. Admission is \$18 per person. Children age 12 and under are admitted to the Memorial for free, and must be accompanied by an adult. Tours run daily at 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 2:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. Tour sizes are limited, and reservations are requested. Reservations may be made online at [www.gwmemorial.org](http://www.gwmemorial.org).

#### REGISTER FOR REC CLASSES

Registration for City of Alexandria August classes and activities offered by the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities (RPCA) began on July 22 for city residents and July 24 for nonresidents. Programs are available for all ages in a variety of interests. Register online at [alexandriava.gov/Recreation](http://alexandriava.gov/Recreation). For in-person registration, call the Registration and Reservation Office at 703-746-5414 to schedule an appointment.

#### 2020 GOLF CLASSIC

Join The Chamber ALX for the 2020 Golf Classic, presented by MGM National Harbor, on Monday, Aug. 17. Schedule: 11 a.m. - Registration, Lunch on the Patio, Range Open. 12 p.m. - Shotgun Start. At Springfield Golf and Country Club, 8301 Old Keene Mill Rd., Springfield. Cost is \$300 Individuals | \$1,200 for Team Foursome. Registration includes pre-play lunch on the patio, all day beverages, 19th hole reception, and awards dinner in the renovated ballroom

#### AUG. 21-30

Alexandria Restaurant Week To-Go. For 10 days and two weekends, more than 60 restaurants in Alexandria will offer a \$49 takeout, delivery or curbside pick-up dinner for two during Alexandria Restaurant Week To-Go. This year, guests are encouraged to bring Alexandria Restaurant Week home and enjoy special menus from the comfort of their homes. The online menu book makes it easy to browse selections from dozens of Alexandria eateries. New Alexandria Restaurant Week participants include Taqueria Picoso, Glory Days Grill, The Light Horse, Michael's Little Italy, Sweet Fire Donna's and Mount Vernon Inn. Restaurants offering delivery in addition to takeout or curbside pick-up, include Chadwicks, Laporta's Restaurant, Ramparts, RT's Restaurant, Ruz Uz - Alexandria and The Wharf, among others. Returning neighborhood favorites offering takeout include City Kitchen, a la Lucia, Il Porto and Northside 10. View the menu flip-book and participating restaurant listings at [AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com](http://AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com).



# Night Court

FROM PAGE 3

lawmakers believe they should play a greater role in signing off on search warrants — especially search warrants that are executed at night. Last week, Senate Democrats introduced a bill requiring that search warrants “shall be executed only in the daytime unless a judge authorizes the execution of such search warrant.” It’s a proposal that has the support of the newly formed Progressive Prosecutors for Justice, which includes commonwealth’s attorneys from Alexandria, Arlington and Fairfax County.

“A magistrate is going to look at probable cause, and they’re not going to ask any questions concerning whether there’s a safety issue,” said Hampton Commonwealth’s Attorney Anton Bell, a member of the Progressive Prosecutors for Justice. “The safety aspects of what we are trying to achieve far outweighs anyone’s inconvenience.”

The proposal to require judges to sign off on nighttime search warrants illustrates a divide among prosecutors. While the idea has the support of the Progressive Prosecutors for Justice, the Virginia Association of Commonwealth’s Attorneys had no position on the issue. And several prosecutors across Virginia have criticized the idea. Fluvanna Commonwealth’s Attorney Jeff Haislip is the president of the association, and he says would end up creating more problems than it solves.

“I think having to do them during the daytime hours would be very difficult for law-enforcement officers to do their job,” said Haislip. “They need to act when they can act, and I don’t see anything wrong

with serving a search warrant at night.”

**THE SPECIAL SESSION** this year comes at a time when Democrats are still figuring out how to handle their new role in the majority. It also comes at a time when House Democrats and Senate Democrats are divided over how to approach the issue. Senate Democrats have already released their package on policing reform while House Democrats have yet to outline their proposal. That means police agencies and sheriff’s offices are weighing in on the Senate bill, including some rural parts of Virginia that don’t have as many judges as urban areas.

“We’re talking about amending that to say if a judge isn’t available, then they can go to a magistrate,” said Sen. Scott Surovell (D-36). “We haven’t agreed on that yet. We’re talking about it.”

Judges in Virginia are selected by the General Assembly, a tradition that dates back to the commonwealth’s history with English common-law. South Carolina is the only other state where judges are selected almost exclusively through legislative selection, and every year brings a new round of drama over which judges are installed at courthouses across Virginia. Magistrates, on the other hand, are appointed by the executive secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia.

“We have more oversight over judges, and they tend to be better trained and better informed,” said Del Mark Levine (D-45). “Because of our oversight, I can rail against the ones who make bad decisions. Whereas the magistrates who make bad decisions are kind of nameless and faceless and under our control in any significant way.”

## Affordable Homeownership Opportunities

The City of Alexandria Office of Housing announces the availability of two condominium units for sale:

**Bolling Brook**, 1-bedroom, 1-bath, located at 3330 S. 28th St., Unit 304, Alexandria, VA. The unit is priced at \$183,989 with a condo fee of \$361.68 monthly. The condo fee includes common area maintenance, exterior building maintenance, insurance and pool (s). Click here for a complete listing of the property. To qualify for this home, purchasers must live or work within the City’s corporate limits and have a gross income below 80% of AMI (\$70,560 for a one-person household, \$80,640 for a two-person household, \$90,720 for a three-person household, \$100,800 for a four-person household). Eligible purchasers may receive a City shared equity loan up to \$50,000 through the City’s Flexible Homeownership Assistance Program. For questions regarding this opportunity and qualify criteria, please contact the listing agent, Ms. Sue Kovaisky at 703.286.1167 or Office of Housing at 703.746.3087.

at 703.286.1167 or Office of Housing at 703.746.3087.

**EOS 21**, 1-bedroom, 1-bath, located at 60 S. Van Dorn St., #508, Alexandria, VA. The unit is priced at \$179,298 with a condo fee of \$447 monthly. The condo fee includes air conditioning, common area maintenance, electricity, gas, heat and much more. Click here for a complete listing of the property. To qualify for this home, purchasers must live or work within the City’s corporate limits and have a gross income below 80% of AMI (\$70,560 for a one-person household, \$80,640 for a two-person household, \$90,720 for a three-person household, \$100,800 for a four-person household). Eligible purchasers may receive a City shared equity loan up to \$50,000 through the City’s Flexible Homeownership Assistance Program. For questions regarding this opportunity and qualify criteria, please contact the listing agent, Ms. Sue Kovaisky at 703.286.1167 or Office of Housing at 703.746.3087.

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# The Chewish Deli Almost Ready to Open

BY HOPE NELSON  
GAZETTE PACKET

**B**agel lovers, rejoice. Soon, a new bagel shop will be opening its doors in Old Town Alexandria, providing a bit more chew to the morning meal.

The Chewish Deli, a popular food truck during the covid-19 pandemic with roots in Old Town, has sealed the deal to take over the former Pendleton Carryout space at 807 Pendleton Street. Passers-by may have already spotted the signage out front – and

**APPETITE** the bustling activity in and out of the shop as owner Gregg Linzey prepares for opening.

“We’re so excited to be back in Old Town,” he said while taking a break from pre-opening work.

The Chewish Deli cultivated its roots as Genuine Water Bagels, a pop-up bagel and pizza shop within then-La Trattoria (now Michael’s Little Italy). The pop-up, which began in November 2018, later moved from the restaurant to a food truck, delivering bagels and their accoutrements throughout the region.

“We had originally wanted to move into a brick-and-mortar, but when we first started the business that wasn’t really in our plan until maybe another year down the road,” Linzey said.

But The Chewish Deli has been truckless for several months due to some needed re-



pairs, and Alexandrians need their bagels. While Linzey has been selling his wares in various cafes around the area as a stopgap, the concept of a brick-and-mortar shop has hastened its timeline a bit.

Linzey reached out to a contact with the Pendleton Carryout Company and learned the building owner was looking for a new tenant. Before too long, The Chewish Deli had its own space. And Linzey couldn’t be happier with the outcome.

“The space already has the permits, it has grandfathered carryout permits, so it was a much easier process than normal,” he said.

And with the pandemic still marching on, Linzey says the carryout nature of the shop is a plus.

“The space is just a great location, it’s a good size, the way that things are going with covid not going anywhere anytime soon,” he said.

Fans of the food truck as well as the deli’s

former pop-ups will find much to love about the menu. From favorites to new choices, the options will be robust.

“We definitely will be having our flagship products, (including) our hand-rolled NY style bagels, and continue having breakfast and lunch sandwiches as well as coffee,” Linzey said. “What I’ve always envisioned bringing to Old Town here is more staple Jewish deli items, things that you don’t really see around here.”

Some of those potential additions include matzo ball soup in the fall, rugelach, kugel, and meats and cheese by the pound, he said.

Another something to look forward to: Pizza.

“When I was on Washington Street, one of the things I also made there that they continued on with was New York-style pizza, so we will likely one or two nights a week have New York-style pizza, or maybe once a week doing slices available for lunch,” Linzey said.

Linzey is aiming for The Chewish Deli to be open by the end of August, with initial hours from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

“There’s a very rich history behind bagels; specifically in the Jewish community, there’s a very strong cultural history with bagels,” he said. “... It’s a rich history.”

*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).*

## Alexandria Summer Sidewalk Sale Returns Aug. 15 and 16

**Stroll outdoors for deals from 50+ boutiques.**

**O**ne of the longest running seasonal summer shopping events for independent boutiques returns with the annual Alexandria Summer Sidewalk Sale [www.visitalexandriava.com/things-to-do/shopping/sidewalksale/](http://www.visitalexandriava.com/things-to-do/shopping/sidewalksale/) happening Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 15 - 16, 2020, throughout Old Town and Del Ray. The event, which is led by Visit Alexandria in partnership with the City of Alexandria, Old Town Boutique District, Old Town Business Association and Del Ray Business Association, features free parking and more than 50 Alexandria boutiques stepping out of their storefronts and offering deeply discounted summer merchandise.

Shoppers are invited to don their most stylish face covering and follow the map of participating stores to safely stroll outdoors along Alexandria’s red brick sidewalks for end-of-summer savings from locally owned boutiques. The map will be available for pickup at the information tent in the triangle park at the corner of King and Fayette streets and at the Alexandria Visitor Center, 221 King Street.

Items ranging from fashion and jewel-

ry to home decor, culinary goods and seasonal gift items will tempt bargain-hunters from around the region. Find women’s fashion at donna lewis, TSALT, Twist Boutique and Imagine Artwear; Italian leather goods from Serafino; jewelry from She’s Unique and Silver Parrot; home décor and gifts from Boxwood and Patina Polished Living; and wine and gifts from Wine Gallery 108 and Sonoma Cellar. Enjoy sales from Del Ray boutiques including new Sidewalk Sale participant La Brocante, offering vintage and unique home goods, and Top it Off, featuring deals on clothing and accessories.

The City of Alexandria will provide free parking at meters in Old Town on both Saturday and Sunday; street parking is always free in Del Ray.

**INSTAGRAM GIVEAWAYS:** The Old Town Boutique District and the Old Town Business Association have partnered to deck out participating Alexandria Summer Sidewalk Sale shops this year. A pink flamingo will greet customers at each participating store. Snap a pic with the fun tropical bird during the days leading up to and weekend of the sale and post to Instagram, tagging @ot-boutiques, @oldtownbusiness and @VisitAlexVA and use #ALXsidewalksale. You’ll be entered for a chance to win a \$100 gift



card to the Sidewalk Sale boutique of your choice. Winner will be selected Monday, Aug. 17.

For more chances to win, follow Visit Alexandria on Instagram at @VisitAlexVA for giveaways during the Friday leading up to the Summer Sidewalk Sale, Aug. 14, 2020. One random winner will be selected Friday to win a \$125 boutique gift certificate and a washable cotton mask from KH Giving. Visit [VisitAlexandriaVA.com/SidewalkSale](http://VisitAlexandriaVA.com/SidewalkSale) for more information.

**Art League Is a Destination at Alexandria’s 11th Annual Sidewalk Sale**

Deeply discounted artworks, vintage art supplies, and plenty of cool giveaways from The Art League await you at the 11th Annual Alexandria Sidewalk Sale, Saturday, August 15 through Sunday, August 16.

Shop for great deals on art and more both days, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at our table behind the Torpedo Factory. While there, you can sign up to become a member or volunteer, and learn about our many online art classes. The Art League is headquartered in the landmark Torpedo Factory Art Center.

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



## NEWS

### Feedback Deadline on ADUs Extended

As part of the City's community process to develop accessory dwelling unit (ADU) policy to help expand housing options, affordability and accessibility in neighborhoods throughout Alexandria, a second presentation has been recorded and posted to the project webpage. <https://www.alexandriava.gov/planning/info/default.aspx?id=113872>

This presentation summarizes initial community feedback received, addresses questions and explains how the City's Zoning Ordinance currently regulates accessible dwelling units.

Community members are invited to view the presentation and provide feedback by Aug. 19:

Recorded presentation [http://alexandria.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?clip\\_id=4529&view\\_id=29](http://alexandria.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?clip_id=4529&view_id=29)

Online feedback form [https://urban.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_1QSRYTIn20qic6N](https://urban.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1QSRYTIn20qic6N)

For more information, including a link to the introductory presentation posted in April, can be found on the project website. Questions may be directed to Sam Shelby, Urban Planner, 703.746.3865, [sam.shelby@alexandriava.gov](mailto:sam.shelby@alexandriava.gov)

For reasonable disability accommodation, contact [jackie.cato@alexandriava.gov](mailto:jackie.cato@alexandriava.gov) or call 703.746.3810, Virginia Relay 711.

### OrthoVirginia Moves to New Offices in Northern Virginia

OrthoVirginia has relocated offices in Northern Virginia. The Alexandria office, formerly on Duke Street, has moved to 1920 Ballenger Ave, Suite 200, Alexandria VA, 22314.

The McLean office formerly on Greensboro Drive across from the Tysons Galleria Mall and the Tysons Corner office formerly on Old Courthouse Road in Vienna have combined into a McLean-Tysons office at 1760 Old Meadow Road, McLean, VA 22102.

These locations are part of the 11 OrthoVirginia offices in Northern Virginia. Both new locations offer a physician clinic and physical therapy services open

at convenient hours. Hand therapy is available at the McLean-Tysons office. The MRI office will remain at the existing Tysons Corner location on Old Courthouse Road in Vienna.

The physician offices are open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Appointments and walk-ins are welcome. Physical therapy is also open for patients, with hand therapy offered at the McLean-Tysons location. The therapy clinic is open Monday – Friday; check website for hours.

OrthoVirginia has more than 100 physicians, 27 office locations, MRI facilities, outpatient surgery centers and physical therapy clinics.



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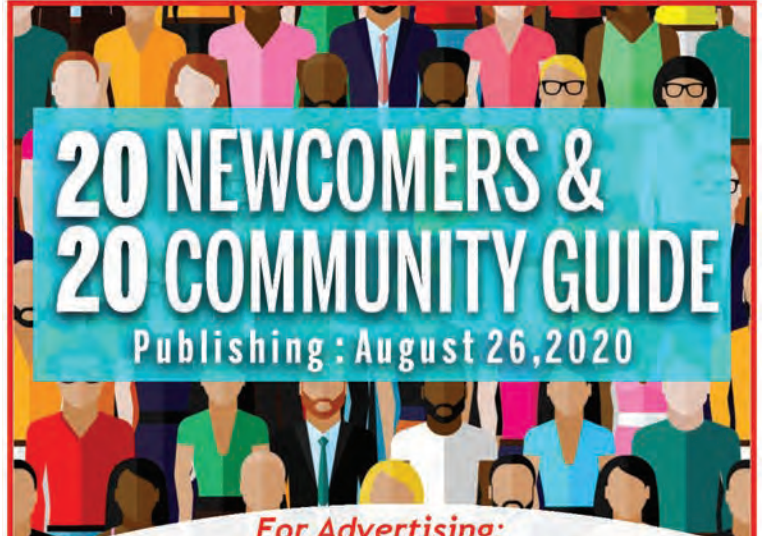


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Publishing: August 26, 2020

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# OBITUARY



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Bob and Sandra Calhoun with sons Andrew, Robert and Gordon in an undated family photo.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Sandra and Bob Calhoun as newlyweds in 1964

## Bob Calhoun

FROM PAGE 1

cian” he knew; and by former Council member Carlyle (“Connie”) Ring as a master of legislative drafting,

“Bob was proud of his work as an elected official and considered it an honor and privilege,” said Sandra Calhoun.

During his time on City Council, Calhoun helped resolve the waterfront title dispute, promoted the development of the Torpedo Factory, and facilitated the creation of the Covanta Waste Energy plant. In the Senate he sponsored legislation on topics as varied as mad dog control to augmented estates.

Calhoun’s post-political career included public service as a member of the Virginia Code Commission. From 1996 to 2002, Calhoun served on the boards of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, the Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority, the COG transportation planning board and

the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission. He helped facilitate the public-private partnership that led to the creation of the Metro Silver Line.

Other community involvement included serving on the City of Alexandria’s Board of Real Estate Assessment Appeals and the boards of Agenda:Alexandria and the Northern Virginia Community College Educational Foundation. In this capacity Calhoun co-chaired the fundraising appeal that contributed to the opening of the Rachel M. Schlesinger Performing Arts Center at the Alexandria Campus of Northern Virginia Community College and home of the Alexandria Symphony.

Calhoun was a founder and long-time board member of the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria, a Paul Harris Fellow of the Rotary Club of Alexandria, and Fellow of the Virginia Law Foundation. He was named a Living Legend of Alexandria in 2012.

In addition to his wife of 56 years, Calhoun is survived by sons Andrew (Mollie), Rob (Elizabeth Wilmer), and Gordon (Lisa); six grandchildren, Thomas, Robert, Zenobia, Ophelia, Lily, and Rachel. Other survivors include five cousins; brother-in-law, Dave Hume; three nieces and nephews and five great-nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents, sister and one cousin.

“Bob especially loved his grandchildren,” said Sandra Calhoun. “He was so proud that his grandsons became Eagle Scouts and that our granddaughters performed in dance and instrumental recitals.”

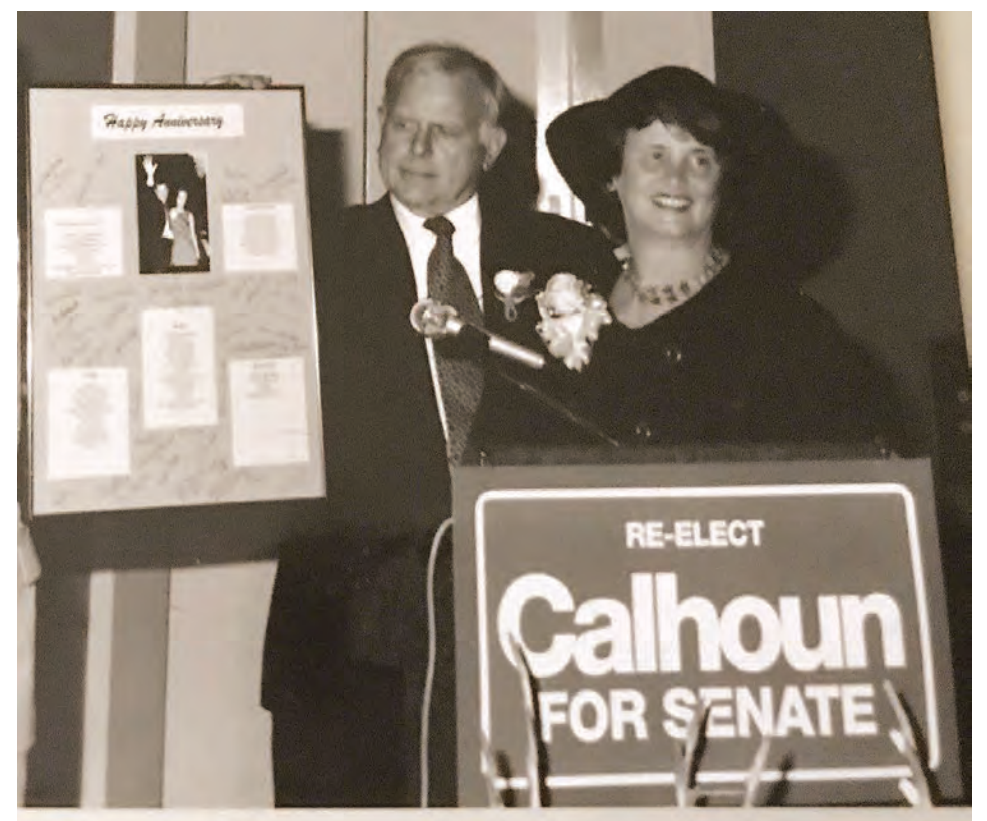
A memorial service will be scheduled next spring or summer at Westminster Presbyterian Church. Contributions may be made in Calhoun’s memory are The Scholarship Fund of Alexandria, 3330 King Street, Alexandria, Va., 22302 or the Clarke County Easement Authority, 101 Chalmers Court, Berryville, VA 22611.

“Bob really loved being in politics,” said Sandra Calhoun. “He had such an enthusiasm for the work so even though it took him away from his family at times, we couldn’t begrudge him for that. He was determined to make a difference.”



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Bob Calhoun as a state senator with then-Virginia governor Douglas Wilder.



HOTO CONTRIBUTED

Bob Calhoun and his wife Sandra during a re-election campaign in 1992.



## Announcements

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

## Announcements

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## Obituary

## Obituary



Loren Russell Larson, 80, of Alexandria, VA, passed away at his home on August 3, 2020. Services are being planned for September 2020 and details will be provided at a later date.

Loren was born in Ambrose, North Dakota to Leonard and Rodella Larson on August, 6, 1939. He grew up on a farm outside of Crosby, ND where he attended high school. He went on to graduate with a BS from North Dakota State University in 1960 and a MA and PhD (ABD) at the University of Maryland in 1969. He also completed post graduate programs at the US Army War College in 1980 and the Harvard Business School in 1981.

Loren married Jean (Jeanie) Rhyne in Okinawa, Japan in 1963 where they met while he was serving as a Platoon Leader in the United States Marine Corps. He transitioned to the US Army and later to the Department of Defense, Senior Executive Service (SES-IV) as Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of Defense at the Pentagon in Arlington, VA. He retired from Government service in 1994 and went on to establish his own consulting firm and serve on the Board of Directors of several companies. He was the author of many articles on National Defense and Intelligence topics throughout his career.

Loren was a devoted husband, father, grandfather and friend to many. He served as a volunteer coach for his children's teams in the Alexandria Soccer Association and actively followed his grandchildren's sports and extra-curricular programs. At parties or dinners Loren was often found engaged in spirited political conversations, while sipping on a Jack Daniels Manhattan, that usually ended in a laugh or hug. He loved having family and friends gather at the house in the Blue Ridge to attend concerts and share his passion for music. He was an enthusiastic singer who attended many performances at the Kennedy Center but also had a soft spot for country music, in particular Willie Nelson. Loren was a history buff who loved to read and share stories with others. He also enjoyed traveling and was fortunate to have visited many European locations with Jeanie and in-laws.

He is survived by his beloved wife Jeanie Larson of Alexandria, VA, his son Loren Larson II and wife Erin of Fairfax, VA, son Greg Larson of Lauderdale-by-the-Sea, FL, and son Kris Larson and wife Jenifer of Alexandria, VA; his eight grandsons Trey, Erik, Seth, Gregory, Phillip, Patrick, Riley and Owen; his two sisters Kathy Lervick and Renee Hansen and their families. Loren is preceded in death by his parents, Leonard and Rodella Larson.

Memorial donations may be made in his honor to the Cancer Research Institute (<https://www.cancerresearch.org/>) and the Westminster Presbyterian Church of Alexandria, VA (<https://wpc-alex.org/>).

## Obituary

## Obituary

Lawrence Bell Laurent, 95, died August 1 at his residence at Goodwin House Alexandria, VA. Born March 9, 1925, he is survived by three children, Arthur Laurent of Leesburg, VA; Margaret Gordy (Joseph Gordy) of St Augustine FL; and Elizabeth Laurent (Lawrence Dame) of Merion Station PA. He is also survived by four grandchildren Megan Stewart (Alex Stewart) of Moseley, VA; John Gordy, USN; Edward Dame and Rebecca Dame of Merion Station; and two great-granddaughters. Mr. Laurent was predeceased by his beloved wife of fifty-six years, Margaret Goodwillie Laurent (2006), and eldest son, Richard Sandford Laurent (2012).



A former journalist and communications executive, Laurent worked at The Washington Post from 1951 to 1982. Hired as a sports reporter, he was appointed by Post publisher Phil Graham, as the paper's first TV critic in 1953. After leaving the Post, Laurent was a VP for the Association of Independent Television Stations. He taught at American University and George Washington University, was elected to the Broadcast Pioneers Hall of Fame (1984), received the Distinguished Teacher Award from American University (1978), and the President's Medal from George Washington University (1999). Among numerous publications, Laurent edited Newton N. Minow's Equal Time: The Private Broadcaster and The Public Interest (1964). For several decades, he was on the judging panel for the Humanitas Prize, described by Barbara Walters as television's equivalent to the Nobel Prize for literature. His professional papers are available for research at George Washington University's Gelman Library.

A graduate of Ouachita Parish High School in Monroe, Laurent served as a Navy radioman in the South Pacific during World War II. After the war, he attended the University of Virginia where he worked on university and local newspapers.

Laurent and his family lived for fifty-three years in a historic brick home in Alexandria where they welcomed generations of relatives, neighbors, friends, and groups of young people ranging from the T. C. Williams High School Band to Laurent's students from AU and GWU.

A private interment will be at Spring Hill Cemetery in Lynchburg, VA. A memorial service at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 228 South Pitt Street, Alexandria VA will be scheduled when conditions allow. The family asks that memorial contributions be made to St. Paul's Lazarus Ministry (T. C. Student Support) at the church's address above.

For more details of his life, to check for service updates, and leave your memories and photos, go to [adventfuneral.com](http://adventfuneral.com)



## "Extensive Metastatic Disease"

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Well I certainly don't like the sound of that and I especially didn't like reading it in the "impressions" part of the radiologist's report I received Friday summarizing the previous Wednesday's PET scan. Though hardly a surprise given a thoracic surgeon's description of my original PET scan 11 and 1/2 years ago: "You lit that thing up like a Christmas tree." Still, I would have rather read something a bit less ominous. But I don't suppose being diagnosed with two types of cancer (non small cell lung stage IV and papillary thyroid, stage II) lends itself to a 'bit less ominous.' Besides, 'less ominous' left the building in late February 2009 when I was first diagnosed with a "terminal" disease: non small cell lung cancer.

Not to make light of such a heavy dose of reality but, as Tom Sellick says on his recent television commercial for AAG: "This isn't my first rodeo." And neither is this statement of fact from the radiologist the first less-than-encouraging news I've heard and seen. To invoke Jack Palance (Curly) from "City Slickers" (1991): "I \*\*\*\* bigger than that." I've been living with a version of these words for 11 and 1/2 years. Tell me something I don't know.

Nevertheless, I'll find out what it all means soon enough. Though it might be a bit of a re-hash from a few columns ago stating that since all the tumors in my lungs can't be biopsied, practically proceeding, my oncologist will never know for certain exactly how much of what type of cancer I have. And since one medicine - from what I've been told, can't treat both cancers, life expectancy, treatment protocols, etc., are likely unclear at best. Presumably, we'll treat the cancer which is most prevalent, most aggressive and most treatable/curable? I can only hope that as I sit and write this column, two days before my surgical lung biopsy on Monday, seven days, approximately, until I hear from my oncologist, I'll be able to compartmentalize the worst case scenarios - all of which are out of my control anyway, and try to live life as normally as possible and avoid any rabbit holes of gloom and doom.

Right now, this is just another blip on the cancer radar that has been "blipping" for more than 11 years. Generally speaking, the medical feedback we receive almost always sounds mediocre (and I don't mean fair to middling either). And it never sounds worse than it did in February '09 when I initially was diagnosed and given a "13 month to two year" prognosis. Unfortunately, having outlived my oncologist's expectation by upwards of 10-plus years doesn't guarantee me any favorable news. That was yesterday (yesteryear, actually). This is today, 2020. However, much has changed/evolved in the cancer-treatment world. There have been more drugs approved for the treatment of lung cancer in the last few years than in previous multiple decades, including the introduction of an entire new class of medicine: immunotherapy. It's not exactly game and match but it is night and day.

Still, it's premature until I'm re-diagnosed and placed in a new protocol and see the results - in future CT scans. This pending biopsy may be the storm before the calm or vice versa, quite frankly. As I await results, my glass remains half full, as always. I just have to hope that while waiting for the cancer business to become clear, I don't get so thirsty/anxious that I empty my glass. That wouldn't help anybody, especially me.

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

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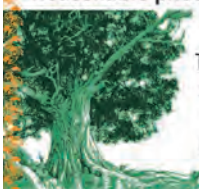
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## NEWS

## ATC Launches Fundraiser to Purchase Books For Elementary Virtual Tutoring Program

The Alexandria Tutoring Consortium is launching a \$22,000 fundraising campaign to purchase books for its virtual literacy tutoring program this school year. Kicking off the fundraiser was a welcomed \$1,000 donation from Burke and Herbert Bank in Alexandria.

Alexandria Tutoring Consortium, as a partner with the Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS), uses a curriculum from the University of Virginia to train volunteers to tutor kindergarten and first grade students in most of the city's elementary schools one-on-one twice a week. Paid staff, who are teaching and education professionals, write lesson plans for each tutoring session, monitor the student's success and challenges, train volunteer tutors, and collect data to monitor and gauge progress. The organization, now in its 24th year, was tutoring 128 students in its "Book Buddies" curriculum last March, when ACPS closed schools due to the coronavirus. By late April, ATC staff had shifted the personalized literacy tutoring program to a virtual program and was able to connect with 102 of those students to continue.

As the school year came to a close, the ATC Board of Directors voted to shift resources to a first-ever summer program to continue serving the children enrolled in its virtual program. More than 100 community volunteers continued from the spring virtual tutoring to the summer program and all students being tutored virtually have demonstrated reading progress.

"This has been a trying time," said ATC Board Chair Yvonne Folkerts. "Yet despite the challenges, our tutors remained dedicated, the parents supported our virtual needs, our staff stayed true to our mission, and the students have benefitted."

Early results indicate 84 percent of the kindergarten and first graders continuing in the virtual program from last semester and into this summer will be reading on grade level. With two more weeks yet to tutor this summer, that percentage could increase.

Based on these results, the Alexandria non-profit has decided to continue offering its curriculum virtually throughout the 2020-2021 school year.



By late April, Alexandria Tutoring Consortium staff had shifted the personalized literacy tutoring program to a virtual program, and was able to connect with 102 of 128 students to continue.

ACPS will have a virtual opening for 2020-2021. Anticipating no in-person access to students this fall, ATC has decided to continue virtually tutoring struggling readers. A key change in ATC's curriculum being delivered virtually was to provide books to each student being tutored. Before the coronavirus, books were provided by ACPS and kept in the classroom. Tutors used the books as directed by the lesson plans.

"Our staff has decided leveled readers are the best choice for a virtual program and therefore, we intend to find the resources to provide this literacy tool for these young readers," Folkerts said.

ATC estimates purchasing leveled readers for an anticipated 150 students in its program next school year will cost \$22,000. The organization has launched a fundraiser on its social media platforms and is reaching out to donors to secure the needed funds.

ATC hopes to have the books in hand by October, when the organization traditionally launches its tutoring curriculum.

To donate, go to the organization's website at alexandriatutors.org and click the "donate now" button. Donors may also send a check to The Alexandria Tutoring Consortium, attn. Executive Director Lisa Jacobs, 323 South Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

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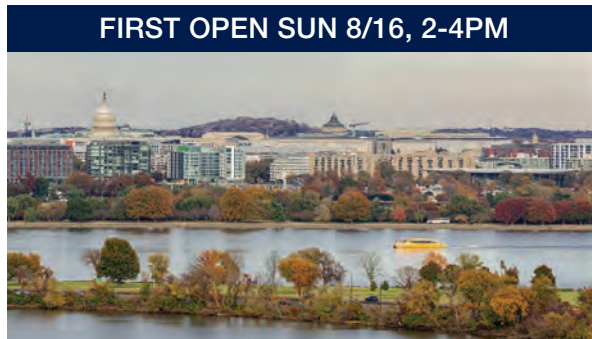
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