



Former Virginia governor Terry McAuliffe, right, visits Mount Vernon Woods Elementary School April 20 during a United Community COVID relief food distribution event. McAuliffe is vying to win the Democratic nomination for governor on June 8.



Pete Snyder, left, talks with supporter Vic Matus during a campaign event at Blackwall Hitch Restaurant March 27 in Alexandria. Snyder is running for the Republican nomination for Virginia governor. The GOP convention is May 8.



Jennifer McClellan, right, with a supporter at a campaign event April 15 at fibre space in Old Town. McClellan is vying for the Democratic nomination for Virginia governor. Primary Election Day is June 8; early voting begins next week.



Republican gubernatorial candidate Kirk Cox speaks with supporters at the Alexandria home of Frank Fannon April 15.

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

The Heat Is On

Candidates for governor make Alexandria campaign stops.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Candidates vying for both the Democratic and Republican nominations for Virginia governor have made Alexandria a stop on the campaign trail, signifying the influence of Northern Virginia in statewide politics.

Former governor Terry McAuliffe has made several stops in the region, including a visit April 20 to Mount Vernon Woods Elementary School during a United Community COVID relief food distribution event.

McAuliffe is facing four opponents in a contested Democratic primary June 8: Del. Jennifer Carroll Foy (D-2), Del. Lee Carter (D-50), Lt. Gov. Justin Fairfax and Sen. Jennifer McClellan (D-9). Early voting begins

McClellan was in Alexandria for an April 15 campaign stop at Old Town's fibre space yarn shop to launch her "Women for McClellan" initiative.

"Virginia has the worst record of elected women to office and it's time to change that," said McClellan, who is vice chair of the Virginia Legislative Black Caucus. "As we are facing a health pandemic, economic crisis, reckoning of racial injustice and a growing loss of faith that people have in government, I am running to rebuild our economy, our health care and our economic safety net in a way that restores that trust and leaves no Virginian behind."

On the Republican side, Pete Snyder and Kirk Cox have made campaign stops in Alexandria as they vie to be the Republican nominee for governor.

Cox is a former high school educator and coach and has served in the Virginia House of Delegates since 1990 representing the 66th District. He also served as the 55th Speaker of the House of Delegates, as House Majority Leader from 2010 to 2018 and House Majority Whip from 2004 to 2010.

"One party control in Richmond is tearing our state apart," said Cox, who attended an April 15 campaign

SEE THE HEAT IS ON, ON PAGE 4

The Final Countdown

Spring2Action online giving day set for April 28.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Spring2Action, Alexandria's annual online day of giving, officially begins April 28 and will run for 24 hours to raise funds for nonprofits across the city.

Hosted by ACT for Alexandria and co-sponsored by the City of Alexandria, Spring2Action was launched 11 years ago to connect donors with more than 130 local nonprofits and charitable causes to help meet the critical needs of those who are most vulnerable.

"This year, on April 28, Spring2ACTION will continue to be a celebration of what can

be achieved through the power of collective action," said ACT president and CEO Heather Peeler in promoting this year's community wide event. "We appreciate all the local businesses, donors, nonprofits and everyone who champions Spring2ACTION. Acting together for the greater good is at the heart of Alexandria."

Last year's event raised \$2.45 million for 160 different nonprofit organizations with nearly \$13 million raised since the event was first launched in 2011. Donations made through Spring2ACTION's day of giving help participating nonprofits

provide services such as food, shelter, animal rescue, tutoring, support for the arts, and more.

Susan Gerock has been a longtime donor and contributor of matching grants during the Spring2Action event.

"I love the idea of giving the nonprofit a goal to shoot for, to give their donors something to

SEE THE FINAL, ON PAGE 4

"Acting together for the greater good is at the heart of Alexandria."

— ACT president and CEO Heather Peeler



ACT President and CEO Heather Peeler promotes this year's Spring2Action online giving day set for April 28.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

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#WeAreAlexandria



Colonial Park | \$2,495,000

This stately residence is the first LEED certified renovation in all of Northern Virginia and has been featured in Washingtonian Magazine, Houzz, Home & Design Magazine. A no expense spared, top-to-bottom renovation by Harry Braswell includes the gourmet, eat-in kitchen with Thermador appliances and leathered quartzite countertops and high-end finishes in all three en-suite bathrooms. The outdoor terrace features an outdoor kitchen with built-in grill, and a fenced in yard makes it idyllic for entertaining outdoors. 323 Mansion Drive
Kristen Jones 703.851.2556
www.KristenJones.com



Beverly Hills | \$949,000

Updated 4-bedroom, 2.5-bath home with spacious rooms, wood floors, and a beautiful yard and patio. Renovated eat-in kitchen with granite and stainless. Primary bedroom with renovated en-suite bath. Rec room with custom oak and granite gas fireplace.
Kate Crawley 703.888.8141
www.KateCrawleyHomes.com



OPEN SUN 4/25, 2-4PM

Del Ray | \$899,000

Epitome of Charm – 1925 classic expanded bungalow with a contemporary flair. 2 bedrooms, 2 full baths, family room addition with wood-burning fireplace; open kitchen with brand new quartz countertops; finished basement & detached 1-car garage. 100 E Custis Ave.
Cindy Clemmer 703.966.0403
www.ClemmerAndSchuckHomes.com



OPEN SUN 4/25, 2-4PM

Del Ray | \$699,000

Rarely available, semi-detached. 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths includes first floor primary suite. Updated & move-in ready! New roof, freshly painted, and brand new hardwoods! Picket fence in front. Fully fenced rear yard with brick patio & storage shed. 6 W Caton Ave.
Cindy Clemmer 703.966.0403
www.ClemmerAndSchuckHomes.com



VIRTUAL OPEN SAT 4/24, 12PM

Del Ray | \$649,900

3-bedroom, 1-bath, duplex features hardwood floors on main level & under carpet on upper level. From the kitchen, walk out to the large deck overlooking a large fenced in yard. Lower level rec room. Walk to the shops and restaurants on "The Avenue!" 411 E Howell Ave.
Jen Walker 703.675.1566
www.JenWalker.com



Old Town \$1,539,000

Pristine renovated Harborside home offers a beautiful patio and courtyard, interior elevator, 3 gas fireplaces, office, and an open chef's kitchen. Luxurious master suite with custom built-ins, closets, and new en-suite bath. Top level guest room and 2-car garage parking.

Babs Beckwith 703.627.5421
www.BabsBeckwith.com



Old Town \$1,298,000

Sunny 2-bedroom, 2.5-bath Harborside townhouse features gorgeous hardwood floors, 2 gas fireplaces, renovated chef's kitchen, and new spa-like master bath. Spacious living room with custom bookcases and a lovely bay window overlooks the private courtyard. Two car garage parking.

Babs Beckwith 703.627.5421
www.BabsBeckwith.com



OPEN SUN 4/25, 12-2PM

Virginia Village \$769,000

Highly desirable floor plan and located in north Old Town close to the new Metro station. Four-level, two-bedroom, three-bath townhome with finished basement and private patio. 1119 Portner Road

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Two-Front Primary

Self-styled 'aggressive progressive' wages statewide campaign while defending House seat.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Northern Virginia has one of the most competitive Democratic primaries for the House of Delegates this year, a race that's complicated by an incumbent who's seeking reelection while also seeking a statewide office. Del. Mark Levine (D-45) will be appearing twice on the ballot, once toward the top of the ticket for lieutenant governor and then again for reelection to the House seat that he's held since his first election in 2017. Double filing is extremely rare in Virginia politics, and nobody in living memory has ever attempted to pull off what Levine is hoping to accomplish on June 8.

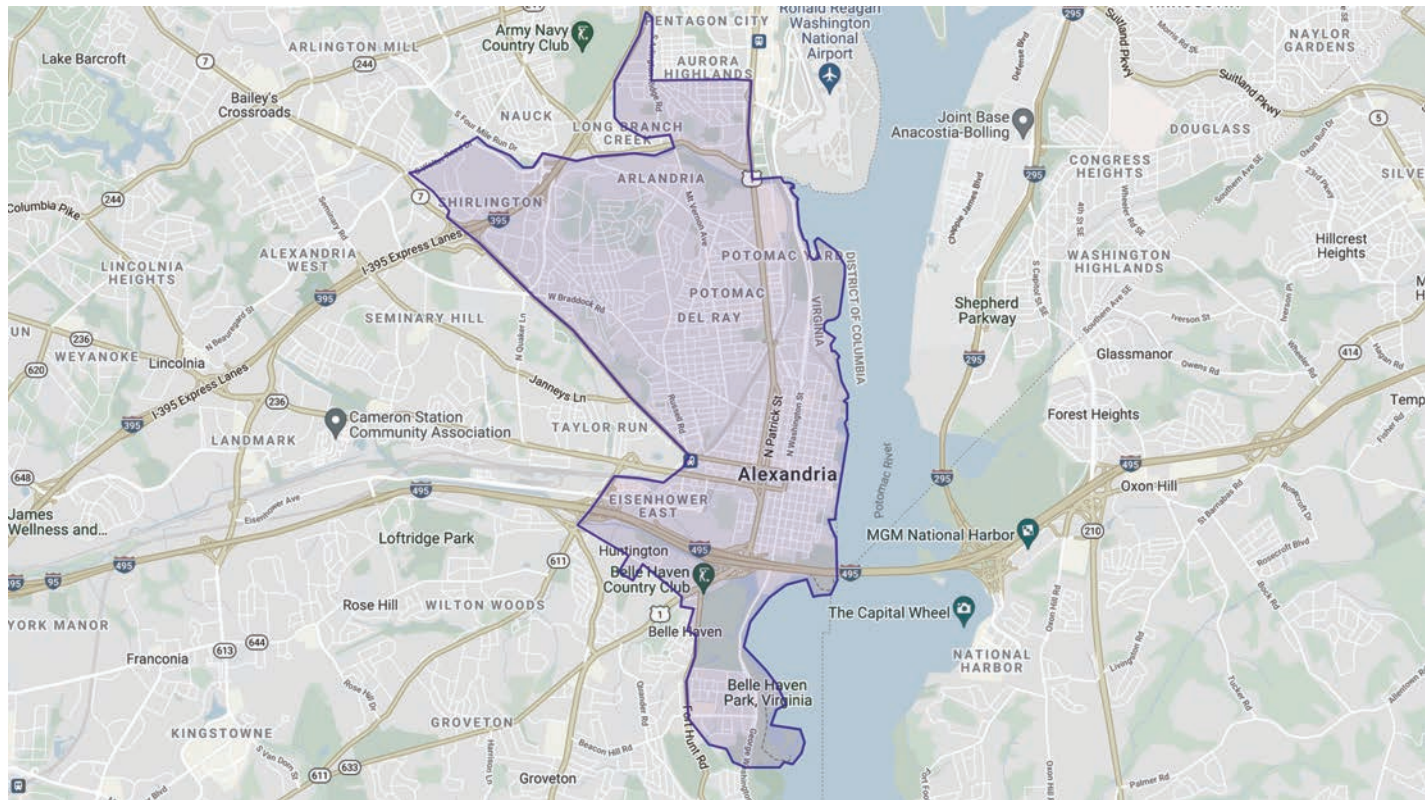
"He's adopted a very risky strategy in being on the ballot twice because that may send a signal to many of the voters in his district that he's got his eyes on something bigger," said Mark Rozell, dean of the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University. "I think that's a real problem for him, especially if the vice mayor can get any traction outside of her electoral constituency."

Levine is one of three candidates who are hoping to win reelection to their House seats while also seeking a statewide office. Del. Lee Carter (D-50) has two primary opponents for his seat in Manassas while also running for governor. Del. Jay Jones (D-89) is facing a primary opponent for his House seat in Norfolk while also running for attorney general. Del. Elizabeth Guzman (D-31) recently dropped out of the primary for lieutenant governor after campaign finance records revealed that one of her opponents in the House primary raised a significant amount of money and she was in danger of losing both races.

"This is something that's always been allowed, but it's just not something that people have done," said Ben Tribbett, Democratic political consultant. "It's why you see state senators run for statewide office usually, not House of Delegates members, because their elections don't coincide with the statewide races."

BENNETT-PARKER EMERGED on the scene three years ago during her first campaign for office. Although she was a first-time candidate, she received more votes than any other Alexandria City Council candidate -- a distinction that landed her the title of vice mayor. In 2014, she founded a social enterprise known as Fruitcycle to fight food waste and hunger. That organization later merged with the nonprofit organization Together We Bake, which provides workforce training and personal development to women in need.

"My mom always taught me if you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem," said Bennett-Parker. "My experience on City Council has taught me a lot about the issues that are important to my community and how we need changes and more authority from Richmond in order to better



The 45th House District includes Old Town, Belle View and Del Ray, stretching into Shirlington and Aurora Hill.



Levine

"I tend to take the bills that other people think are too hard to pass."
— Del. Mark Levine (D-45)

"My mom always taught me if you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem."
— Elizabeth Bennett-Parker



Bennett-Parker

serve our residents."

As a member of City Council, she used her food-manager's license to lead meal production for students who live in poverty during spring break last year at the beginning of the pandemic. She worked with small-business owners to install a mural known as the "Butterfly Effect" on Upper King Street, and she suggested an amendment to the city's environmental policy to make sure that all future public buildings are net-zero for carbon emissions. She says

House District 45 Profile

- ❖ median age: 37.5
- ❖ median household income: \$125,000
- ❖ poverty : 7 percent
- ❖ married population: 50 percent
- ❖ median home price: \$624,000
- ❖ bachelor's degree or higher: 76 percent
- ❖ foreign-born population: 15 percent

Levine's track record of bills that have been signed by the governor is well below average.

"It was surprising to see that Delegate Levine has always been at the bottom since he's been in office, including the last two years when Democrats have been in power," said Bennett-Parker. "I think that's disappointing for our community,

layered on top of the fact that he's simultaneously running for two offices and treating this district as a backup plan."

In terms of votes she would cast in the House, there's no discernible daylight between Levine and Bennett-Parker. She's in favor of limiting campaign contribution and banning contributions from corporate donors, particularly public utilities like Dominion. She supports banning assault weapons and joining the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact, and she says she would vote in favor of eliminating mandatory minimum sentences for non-violent crimes. Even on a controversial issue like universal firearm registration, Bennett-Parker is in alignment with Levine in favor. As a result, the choice for voters is one of style and personality rather than issues and ideology.

"He wants to be in a higher office, and this seat is his backup plan," said Bennett-Parker. "I'm running because I'm completely focussed on this community and delivering real results for our community and want to keep doing that."

LEVINE FIRST ran for office in 2014, when longtime U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8) retired. He came in fifth place in a field of seven candidates with 7 percent of the vote. The following year, when Del. Rob Krupicka (D-45) declined to run for reelection, Levine scored a surprise victory with 28 percent of the vote. Since that time, he's built a reputation in the Democratic caucus as someone who is willing to speak in a frank and direct manner — sometimes to the discomfort of other House Democrats who view that approach as counterproductive. Levine dismisses criticism that he's too harsh by pointing to former U.S. Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.) and the late U.S. Sen. Ted Kennedy (D-Mass.)

"Did they ruffle some feathers? I think
SEE TWO-FRONT, PAGE 8

Alexandria Police Department Provides Crime Summary For 2020

The Alexandria Police Department reports that Part I (more serious) crimes climbed 19.14 percent in 2020 compared to 2019, mainly due to increases in stolen vehicles and larcenies.

The department submitted its annual report of Part I crimes to the Federal Bureau of Investigation as the City is required. The FBI divides offenses into Part I and Part II crimes. Part I crimes are considered more serious because they include crimes against people and personal property (homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, and auto theft). It is important to note that Alexandria generally has a low crime rate and a low number of criminal incidents. As such, small fluctuations in incidents when comparing annual data can lead to large percentage changes that must be considered in context.

Stolen vehicles and larceny crimes are not generally considered violent crimes, although they

can be traumatic for the victims. Violent Part I crimes include homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault categories. In 2020, Violent Part I crimes represent 9.48% of the City's overall Part I crime, which is an increase of 3.33% from Violent Part I crimes in 2019.

The increase in stolen vehicles and larcenies from vehicles can be attributed to owners leaving them unattended for extended periods of time during the pandemic. Most thefts occurred from unlocked vehicles. Very few thefts involved the use of force, such as windows broken, vehicle trunks forced open, etc.

"There are simple steps vehicle owners can take to reduce their risk of becoming victims. Check on your vehicle daily, make sure the doors are locked and there are no valuables inside," said Chief Michael Brown. "You should also move the vehicle periodically to reduce the appearance it is not being used."

The Covid-19 pandemic also had

City of Alexandria More Serious Crimes 2019 vs 2020

Crime Type	2019	2020	Change
Homicide	2	3	1
Rape	20	12	-8
Robbery	82	87	5
Aggravated Assault	196	208	12
Burglary	117	126	9
Larceny	2,093	2,473	380
Auto Theft	233	359	126
Total	2,743	3,268	525

an impact on burglaries in 2020. Residential burglaries were down drastically, likely because people spent more time at home. Commercial burglaries jumped nearly 50 percent, from 40 incidents in

2019 to 59 incidents in 2020, likely due to stores being temporarily closed or having limited hours. The burglary rate in the City of Alexandria reached a five-year low in 2019.

There was a decrease in the number of reported rapes in 2020. The Police Department and the City's Sexual Assault Center share concerns that some rapes, domestic violence, and crimes against children may not have been reported if the victims did not feel comfortable reaching out while having to stay in the home where crimes occurred. Confidential support is available 24 hours a day by calling the City's Sexual Assault Hotline at 703-683-7273 or by online chat with the National Sexual Assault Hotline <https://hotline.rainn.org/> online. Anyone in immediate danger should call or text 911.

"2020 provided a unique set of challenges," said Brown. "Our officers dedicated themselves to protecting the City and community members, while working through the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic, both at home and on the job, as well the fallout and questions brought on by the death of George Floyd. I couldn't be prouder of them."

The Heat is On

FROM PAGE 1

event at the Alexandria home of Frank Fannon. "No one would be faulted for feeling anxious or pessimistic about the future. I want to see problems solved through dialog and communication, not with destruction and chaos in our streets."

Snyder is an entrepreneur best known as

"I want to see problems solved through dialog and communication, not with destruction and chaos in our streets."

— Kirk Cox (R)

the founder of New Media Strategies and more recently the angel investor firm Disruptor Capital. Though he ran unsuccessfully in the Republican Primary for Lieutenant Governor in 2013, he is not shy about his

"I am running to rebuild our economy, our health care and our economic safety net in a way that restores that trust and leaves no Virginian behind."

— Jennifer McClellan (D)

goals in this election.

"I want to change the balance of power in the General Assembly," said Snyder during a March 27 event at Blackwall Hitch Restaurant on the waterfront. "I want to see Republicans in charge."

Other Republicans seeking the nomination for governor include Sen. Amanda Chase, Sergio de la Pena, Peter Doran, Octavia Johnson, and Glenn Youngkin.

On early voting in Alexandria:

<https://www.alexandriava.gov/elections/info/default.aspx?id=1720>

The Final Countdown

FROM PAGE 1

shoot for," said Gerock, vice president and Chief Information Officer of WashREIT. "The friendly competition and the opportunity to engage donors helps nonprofits stretch in ways that benefit their organizations and the people they serve."

Early giving opened on April 14 and continues through April 27. Various prizes will be awarded to participating nonprofits throughout the event, including those with the most early giving donors, most funds raised and the most donors during select "power hours."

"As COVID-19 continues to disrupt our daily lives, it continues to wreak havoc on the economy and the health of friends and neighbors," Peeler said in her online blog. "Communities of color and those on the financial edge pre-pandemic shoulder disproportionate hardship. The programs and services provided by Alexandria's nonprofits are needed now more than ever."

Added Gerock: "It's a great experience feeling like you're having a positive impact in the community."

To learn more about the participating organizations or to donate, visit www.Spring2Action.org



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Longtime Spring2Action donor Susan Gerock will again participate in this year's online giving day.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

NOW THRU JUNE 21

The Reimagined Taste of Old Town North, a two-month

stroll through the Neighborhood begins April 21st and continues through June 21st Presented by the Old Town North Community Partnership, with support from the City of Alexandria, the Old Town North Alliance, NOTICE and local businesses and not for profits. The Reimagined Taste provides an opportunity for friends and

neighbors in Alexandria and the DMV to check out the goods and services of Old Town North's local businesses. During the two months of the Reimagined Taste, participating businesses will offer discounts to Passport holders. Passports will be available for purchase on the Old Town North Community Partnership website: <https://oldtown->

north.org/ and at the Community Table at the Thursday Farmer's Market beginning in mid-April. The Taste Passport is \$10 and a percentage of Passport Sales will benefit local not-for-profit ALIVE!

THURSDAY/APRIL 22

Earth Day Webinar. 7-8 p.m. Via Zoom. Join Alexandrians for the Environ-

mental Action Plan and Virginia Clinicians for Climate Action and learn why Earth Day is also Health Day, and how the health community is taking action. Visit https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/WN_Aq8Grb-VQ22IZPcaXZoW7Q

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 5

AlexRenew Proposes Second Rate Increase To Fund Alexandria's Clean Waterways Future

Alexandria Renew Enterprises (AlexRenew <https://alexrenew.com/>), the wastewater authority serving Alexandria, is proposing a two-year sewer rate increase to help fund its RiverRenew program that will minimize combined sewer overflows into the City's waterways and ongoing upgrades at its wastewater treatment facility.

The rate increase is critical to funding the ongoing construction of the RiverRenew program, scheduled for completion in late 2025. This requires AlexRenew to increase existing wastewater treatment rates by 6.9 percent on July 1, 2021, and by 6.5 percent on July 1, 2022. An average residential customer would see an increase of about \$4 per month for each of these increases, or an average increase of about \$50 per year.

Federal and state low-interest water loan programs were used to secure debt financing for RiverRenew. These programs offer very low interest rates, helping to reduce the rate increases projected at the start of

the program.

AlexRenew will host a virtual public hearing on Saturday, May 22, 2021, starting at 9:30 a.m. to receive public comment on the proposed rate increase. Interested parties may register for the public hearing in advance here: https://zoom.us/join/wn_cj0e7HijQFokP5YtAYWMSA.

The \$615 million RiverRenew program is the largest infrastructure project in Alexandria's history and will prevent millions of gallons of combined sewage from polluting the Potomac River, Hunting Creek, and Hooffs Run each year. This will create safer, cleaner, healthier waterways for the community, wildlife, and future generations.

"Wastewater infrastructure is essential to keeping our community healthy," said Karen Pallansch, AlexRenew General Manager. "Our shared investment helps ensure the waterways that connect us are improved and preserved for future generations."

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 1

TUESDAY/APRIL 27

Systemic Racism: Education. 7:30-9 p.m. Virtual via St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 228 S. Pitt Street, Alexandria. The mission of Alexandria City Public Schools is to ensure success by inspiring students and addressing barriers to learning. And yet in Alexandria (as in most places), the effects of racial inequality still exist in our educational system, with disparate rates of graduation, participation in advanced classes, and discipline for white and non-white students. Join us for a conversation around racial inequities and education in Alexandria with Dr. Gregory C. Hutchings, ACPS superintendent. Visit the website:

<https://www.stpaulsalexandria.com/blog/exploring-systemic-racism-in-alexandria-april-discussion/>

VACCINATION

ELIGIBILITY EXPANDS

Alexandria Health Department has moved into Phase 2 of COVID-19 vaccinations, expanding eligibility to all residents ages 16 and over. Many pre-registered individuals have already received emails to schedule an appointment for as soon as this week. In addition to mass vaccination clinics, AHD allocates vaccine to more than a dozen vaccinating partners, such as phar-

macies and private medical practices, to increase local appointment capacity. Visit alexandriava.gov/ Vaccines to learn more, pre-register for vaccine, and view Alexandria's vaccination progress.

CELEBRATING POETRY MONTH

The City of Alexandria's Poet Laureate KaNikki Jakarta invites all Alexandrians to participate in National Poetry Month activities throughout the month of April. Schools, local businesses, libraries and recreation centers will promote and encourage poetry writing and reading in the month-long celebration.

2021 DASHing Words in Motion: Alexandria Transit Company and the City of Alexandria, through the Office of the Arts, joined forces again for the DASHing Words in Motion poetry contest, open to Alexandria poets and writers age 16 years or older.

The 2021 poets are: Zeina Azzam, Susan Clark Behnke, James Colby, May-Mei Lee, Betty Jo Middleton, Charlene Murphy, Devin Reese, and veeteabee. KaNikki Jakarta, Poet Laureate's poem, along with the eight winning poets, will have their poems displayed inside the DASH buses and trolleys in April and May.

FREE Virtual Literary Events

Prep to Publish

Saturday, April 24 from 1-3 p.m.

Alexandria's Poet Laureate KaNikki

Jakarta leads a workshop on how to prepare work to get published. Space is limited and reservations are requested. Email poet@alexandriava.gov.

National Poem in Your Pocket Poetry Reading

Thursday, April 29 from 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Alexandria's Poet Laureate KaNikki Jakarta, with the eight 2021 DASHing Words in Motion poets, holds a live reading of their poems for National Poem in Your Pocket day. The public is invited to read a favorite poem, too. This event is hosted by KaNikki Jakarta, Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association and the City of Alexandria through the Office of the Arts. If you wish to read or attend, please email poet@alexandriava.gov.

FLOOD ACTION ALEXANDRIA

The City of Alexandria has begun to implement "Flood Action Alexandria," a multipronged program to address flooding issues in Alexandria. The City is committed to working with residents and businesses to mitigate the impacts of flooding and providing opportunities for their involvement in the implementation of the program.

Flood Action Alexandria combines existing and new flood mitigation and stormwater management proj-

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 11



Investing in Alexandria's Clean Water Future

To help fund the largest infrastructure project in Alexandria's history, AlexRenew is implementing a sewer rate adjustment over the next two years.

Learn more here: bit.ly/know-your-rates. A virtual hearing to receive public comments is scheduled for May 22, 2021.



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- ★ Protect our school properties from co-location of housing and fully fund our schools.
- ★ Invest in infrastructure and stop the flooding.
- ★ Build a Covid-19 economic recovery that supports small businesses.
- ★ Save the forested environment at Taylor Run, Strawberry Run, and Lucky Run.
- ★ Safeguard our environment and natural resources, and protect our tree canopy.

VOTE for ethical leadership.

Early voting begins on April 23rd.

VOTE JUNE 8TH

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Joseph McCoy: Lynched in Alexandria, April 23, 1897

BY AUDREY P. DAVIS,
DIRECTOR, ALEXANDRIA
BLACK HISTORY MUSEUM

Americans are attached to their phones. We bemoan the fact that almost everyone everywhere is engrossed in texting, watching videos, or responding to social media. An annoyance, or convenience, if you are African American the smartphone has been a lifeline, a visual record, an epitaph — it has changed the racial injustice landscape. Incidents of discrimination, intimidation, torture, and murder, a frequent occurrence for the African American community, have been documented in real time for the world to see, and remarkably racial terror hate crimes persist.

Americans look, sympathize with victim families, protest, and vow it will never happen again ... then repeat the cycle when it does. I have heard some in Alexandria say we are lucky that racially motivated murders of African Americans never occurred in our city. Except they already have....

In the 1890s, long before the era of smartphones, two young Black Alexandria men died at the hands of a white mob. Today, I write about one of them, Joseph

McCoy, who was lynched on April 23, 1897.

The eighteen-year-old McCoy was accused of molesting the daughter of his white employer of sixteen years. Without a trial, he was kidnapped from the Alexandria police station (today the site of City Hall) and lynched at the corner of N. Lee and Cameron streets in the early morning hours of April 23. There were many witnesses for McCoy's death and the perpetrators (including some of Alexandria's most upstanding citizens) used this to their advantage to create a climate of fear for African Americans in Alexandria.

Is that climate of fear any less today for African Americans? After the death of George Floyd on May 25, 2020, when a pandemic lockdown world could not turn away from his brutal death, politicians, celebrities and citizens around the world pledged to end racially motivated violence. Still it persists.

George Floyd was denied compassion and legal redress as Joseph McCoy was denied it 124 years before. Both men are part of a chain of racially motivated deaths — a chain with thousands of links for every man, woman and child of color murdered in the US because of hate. Why has nothing changed? How many more people of color

will become links on this chain?

When people say life today is better for Black, Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC), we have to ask ourselves how much better? When a traffic stop, a walk or jog in a neighborhood could end with the loss of life, when unemployment, housing, health care and food inequalities have decimated BIPOC communities. How far have we really come as a society?

On April 23, 1897, none of these issues were going through the mind of Joseph McCoy. He just wanted to survive, but he knew he would not. He died looking into the eyes of people he had grown up with, people who granted him no mercy. For a young Black man growing up in America today can we reassure him that times have changed?

This week, Alexandria remembers the life of Joseph McCoy. Established in 2019 by City Council, the Alexandria Community Remembrance Project (ACRP) is committed to educating Alexandria citizens about the city's history of racial terror hate crimes and the two lynchings that occurred in Alexandria.

Everyone has the power to effect change and fight inequality. The two most important things a person can do is to understand Amer-

ican race history and Speak Truth to Power. By understanding America's history of racial hate crimes people can call out injustice when witnessing it. If you don't know where to start, become a part of the Alexandria Community Remembrance Project, visit the city's museums and libraries and learn about Alexandria's Black history.

This weekend, learn more about Joseph McCoy on the In Memoriam page Alexandriava.gov/Historic, pay your respects at the lynching location, and view the newly installed remembrance marker. City Hall will be illuminated in purple, the color of mourning, throughout the weekend. It is our hope that this April 23, 2021 memorialization will provide belated accountability, reconciliation, honor, and respect for Joseph McCoy.

This Saturday, April 24th at 1 p.m., as part of the remembrance, ACRP is sponsoring a free virtual lecture. Distinguished historian Susan Strasser will facilitate our understanding of lynching in the broader context of racial hate crimes. Dr. Strasser will offer two more social justice-themed lectures this spring.

To read the full account of April 23, 1897, and to sign up for the monthly ACRP newsletter, please visit: Alexandriava.gov/Historic.

Visit a Virginia State Park this Earth Day

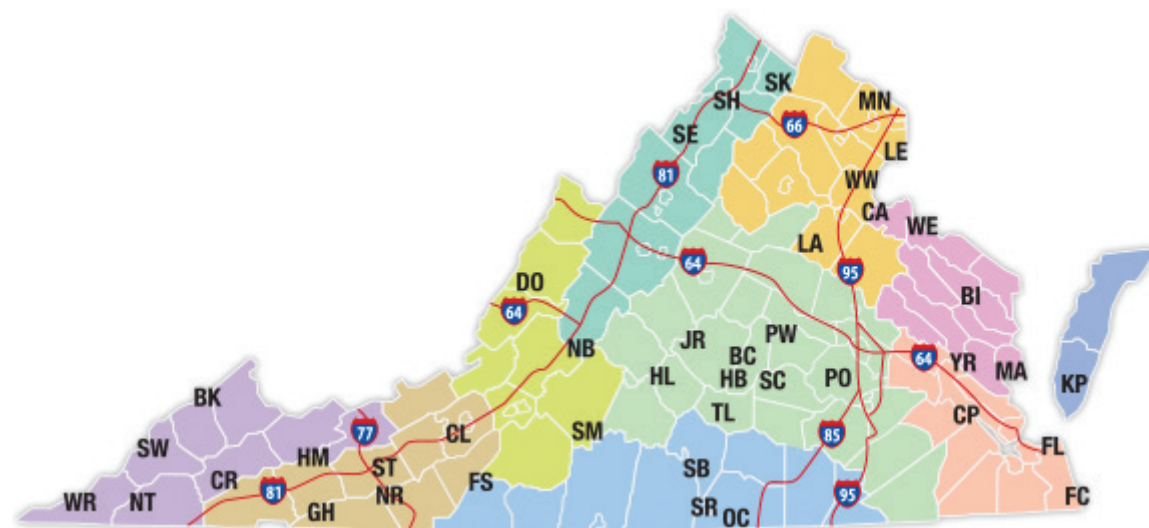
BY DELEGATE PAUL KRIZEK

This year, as we have practiced physical distancing to combat the spread of COVID-19, many of us have discovered a newfound appreciation for our natural world and the great outdoors. We have safely hiked, cycled, picnicked, and kayaked across the Commonwealth



Krizek

SEE VISIT A VIRGINIA, PAGE 9



Find a park. <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/find-a-park>

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Captain's Row at its Breaking Point

To the editor:

Historic Captain's Row is at its breaking point and requests from the residents to the Mayor and City Council have fallen on deaf ears. The street has long served

as one of the center pieces to promote tourism and tax revenue to the city. At any given point you can see numerous pictures of the cobblestones and homes on the Alexandria website and social media

channels. These beautiful pictures may be all that is left as the street continues to crumble under the current assault of overuse, abuse, and lack of interest by city officials.

During the pandemic, the 100

block of King Street was changed into a pedestrian-only zone and now Captain's Row must carry much of the traffic burden of King Street. In addition to the funneling

SEE LETTER, PAGE 7

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LETTER

Captain's Row at its Breaking Point

FROM PAGE 6

of traffic to Captain's Row, the residential and commercial density on the waterfront has created a nightmare for a street that was never designed to be a major traffic hub of the Old Town waterfront.

After the lack of response from the city to help save the street, residents have resorted to creating a traffic "diet" on the weekends to help reduce the number of cars and delivery trucks. Residents have seen a 40-60% decrease in traffic when the street is reduced to one lane. In addition, due to the overuse of the street, the residents have been forced to collect the numerous ballast stones that litter the street in the hopes that eventually the city will wake-up and realize they have a problem and the street can be repaired.

The solutions are not difficult: reset all the cobblestones, limit traffic and parking on Captain's Row on the weekend, and enforce the "no trucks" rule that is already in place.

City officials and residents should realize that if we do not fight to keep the historical charm of Alexandria, our city is no different than thousands of other cities. Without the historical charm the tourists go away, the quality of life declines, the tax base reduces



and city services become even worse. If anyone doubts the impact of losing the historical charm and Captain's Row, I suggest you go to the Visitalexva Instagram page or other social media outlets and see how many pictures tourists tag of large offices, condo buildings or homes that have been built in the last 100 years.

Brandon Hensley
Alexandria

Drug TAKE BACK Day

DISPOSE OF UNUSED OR EXPIRED MEDICATIONS

APRIL 24 | 10 A.M. - 2 P.M. Day

Pet prescriptions also accepted!



ALEXANDRIA.VA.GOV/OPIOIDS

PREVENTITALEXANDRIA.ORG

SAFELY DISPOSE OF MEDICATIONS

The City of Alexandria continues to remind the public that everyone is safest at home. Individuals on essential errands can drop off medication at these designated locations on April 24 or year-round at a permanent drop box location. Face coverings must be worn in indoor public settings and outdoor public locations where physical distancing requirements cannot be maintained. Please maintain 6 feet of physical distance from others.

To learn about ways to dispose of medications safely at home, visit alexandriava.gov/opioids.

Alexandria Take Back Day Drop-Off Locations*

Alexandria Police Headquarters
3600 Wheeler Ave.

First Baptist Church
2932 King St.

Alexandria Fire Station 210
5255 Eisenhower Ave.

The Neighborhood Pharmacy of Del Ray
2204 Mount Vernon Ave.

*NO NEEDLES ACCEPTED AT THESE SITES

Can't make it to Drug Take Back Day? Dispose of medications year-round at one of these permanent drug drop box locations!

The Neighborhood Pharmacy
2204 Mount Vernon Ave.
Monday - Friday: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Sunday: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Inova Alexandria Hospital
4320 Seminary Rd.
Visitor's Lobby
Next to the cashier's window
Daily: 1 - 5 p.m.

NEW! NEEDLE DISPOSAL BOX ALSO AVAILABLE AT THIS LOCATION!

Alexandria Police Headquarters
3600 Wheeler Ave.
Just inside the entrance
Available 24/7



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Helping Children Improve Their Writing

Practical suggestions for boosting skills.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
GAZETTE PACKET

When Stacie Dougherty read an essay that her seventh grade son wrote for a Language Arts writing assignment, she became concerned. As she scanned the page, she noticed grammatical errors and run-on sentences.

“I don’t think he knows how to write a paragraph with a topic sentence and supporting sentences, she said. “I need to nip this in the bud before he starts high school in a year and I can’t afford a tutor.”

Parents like Dougherty who fear that this school year’s remote learning environment has compounded their child’s writing difficulties are looking for strategies to address the problem. Local writing specialists explain why kids struggle with writing and what parents can do to help.

“Writing can feel like a challenge especially at the middle and high school level,” said Kathryn Roessler, St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes School in Alexandria. “This is often because writing involves so many different skills and is a process that entails so many different steps.”

Take time to brainstorm, plan and organize, says Roessler. “Sometimes students see this as an extra step rather than one that can promote efficiency and save time in the long run,” she said. “An outline is always helpful for organizing ideas, even when it’s not a specific requirement by the teacher.

One resource for improving a student’s writing is providing models and examples of the specific type of writing that a student is attempting to complete, says Amy Hutchison, Ph.D, associate professor and director of the Division of Elementary, Literacy and Secondary Education at George Mason University. “[It’s] sometimes referred to as mentor writing, she said. “Students study the features of a mentor text to determine how they can apply those features to their own writing.”

Whether a classic or the latest in popular fiction, a tool in developing effective writing skills is sitting on the shelf at a local library. “Reading has a profound impact on the development of writing skills,” said John Gilbert, Tutoring Coordinator and Writing Specialist in Marymount University’s Student Academic Hub. “Think of reading as a partnership that goes hand-in-hand with writing. Reading exposes a child to different writing genres, builds vocabulary, increases phonemic awareness, and helps to build grammar skills.”

An activity as simple as keeping a daily journal can help boost a student’s writing. “Studies have

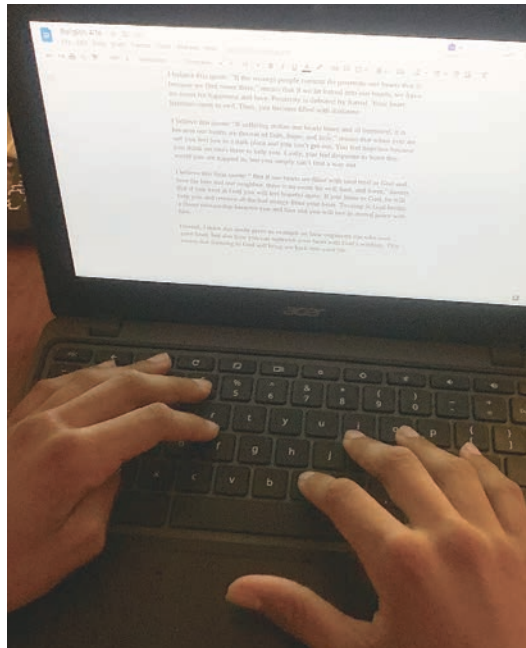


PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Improving a middle or high school student’s writing abilities requires practice and structure.

shown that journaling, because it is a creative process, not only improves writing skills, as it is a daily practice activity, but journals have also been shown to inspire reluctant children to write,” said Gilbert.

Leanne M. Gill of Norwood School in Bethesda, says setting an example for one’s child can be a powerful tool and underscoring the importance of writing skills. “Have your child read your writing and give you some tips on how you can revise or edit it to make it stronger,” she said. “Use transition words to promote graceful flow from one idea to the next.”

“Read different types of writing with your child such as fiction, news articles and opinion pieces,” added Gill. “Talk about the different writing techniques you notice like sentence length, punctuation and organization.”

Students should be encouraged to edit their own writing, says Roessler. “Edit for one thing at a time, she said. “In other words, students can read

through their work the first time while focusing on mechanics, including punctuation and capitalization. Then, they can read their work again and check for spelling. Other areas to focus on include grammar, word choice, and organization. Using an editing checklist will also foster a step-wise approach to editing.”

Hutchison of GMU is part of a team funded by the U.S. Department of Education to conduct research on the use of digital graphic organizers to support writing difficulties. “Our digital

graphic organizer includes built in supports to help students with self-regulation, she said. “Research shows that all students, including those with and without writing difficulties, increase the quantity and quality of their writing when using this structured approach.”

“Reading has a profound impact on the development of writing skills.”

— John Gilbert,
Writing Specialist,
Marymount University’s
Student Academic Hub

“Writing can feel like a challenge especially at the middle and high school level,”

— Kathryn Roessler,
St. Stephen’s &
St. Agnes School

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Ecstatic About Silberberg

To the editor:

As a longtime City of Alexandria resident, I am ecstatic that Allison Silberberg has chosen to run for Mayor – and here’s why. We’ll have a mayor who respects diverging opinions other than his own, a mayor who does not rebuke other Council members in public forums and, most importantly, a mayor who is not beholden to developers and the developers’ attorneys. Our beloved city is being over developed and over built. The resultant impact to residents is quite simply a degradation in our quality of life due to traffic, congestion, and noise pollution.

One example is the Bus Barn development in north Old Town. First, there is a saturation of apartments in north Old Town and none of the current apartment developments is fully occupied.

So, one might ask – why are we building news ones? Good question. The proverbial party line is the city needs to be positioned and ready for the “Amazon effect.” News flash – the majority of current Amazon (primarily AWS) managers and employees are well established and have been

living in the metropolitan area for several years. And, the younger, new-hire employees will not be moving to Old Town for the very basic reason that Old Town does not appeal to the 25-30- year old age group in a way that downtown

DC appeals to that age group.

Finally, the Bus Barn development is over built for the location with narrow townhomes on the sidewalks with apartments above that, of course, appeal to developers due to maximizing allowable people and square footage. Finally, the actual physical building that is being built does not represent the architectural plans that had been provided to the citizens but I guess that has escaped scrutiny within the City reviewers.

Another example is the way-too-large-for-the-lot Muse condominium development at the end of N. Royal Street. Just drive past the 1200 block of N. Royal Street and all of a sudden there is this looming structure that clearly does not fit the neighborhood in any way.

Now, should these lots be developed – absolutely! But how about considering the neighborhood, size and scale.

Once again, the developers want maximum “bang for their buck” and our city will, more than gladly, approve their plans.

So, what should be the qualities our citizens deserve with our future Mayor? How about honesty, transparency, ethics, and smart building and development (rather than being beholden to the developers and the developer’s attorneys). And, one final item – how about a

Mayor who listens to residents rather than lecturing to residents?

Elizabeth Clark West
Alexandria

Two-Front Primary

FROM PAGE 3

both did. But they were effective,” said Levine. “I think my constituents would rather have someone who fights hard for their values than someone who quits when the going gets tough so as not to upset people.”

Levine dismisses the “batting average” calculations posted to the Virginia Public Access Project as a misleading indicator.

Comparing the number of bills introduced to the number of bills signed by the governor, he says, overlooks other ways a lawmaker can influence the process.

He says he routinely lets other lawmakers carry bills that were his ideas, including legislation expanding marriage equality, rejecting voter identification and cracking down on predatory lending.

“Some people really care about having their names on the bills. I care about getting the language right,” said Levine. “The batting

average is silly. If the bill I wrote become law, I’m claiming it.”

If he loses the primary for lieutenant governor and wins another term in the House, Levine says, he would continue his service as chairman of the public safety subcommittee and the constitutional amendment subcommittee — seniority positions that the district would lose if voters reject the incumbent for a newcomer. He says he would continue working for constituents on everything from getting vaccines to dealing with the Department of Motor Vehicles. And, he says, he would lead the fight in the House for things like banning assault weapons and joining the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact.

“It’s easy to put forward bills that do nothing or do little and everyone agrees on that are not controversial. Anyone can do that,” said Levine. “I tend to take the bills that other people think are too hard to pass.”

OPINION

Visit a Virginia State Park this Earth Day

FROM PAGE 6

(or, are planning to!). As Virginians, we are lucky to have such a diverse topography and wilderness to explore and enjoy, from nature preserves in the tidewater region, mountains and valleys to the west, dense forests, and a plethora of rivers, lakes, and creeks.

On this Thursday, April 22, we celebrate Earth Day. Every year since 1970, the global community has commemorated this day to honor our planet and promote environmental protection. This week also coincides with National Park week (April 17-25) and the dedication of Virginia's 40th state park, Machicomoco State Park, in Gloucester County. Machicomoco is an Algonquian word that means "special meeting place", and the park serves the dual purpose of sharing the history of Virginia's Indian tribes as well as providing Virginians with critical greenspace. Machicomoco Park is surrounded by three creeks and has a great viewshed overlooking the Pamunkey River, now known as the York River.

More significantly, it is the first state park to honor and recognize the history and legacy of the indigenous people of the region. The park not only invites visitors to reflect, and to be a refuge from our daily stress, but to learn about the Algonquian Powhatan Confederacy, their language and cosmology that are so deeply rooted in the land.

A Special Meeting Place is just that, with two miles of wooded trails to educate visitors about the waterways the indigenous people navigated and explored. The park was designed in collaboration with tribal representatives, and at last week's opening ceremony Chief Stephen Adkins of the Chickahominy said that this "marks a signal event in the lives and history of both indigenous peoples and their friends and neighbors who comprised the total citizenry of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Never in the existence of the Commonwealth has it designed a site so replete with rich native history as Machicomoco."

There are 39 other wonderful parks across Virginia that are all worth a visit. Some, like Machicomoco, can even be visited by boat, and for 85 years have offered healthy, safe and recreational opportunities for all Virginians. It all started in 1936 with just six parks: Seashore State Park (now First Landing State Park), Westmoreland State Park, Staunton River

State Park, Douthat State Park, Fairy Stone State Park, and Hungry Mother State Park. The state park system has thrived and expanded since. Another recent addition is the Natural Bridge State Park in 2016, on land once owned by Thomas Jefferson. It features an amazing 215 foot tall natural bridge, a limestone gorge carved out by Cedar Brook. There are six miles of hiking trails including the Cedar Creek Trail that leads from the bridge to the historic Monacan Indian village and the 30-foot cascades of Lace Falls.

Our state parks have thousands of campsites, hundreds of cabins, more than 500 miles of trails and convenient access to Virginia's major waterways.

Virginia also has four State Parks that have received the elite International Dark Sky Park designation — Staunton River, James River, and recently added this month: Natural Bridge and Sky Meadows. An International Dark Sky Park is a park possessing an exceptional or distinguished quality of starry nights, a difficult feat to achieve with light pollution.

As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, I was proud to support \$1.5 million in the budget for our local Mason Neck State Park's drinking water supply.

This biennial budget also provided funding for the Preservation of Open Space Lands Trust Fund which protects lands in the Commonwealth used for parks or recreational purposes, conservation of natural resources, historic and scenic lands, wetlands, and much more, including \$2 million in funding for a possible new regional River Farm Park, here in Mount Vernon.

Across the nation, there are 63 National Parks, and 423 national park sites (including battlefields, national lakeshores, historic monuments, scenic trails and parkways). Virginia boasts 18 of these locations, including Shenandoah National Park, Richmond National Battlefield Park, Colonial National Historical Park, Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts, and running through my district: the George Washington Memorial Parkway. In 2020, while wearing masks and maintaining social distancing, 237 million people visited these parks. This Earth Day, make a plan to visit one of your Virginia or national parks!

Visit here to find your Virginia park: <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/find-a-park>



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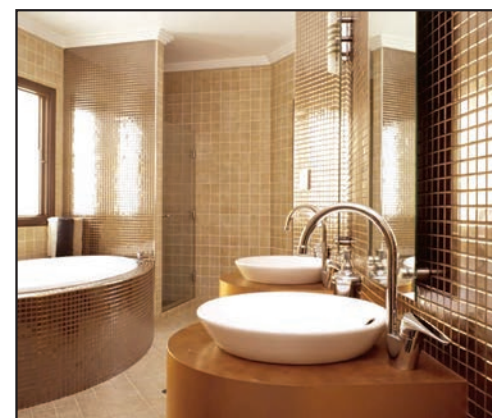
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Brandii Tyndle, celebrates her sister's birthday with family and friends March 23 at the Fish Market on King Street.

The Great Outdoors

Warm weather attracts outdoor diners.

April showers are bringing out more than spring flowers. The warmer temperatures and balmy breezes are attracting more diners to streets across the city. "This is some good food here," said Brandii Tyndle, who came from Maryland with family and friends to celebrate her sister's birthday March 23 at The Fish Market.

In Del Ray, Devin and Mary Bordelon brought son Mathis out to enjoy some ice cream at St. Elmo's.

"It's a beautiful day," said Devin Bordelon. "It's nice to be out enjoying the nice weather on Mount Vernon Avenue."

- JEANNE THEISMANN



Devin and Mary Bordelon with son Mathis enjoy the nice weather at St. Elmo's in Del Ray.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE OF ALEXANDRIA.



Biscuit greets AWLA staff before surgery.



Biscuit undergoes anesthesia in preparation for surgery.



Be on the lookout for the AWLA's Waggin' Wheels vehicle around town. Individual high-resolution photos also available upon request.

Animal Welfare League of Alexandria Conducts First Onsite Surgery in New Veterinary and Event Vehicle

Biscuit, an eight-year-old gray and white cat, was the first animal to undergo surgery at the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria (AWLA) in the new Mobile Veterinary and Event vehicle on Tuesday, April 20. Biscuit was one of several animals to be operated on that day, receiving routine but critical care including dental cleanings and state-required spay/neuter surgeries, procedures that the AWLA provides to all its adoptable residents who need it. Watch a video about this momentous event HERE. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qy8wsfRSn7s>

AWLA Staff Veterinarian Dr. Erica Caldwell was integral to the AWLA's purchase and outfitting of the vehicle, and she performed the first surgeries. "We've been fortunate to work with several veterinary providers who've donated their time and expertise to ensure our adoptable animals receive the care they need," said Caldwell, "but this mobile surgery will mean we can take on the routine surgeries, so our partners can focus on the animals needing specialized care."

The vehicle, dubbed "Waggin' Wheels" by the AWLA staff, will not only serve as a mobile surgery but will also travel across the city for community events. It has the capacity to hold and transport 10 or more animals, depending on size, who can soon be seen throughout the community for adoptions, educational events, citywide festivities

and more.

Waggin' Wheels will make its community debut at "The Dog Days of Del Ray" First Thursday event on May 6, though for its first months, its primary focus will be on surgery at the AWLA.

"We're looking forward to reconnecting with more of our community, and in locations where it's convenient for them to find us," said AWLA Executive Director Stella Hanly. "We can't wait to host adoption events on the waterfront, swing by schools to help students learn more about animal welfare and just generally be where people want to meet us."

Waggin' Wheels will also play an invaluable role in the AWLA's efforts to support not only homeless animals but also owned pets throughout the community.

"Biscuit was the first of many animals who will be helped in our mobile surgery vehicle," said Caldwell. "As more and more animals come through our doors, having the capability to perform surgery onsite means we will be able to assist the greatest number of animals and help them find families of their own."

The AWLA is grateful to local veterinary providers Caring Hands Animal Hospital, Hayfield Animal Hospital, Loving Touch Animal Hospital and VCA Animal Hospitals, which continue to provide additional surgical care to adoptable animals on their way to finding new homes.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

BULLETIN

FROM PAGE 5

ects to achieve this goal. The comprehensive program expedites infrastructure improvements (through projects like the Sanitary Sewer Asset Renewal Program); expands flood early warning systems and signage; implements a flood mitigation pilot program to provide matching grants to property owners who install flood-proofing measures; and increases maintenance capacity, while increasing community outreach and engagement. Residents and property owners can get involved through a City Council-appointed Ad-Hoc Stormwater Utility and Flood Mitigation Advisory Group. The Advisory Group, which is currently seeking nominations, will review and advise flood mitigation activities, monitor and measure progress of the City's proposed flood mitigation efforts, receive and distribute information on the City's flood mitigation implementation efforts, and review and provide recommendations on proposed Stormwater Utility operating and capital budgets. Visit alexandriava.gov/FloodAction for information and updates on flooding mitigation and stormwater management.

INTRODUCING THE LIBBY APP

The Alexandria Library has moved its digital magazines from RB Digital to the Libby app. You will continue to be able to browse, borrow, and enjoy all the same great magazines from ZINIO you loved in the RBdigital app, now available in Libby from OverDrive. Digital magazines have no wait lists or holds and provide readers the option to renew their selections after a 21-day checkout period. Alexandria Library customers can also download magazines to Libby for offline use. Readers can browse lists of magazines within the app and search by format to find available titles. All you need to get started in Libby is your device and your library card number and PIN. The Libby app is easy to use and

will guide you through the setup process and get you connected to our library in just a few minutes. If you have questions, you can visit the Libby Academy within the app or contact the Digital Services Librarian at csonnier@alexlibraryva.org.

FREE TAX PREPARATION

The City of Alexandria is offering free tax preparation services, by appointment only, to qualifying residents. This year, taxpayers are eligible if their income is below \$55,000 for individuals and families. Expert volunteers from Community Tax Aid, Inc. will ensure that taxpayers apply for all applicable credits and deductions, including the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit. Electronic filing is provided.

Appointments for services will be offered Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon, and Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m., February 13 through April 10, at the Department of Community and Human Services (2525 Mount Vernon Ave.).

Temperature checks by forehead scan and use of masks will be required. Call 703-831-2918 to make an appointment.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Assistance League of Northern Virginia is an all-volunteer non-profit organization that feeds, clothes and provides reading assistance and books to children in need. Assistance League's programs touch the lives of hundreds of children in Fairfax and Prince William Counties and the City of Alexandria. There are many volunteer opportunities for community members to contribute to helping those in need. To learn more, email info@alnv.org, or visit www.alnv.org.

Volunteer Drivers Needed. Drivers needed by the American Cancer Society to take cancer patients to treatment in Northern Virginia. To volunteer, call 1-800-227-2345 or go to cancer.org/drive.



HELP YOUR CHILDREN GROW.

Spend time together to show you care about your child's health, wellness, and success.

Young people are more likely to listen when they know you're on their side. Explain why you don't want your child to drink or use other drugs—not just because you say so, but because you want your child to be happy and safe. For tips on how—and when—to begin the conversation, visit:

www.underagedrinking.samhsa.gov

Learn about local efforts to prevent youth substance use and abuse at PreventItAlexandria.org

This program is made possible through a grant funded by the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority.



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4 Eateries to Pack a Picnic

BY HOPE NELSON

the sky's the limit.

With the latest cold snap behind us, it's time to turn to picnics. On a slow weeknight, for Sunday brunch, or for lazy Saturday afternoons, the weather is ripe and the time is right for outdoor fare. Here are some of the city's best bets for supplies.

Chewish Deli, 807 Pendleton St.

If you're looking for a quick pick-up sandwich that's bursting with flavor, make Chewish Deli your first

APPETITE

stop en route to your picnic destination. From breakfast sandwiches like a classic egg and cheese or a lox sandwich to more brunchy varieties like the sunrise Reuben or a pastrami and Swiss, the deli's menu is teeming with options. Looking to create your own? Order a half-dozen or baker's dozen worth of bagels and

Junction Bakery and Bistro, 1508 Mount Vernon Ave.

Grab an upscale picnic spread at Junction and be the envy of your fellow picnickers at the park. From handhelds to salads to finger foods, the lunch game at Junction is on point for your pickup menu. Take your pick between brisket bowls or brisket sandwiches; go all-in with a Cubano sandwich; add some spicy flair with a turkey banh mi; or get back to basics with a Junction grilled cheese.

Order up some General Tso's cauliflower to give your meal an extra boost, and don't forget some fries on the side!

Stomping Ground, 2309 Mount Vernon Ave.

Biscuits and salad: What more could you ask for on a picnic? They go together like cookies and cream (but, um, more savory).

Stomping Ground is known for



its buttermilk biscuits, which are dressed up in all manner of ways,

from a "classic" fried chicken and pimiento cheese sandwich to a

"Farmer's Frittata" biscuit sandwich. And what, pray tell, is a picnic without chicken salad? Stomping Ground has your back there, too.

Casa Rosada Artisan Gelato, 111 S. Payne St.

What is a picnic without dessert? And don't worry – with Casa Rosada gelato at hand, you won't have to be concerned about it melting too much, as it will be gone much too quickly for that.

In keeping with the sandwich theme, Casa Rosada does offer gelato sandwiches in a variety of flavors, or pick up a pint (or more) with flavors ranging from chocolate and vanilla to arroz con leche and vegan Oreo. What could be sweeter than that?

Hope Nelson is the author of "Classic Restaurants of Alexandria" and owns the Kitchen Recessionista blog, located at www.kitchenrecessionista.com. Email her any time at hope@kitchenrecessionista.com.

CALENDAR

NOW THRU MAY 2

Breath on Glass. At The Art League Gallery, 105 North Union Street (The Torpedo Factory), Alexandria. Oil painter Justin T. Worrell captures the ephemeral, dusky prelude to nightfall in his solo exhibit, *Breath on Glass*. Inspired by the American Tonalist school, Worrell's landscapes blur the boundary between our physical world and the spiritual realm. The exhibit will be on view online and in-person at The Art League gallery from now through May 2, 2021.

NOW THRU JUNE 21

Taste of Old Town North. At various locations throughout Old Town North, Alexandria. Enjoy a two-month stroll through the neighborhood with this year's reimagined Taste of Old Town North. Passport holders will be able to use their Passport to receive discounts at small businesses throughout Old Town North: The Arts and Cultural District, Parker-Gray and Braddock Road West. Passports may only be used once at each participating business; if 75% of a Passport has been used by June 21, the Passport holder will be entered into a drawing to receive prizes. Passports may be purchased online at oldtownnorth.org or at the Community Table at the Old Town North Thursday Farmer's Market. Proceeds will support the work of the Old Town North Community Partnership and ALIVE-inc.org. Visit www.oldtownnorth.org.

NOW THRU MAY 1

The "Unfinished/Finished." At Del



Breath on Glass, Justin Worrell's Atmospheric Landscapes, Ponder the Physical and Spiritual at The Art League Gallery from now thru May 2, 2021.

Ray Artisans explores when and how art is "finished." Every artwork in this exhibit has a "starting" artist and "finishing" artist. The exhibit features the work of local artists and high school students, plus offered an avenue for collaboration to combat the isolation we have all experienced during the pandemic. View at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria VA. Details: www.DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits

NOW THRU MAY 2

Cherry Blossom Exhibition. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Art lovers are encouraged to stop by the Torpedo Factory Art Center throughout April to view floral art displayed on all three floors.

Participating artists will display their most colorful spring and cherry-blossom-inspired works in their studios. Torpedo Factory Art Center is open Wednesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Visit www.torpedofactory.org

NOW THRU MAY 15

"MEG Spring Show 2021." at Multiple Exposures Gallery, Alexandria. An exhibition of photography by MEG member artists at the gallery in the Torpedo Factory Art Center in Alexandria. The spring exhibition features two signature pieces by each MEG member artist.

NOW THRU MAY 23

Those Spaces Between Us. At Target Gallery, Studio 2 of the Art Center, 105 N. Union Street, in Alexandria.

The show is a hybrid digital and in-person exhibition that explores transition, ambiguity, and being on the threshold of change. Those Spaces Between Us considers the distances between people and their surroundings and how that divide becomes its own character in art, history, memories, and the stories people tell about themselves. Virtual Reception: Friday, May 14, 2021 at 7 p.m. Visit facebook.com/torpedofactory

NOW THRU MAY 16

Trees/Humans: Life in the Balance. By Patricia Underwood. At the Athenaeum. In this exhibition Patricia Underwood employs photo images of ancient trees taken on her travels. Stop in the gallery for socially-distanced 'meet and greets' with Patricia Underwood on Saturday, April 10th, 2 — 4 p.m. Visit www.nvfaa.org.

NOW THRU APRIL 25

Alexandria Wedding Showcase. At multiple venues across Alexandria and online. Couples will be able to access a fun Alexandria Wedding Showcase mobile-friendly website that will include a directory of businesses, venues and services, guiding them from place to place. For those who want to stay virtual, each participating company will have an option for a virtual tour, video or scheduled appointment. As they visit (in person or online) each venue or set appointments to talk to wedding professionals, they will "check in" through the Alexandria Wedding Showcase website. Visit AlexandriaWeddingShowcase.com.

THURSDAY/APRIL 22

Historic Gardens at Historic Sites Lecture from Carlyle House. 7 p.m.

Virtual. Join Dean Norton, director of Horticulture at George Washington's Mount Vernon, for a virtual presentation about historic house gardens. For a bonus, Carlyle House is partnering with both The Spice & Tea Exchange and Firehook Bakery in Alexandria to offer a tea box to-go. Tea boxes can be picked up at Carlyle House the day of the program between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. or be delivered with contactless drop-off up to two miles from Carlyle House. Visit novaparks.com/parks/carlyle-house-historic-park

FRIDAY/APRIL 23

Garden Talk: Gardening for Bees. 1:30-2:30pm. (Adults) Bees are threatened by habitat loss, pesticides and climate change. Extension Master Gardeners show you how to nurture bees, particularly honey bees, in your garden by growing a variety of plants that support them. \$12 per person. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes (3F6.E98L) or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173.

SATURDAY/APRIL 24

"When Bach Met Bloch." 2:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. At The Rectory, 711 Princess Street, Alexandria. Renowned around the world for his profound artistry and charismatic stage presence, Israeli-American cellist Amit Peled plays a program of works for solo cello by J. S. Bach and the Swiss-born American composer Ernest Bloch.

Visit the website: <https://www.classicalmovements.com/secret-gardenconcerts/>

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ABC LICENSE

Potomac Yard Fine Wine Inc. trading as Total Wine & More, 3901 Richmond Highway, Alexandria, VA 22305. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer Off-Premise and Keg with Delivery Permit license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Thomas A. Haubenstricker, Secretary/Treasurer. 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 or 800-552-3200.

Legals

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING is hereby given that Alexandria Renew Enterprises (Alex-Renew) will hold a virtual PUBLIC HEARING on its PROPOSED OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET for the FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2022 on Saturday, May 22, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. The meeting will be virtual via Zoom. Interested parties may register at: https://zoom.us/join/register/WN_CJ0e-7HijQFokP5YtAYWMSA. The proposed budget is available for examination by the public online at www.alexrenew.com. Copies will be made available upon request - phone (703) 721-3500 ext. 2260. April 22 and May 6.

Alexandria Renew Enterprises
BY: William Dickinson
Secretary - Treasurer

Be a part of our:

Wellbeing pages, the first week of every month.

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

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

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RESOLUTION OF INTENT

TO ADOPT AND CHANGE CERTAIN RATES, FEES AND CHARGES

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Alexandria, Virginia Sanitation Authority d/b/a Alexandria Renew Enterprises, Inc., hereby signifies its intent to change certain rates, fees and charges to become effective July 1, 2021 and hereby sets the date of Saturday, May 22, at 9:30 a.m. for a public hearing to receive comment regarding same. Due to Covid-19 pandemic emergency, the May 22 public hearing will be held electronically pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3708.2(A)(3), the Continuity of Government ordinance adopted by the City Council on June 20, 2020 and/or Section 4.0.00(g) in HB29 and HB30 to undertake essential business.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chief Executive Officer is hereby directed to have published in a newspaper having general circulation in the City of Alexandria, for two consecutive weeks, notice of the proposed change in the schedule of rates, fees and charges and the day and time of the public hearing.

The proposed rates, fees and charges are:

Description	Meter Size	Current Effective July 1, 2020	Proposed Effective July 1, 2021	Proposed Effective July 1, 2022
Individually Metered Residential Service - Wastewater Treatment Charge	All Meters	Per 1,000 Gallons \$8.13	Per 1,000 Gallons \$8.69	Per 1,000 Gallons \$9.26
Commercial Service - Wastewater Treatment Charge	All Meters	\$8.13	\$8.69	\$9.26

Description	Meter Size	Current Effective July 1, 2020	Proposed Effective July 1, 2021	Proposed Effective July 1, 2022
Residential Base Charge	All Meters	\$11.54	\$12.34	\$13.14
Commercial Base Charge	5/8"	\$34.63	\$37.02	\$39.42
	3/4"	\$34.63	\$37.02	\$39.42
	1"	\$86.59	\$92.55	\$98.55
	1-1/2"	\$173.17	\$185.10	\$197.10
	2"	\$277.08	\$296.16	\$315.36
	3"	\$519.52	\$555.30	\$591.30
	4"	\$865.87	\$925.50	\$985.50
	6"	\$1,731.74	\$1,851.00	\$1,971.00
	8"	\$2,770.79	\$2,961.60	\$3,153.60
Minimum Deposit Based on Meter Size		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Residential Customer Activation Fee		\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00

The new rates and charges shall be effective on July 1, 2021 and shall remain in effect thereafter until further revised. Any rates, fees or charges not revised herein shall remain in effect until further revised.

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Wanna Take A Chance?



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I'm sort of invoking Southwest Airlines here, but not exactly. What I am invoking are the incredible number of television and radio commercials for legal gambling sites and for car insurance. Both offer rewards while requiring payment upfront. In anecdotal fact, if it wasn't for these two entities advertising on television especially, and on radio to a lesser degree, the airwaves would be a lot less redundant. I'm so used to seeing Flo from Progressive, LiMu Emu and Doug from Liberty Mutual and all sorts of familiar characters from Geico that I am actually contemplating making an insurance inquiry. Together, these insurance companies in particular have combined to nearly beat me into insurance-quote submission. The last time I changed car insurance companies was after seeing a plane at the beach flying a banner for all of us who could see encouraging us to make a call. It was - for me, the last straw. I called the company the following week and was indeed rewarded for that call: hundreds in premium savings.

Likewise, DraftKings, Fanduel and BetMGM have combined to nearly entice me into entering their world of online, sportsbook betting. Unfortunately, I have a much better grasp of the jargon and issues addressed by car insurance advertisers (having been a Certified Financial Planner in my previous profession). With respect to the sportsbooks, even though I'm a long time "sports guy," and as such understand the nature and risks of anticipating a desired outcome, I've rarely ventured outside the lines. Those lines being an NFL most-winners pool held weekly in season at my wife Dina's former employer, a season-ending Super Bowl point-totals-at-end-of-each-quarter thing, and a yearly participation in the annual NCAA's "bracketology," (which I've actually won once).

But the modern sportsbook and even the individuals hired by the radio and television networks to discuss/albeit recommend the various "plays;" the over-under, the parlays and all the extra-special, apparent can't-miss,

opportunities for new/first-time bettors/gamblers hyped as if there really is nothing to lose by playing and only money to win, is all too much for me to process and understand. After listening to all the noise, I really feel a need to take a class to protect myself from simply losing/throwing money away because I think I understand, but likely understand very little of the actual risk/reward dynamic. Certainly, I can appreciate the excitement of winning money at the expense of others, but as most would attest, at the very least; expecting outcomes will satisfy your financial needs is a slippery slope at best and a rabbit hole at worst (why else the "If you become afflicted to gambling" advisories on all the advertisements).

The car insurance companies are certain we all want to save money on such necessary got-to-haves like car insurance. And the sportsbooks are betting (pun intended) that we all want to find free money and are not opposed to taking a chance to get it. A chance which if successful, might actually provide the extra money needed to pay their car insurance premiums. I fear however, that once dipping my wallet into the gambling waters, and win a little, but likely lose more, it might be difficult to extract myself from their figurative clutches. The car insurance companies are sort of the same. They entice us by advertising lower prices then hope to retain customers by offering various other incentives such as "accident forgiveness," "vanishing deductibles" and the like. In effect, they're both trying to bait us and hope we don't switch. Their motivation is quite similar: they want our money and they want us beholden to them. It's not ideal, but it sure is prevalent. In each instance, you're "betting" money on an outcome which is totally out of your control: predicting scores and predicting whether you'll have a car accident or not. Whose to know? Not me. In addition, I've grown weary - and skeptical of the never-ending pursuit of my dollars. Besides, I got out of the predicting business as soon as I received my "terminal" cancer diagnosis in late Feb., 2009.

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

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NEWS



Official ribbon cutting last October for addition of new parkland at Pohick Bay.

Earth Day – Then and Now

Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority is steward of more than 12,000 acres of parkland.

BY PAUL GILBERT
NOVA PARKS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Fifty-one years ago, in 1970, the first Earth Day took place on April 22nd.

The issues of that time were quite different than what we face today. In 1970 our nation was awash in pollution. In 1969 the Cuyahoga River in Ohio caught fire due to so much oil and chemicals on the surface. The same year there was a large oil rig spill off the coast of California. A new report at the time documented the endangered Bald Eagle and the impact of DDT pesticide on the eagle and other species. American cities were choked with high levels of lead smog from cars and trucks, and litter was everywhere.

Today, we have addressed many of these issues, and new ones face us. The EPA was established in 1969, and pollution has improved dramatically. DDT was banned, and species like the Bald Eagle have recovered. Lead was removed from gasoline, and our air is much cleaner, and litter is not the problem it was decades ago. All of this has meant better health for people and nature. So, let's take a moment and appreciate the great work that has been accomplished!

Today, while our rivers are not on fire, and we breathe and eat fewer toxins, our challenges are still great. Global warming is the central environmental issue of our generation.

The global average temperature in March 2020 was over 2 degrees higher than the average for the 20th Century, and this trend is growing. The results are more extreme storms, wildfires, hurricanes, and more. And the cause is too much carbon in the atmosphere. The solution has two sides: reducing the use of fossil fuels and the expansion of natural areas that absorb carbon.

At NOVA Parks, we have been doing what we can to address both sides of the carbon issue for some time. Since 2007 NOVA Parks

has tracked every gallon of gas and kilowatt of electricity consumed and converting it to carbon. Many investments have been made to improve energy efficiency. In 2018 NOVA Parks completed its second new building with a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold certification. The new Jean R. Packard Building features recycled building materials, cutting edge stormwater, HVAC, and lighting, and even has solar panels on the roof.

But the most significant contribution the regional park system has made to address the causes of global warming is the expansion of protected forested parkland. As the region's original conservation organization, by 1970, NOVA Parks had already assembled 3,600 acres of parkland. With new parkland acquisitions almost every year, the Regional Park system is currently up to 12,200 acres, including 37 acres of waterfront land in Fairfax County added over just the last year and 600 acres of managed parkland added in Loudoun County in 2018. Over 85% of the Regional park system is in a natural, mostly forested condition. This level of forested land absorbs 15,000 tons of carbon from our air per year! Forests are the air filters of our region, absorbing carbon and releasing fresh oxygen.

Environmental leaders fifty years ago did a remarkable job of cleaning up pollution and toxins in our environment, making the world a healthier place to be today. Our collective job moving forward is to address the carbon in our atmosphere that is driving global warming. We must all look for ways to use fewer fossil fuels, and at the same time, recognize that parkland is more than just a fun place to visit, but is actually vitally important to absorbing the carbon in our air. The progress of yesterday gives hope that the challenges of today can be addressed with focused effort.

<https://www.novaparks.com/parks/map-view>

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OPEN SAT 4/24, 1-4 & SUN 4/25, 2-4

Fairfax | \$899,000

Nestled in the Lee Manor neighborhood, this 4-bedroom, 3-bathroom home is perfectly updated with subtle beautiful details. Charming white brick on the outside and a lovely manicured yard and landscaping! 2849 Maple Lane
Jillian Keck Hogan 703.951.7655
www.JillianKeckHogan.com



OPEN SAT 4/24, 1-3 & SUN 4/25, 12-2

Annandale | \$649,000

Beautiful brick home inside the beltway featuring 3+ bedrooms and 3 full bathrooms. Hardwood floors on the main floor along with a modern kitchen. Plenty of storage downstairs with a separate back entrance to a large, flat, fenced backyard. 7716 Royston Street
Ayana Brickhouse 703.718.6344
www.ABrickhouseRealtor.com



OPEN SUN 4/25, 2-4PM

North Springfield | \$574,900

Charming & bright 4-bedroom, 1.5-bath split level home with attached garage. Features wood floors, wood-burning fireplace, fresh paint throughout & recently renovated baths. Situated on a spacious, flat, fenced lot with an expansive deck. 7415 Dunston St.
Wendy Santantonio 703.625.8802
www.WendySantantonio.com



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