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Alexandria City Council voted May 5 to eliminate School Resource Officers from T.C. Williams High School, Francis Hammond Middle School and George Washington Middle School.

Council Approves 2022 Budget SROs removed against ACPS recommendation.

By Jeanne Theismann Gazette Packet

he Alexandria City Council formally approved City Manager Mark Jinks' proposed \$770.7 million operating budget for 2022, which eliminates funding for School Resource Officers in Alexandria City Public Schools.

Council voted 4-3 to approve Councilman Mo Seifeldein's controversial proposal to reallocate \$789,909 for SRO funding to add mental health resources to ACPS, support staff to the Teen Wellness Center, and hire an additional Behavioral Health Specialist to the Alexandria Crisis Intervention program.

The decision comes after months of debate, including a recommendation to Council by ACPS to maintain the program.

"We respect the City Council's decision and will be working with our team to continue to maintain a safe and secure environment for students and staff," said ACPS spokeswoman Julia Burgos in a statement.

The Alexandria SRO program was launched in response to the 1994 federal crime bill established under President Bill Clinton.

John Porter, who was principal of T.C. Williams High School at that time, condemned the decision by City Council to eliminate the

N SRO program.

"Disappointed doesn't accurately describe my feelings regarding your decision to defund the School Resource Officers program," said Porter in an email following the May 5 vote. "I believe you have made a major mistake in relation to the safety/security of students and staff as well as having taken a major step backwards in advancing police-community relations."

Seifeldein maintained that the removal of SROs from ACPS schools is the best decision for Alexandria students.

"Restorative solutions such as funding mental health programs will produce positive outcomes for our children," Seifeldein said in a statement. "We hope to send a clear message to the parents of the children in our community that we are serious about dealing with the myriad of social, psychological and emotional issues their children face through the prioritization of adequate mental health programs."

In addition to Seifeldein, Vice Mayor Elizabeth Bennett-Parker, Councilman John Taylor Chapman and Councilman Canek Aguirre voted in favor of removing the six SROs currently assigned to T.C. Williams High School, Francis Hammond Middle School and George Washington Middle School.

ACPS Vice Chair Veronica Nolan was disappointed in the decision to

eliminate the SRO program.

"Our partnership with APD has long been established as a tool that promoted school safety, student support services, mentorship and was a successful deterrent to discipline situations," Nolan said in a statement. "Council has made a decision that frankly their backgrounds don't qualify them to understand the ramifications of their actions."

According to Police Chief Michael Brown, SROs undergo special 40-hour training through the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services to learn how to respond to school shootings and interact with students in distress. The current SROs will be reassigned within the department.

The SRO program is funded through the police department's budget, leaving ACPS, with an enrollment of 16,000 students, unable to reallocate resources to maintain the program.

Porter, in challenging Council's decision, questioned the continuation of a police presence at City Hall.

"I expect you will now be discontinuing the presence of police officers at City Council and other city meetings," said Porter in his email to Council. "If such presence is not needed for those attending and working in our schools, it certainly can't be warranted for Council and those who attend city meetings."

Following the Money City Council candidates raise money from friends and supporters.

By Michael Pope GAZETTE PACKET

Former Mayor Bill Euille says one of the first things he did in his first campaign for City Council in 1994 was grab a copy of the student directory from Quinnipiac University, where he graduated in 1972. He started reaching out to old friends, relatives, classmates, professors, doctors, dentists — anyone and everyone he could think of who might be willing to write a check to help him get elected. In the

popular imagination, the people who finance City Council campaigns might be fat-cat developers or people with interest at City Hall — and certainly there have been examples of that. But a review of camfinance paign records from the Democratic primary shows most of the high-dollar donors are people with personal relationships to the candidates. "I always tell

folks to call on your family members and personal friends first," said Euille. "Other donors are going to look

at your list, and if they see it's broad-based they'll donate to you. But if they see it's limited they're going to be skeptical about your chances of winning."

Running a campaign for the Alexandria City Council isn't cheap. Euille says he often advises potential candidates they'll need to raise \$20,000 to \$30,000 just to get through the primary and then twice that for the general election. Raising that kind of money takes personal and professional connections, a Rolodex full of names and a stack of business cards. Sometimes candidates finance their own campaigns. Other times they have wealthy relatives. Most of the time they depend on a network of people who are friends and associates.

"I know this sounds like hearts and flowers, but most of the people who

give to these campaigns are truly people who care about the city," said Susan Kellom, former c h a i r w o m a n of the Alexandria Democrat-Committee. ic "It's not that they're looking for something to advance themselves personally, most of the time these are personal friends who really want the person to get elected."

The candidate who raised the most money is Kirk McPike, who has more than a decade of fundraising experience working on campaigns across the coun-

try. He's perhaps best known in Alexandria for running the successful primary campaign of Sen. Adam Ebbin (D-30) in 2011, a fiercely competitive race against then-Councilman Rob Krupicka and then-Arlington School Board Chairwoman

See Following, on Page 3

"I know this sounds like hearts and flowers, but most of the people who give to these campaigns are truly people who care about the city."

— Susan Kellom, former chairwoman of the Alexandria Democratic Committee McEnearney Associates has always had one motto in mind... not to be the biggest, but the best. For more than 40 years, our Associates have lived in and supported Alexandria, helping to build our town into the thriving community it is today. To learn more about our Associates and our firm, visit www.WeAreAlexandria.com



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♦ Alexandria Gazette Packet ♦ May 27 - June 2, 2021 2

Buttigieg Visits National Airport to Discuss Immigration

n the heels of the Biden administration's decision to redesignate Haiti for Temporary Protected Status (TPS), U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg and Mary Kay Henry, International President of the two million-member Service Employees International Union (SEIU) held an immigration roundtable discussion on Tuesday with 32BJ SEIU's airport workers at National Airport (DCA).

Many of the workers from Washington D.C., Philadelphia, New York City, Fort Lauderdale, and Newark, NJ, have TPS, which allows immigrants fleeing civil strife and natural disaster to live and work in the U.S. legally without fear of deportation. SEIU may have as many as 20,000 members with TPS, many of whom have lived here for decades.

Kwaku Agyeman is a 64-year-

lives in Alexandria with his wife and daughter who just graduated college. Since then, Kwaku has worked as a contracted wheelchair agent at D.C. National Airport, Ha's a

old green card holder who came

from Ghana eight years ago and

at D.C. National Airport. He's a 32BJ SEIU member leader who helped his coworkers win their first-ever living wage through the airport authority (MWAA) in April of 2017.

Kwaku hopes to be able to retire and buy a home. However, the pandemic reduced his hours so dramatically that he worried about his family becoming homeless. Kwaku and his family had to cut back in order to focus on paying rent and making sure they had food to eat. He's now leading an effort to help his coworkers push MWAA to adopt a paid sick leave policy.

"Ten years ago, we started our



Kwaku Agyeman, an Alexandria resident, talked to U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg about airport workers' fight for paid sick leave and health care from MWAA.

Following the Money

From Page 1

Libby Garvey. McPike has also run campaigns for Congress in California and sheriff in Texas, so he had a professional advantage over first-time candidates who were learning about this for the first time.

"Political fundraising is a large part of my career and has been ever since I graduated from college," said McPike. "A lot of my friends and my professional contacts are people who understand the importance of early contributions to political campaigns, which was certainly an advantage when I was telling my friends and former colleagues that I was running."

TOP CONTRIBUTORS

Kirk McPike

- \$2,021 from Kellye Rogers, Capital One
- \$1,500 from Cragg Hines of Arlington \$1,020 from Kirk McPike, United States
- House of Representatives

\$1,000 from DNC PAC

\$1,000 from Sen. Adam Ebbin (D-30)

John Chapman

\$3,500 from Reginald James Brown, attorney at WilmerHale \$2,500 from Danielle Romanetti, owner of fibre space \$1,700 from John Chapman, Fairfax County Public Schools \$1,700 from Rob Krupicka, Sugar Shack Donuts \$1,000 from Senate Majority Leader Dick Saslaw

Alyia Gaskins

\$2,000 from Jabaal Sheard, New York Giants



source: Virginia Public Access Project

\$1,000 from Verna Gaskins,
York City School District
\$1,000 from Sarah Hansell
of Marco Island, Fla.
\$1,000 from Jonathan Jefferson,
HCA Healthcare
\$1,000 from Brooke Syndor Curran,
RunningBrooke

Canek Aguirre

\$2,500 from Thomson Hirst,
Mason Hirst commercial real estate
\$2,000 from Lillian Vagnoni,
Alexandria social worker
\$1,000 from Alexandria Justice PAC
\$1,000 from Senate Majority
Leader Dick Saslaw
\$750 from Councilwoman Del Pepper

\$2,500 from Reginald James Brown, attorney at WilmerHale
\$2,500 from Mark Williams, attorney at Morgan Lewis
\$1,000 from Anne Bigay Ridenhour of Alexandria
\$1,000 from Senate Majority Leader Dick Saslaw
\$750 from John Kling II, dentist

Sarah Bagley

Amy Jackson

\$1,510 from Sarah Bagley,
Chisom Housing Group
\$1,250 from Lindsay Spalding-Steven,
insurance agent
\$680 from Searles Bagley of Chesapeake
\$500 from Sherry Fardie of Wolcott, Colo.

organizing efforts at the airports with a big dream: for every worker to have a living wage, benefits, and the vital protections that come with a union," said Kyle Bragg, 32BJ SEIU President. "At airports up and down the east coast, we met workers who were drowning in medical debt. We met men who were working three jobs and were still homeless. We met mothers who were trying to feed two kids on \$7-8 per hour."

"Our airport members are overwhelmingly immigrants from Africa, Haiti and Latin American, many with Temporary Protected Status (TPS). ... That's why we're fighting for benefits like sick days and healthcare here at DCA and at Dulles to truly keep workers and our airports safe."

Bragg added that it is critical for these workers to have a path to citizenship.

\$500 from Christine West, Military Officers Association of America

James Lewis

\$5,000 from Mark Williams, attorney at Morgan Lewis \$1,000 from George Demetriades Jr., Redfront LLC \$1,000 from John Heflin, attorney at Wilkinson Barker Knauer \$1,000 from Senate Majority Leader Dick Saslaw \$500, from Charles Matthew Bright, GW Medical Faculty Associates

Bill Rossello

\$5,000 from Mark Williams, attorney at Morgan Lewis \$2,000 from Nancy Jennings, cybersecurity defense contractor CACI \$2,000 from Brian Murphy, Navigators \$1,000 from George Demetriades Jr., Redfront LLC \$1,000 from Anne Bigay Ridenhour of Alexandria

Bill Campbell

\$500 from William Cromley, real-estate developer \$250 from Raymond Farr, JPMorgan Chase \$250 from Gene Rossi, attorney at Carlton Fields \$200 from Charles Wilson, financial advisor at Davis & Davis

Patrick Moran

\$5,000 from former U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8)

Wolcott, Colo. See Following, Page 6 Alexandria Gazette Packet & May 27 - June 2, 2021 & 3

City Council Campaign Finance

Remembering Rose Berler Longtime civic activist dies at 95.

By Jeanne Theismann Gazette Packet

ardening was a passion for Rose Berler, who won numerous awards for the Lincolnia Hills garden she first began tending in 1958. Over the years, she extended her passion to many civic organizations, leaving behind a lasting impact across the city. On May 19, the energetic nonagenarian died in Lewes, Del., after suffering a stroke. She was 95 years old.

"Rose and her husband were original owners in Lincolnia Hills and many a time way back when I walked by her house to find her outside tending to her garden," said Sylvia Alimena in an online tribute. "I was happy to see her most recently just a few weeks ago where she was once again happily tending her garden and cleaning the debris from the street. She was quite proud that she was still doing these things at 95. Her presence will be missed by me and the entire neighborhood who knew her."

Rose Enevoldsen Berler, known to her family as Rosie, was born Jan. 7, 1926 in Norfolk, Va. Following high school, she attended the Sinai Hospital School of Nursing in Baltimore and won a pediatric scholarship to attend Catholic University's School of Nursing Education.

In 1949, she married Seymour Berler, a physicist whose work with the Defense Intelligence Agency brought the couple to Alexandria where together they raised three children. Berler was a founding member and secretary of the Lincolnia Hills Civic Association and served as president of the T.C. Williams Parent Teachers Student Association from 1974-75.

Berler served on the Board of Directors of Alexandria Hospital Corporation, later Alexandria Health Services Corporation, from 1978 to 1997, including serving a term as



Rose Berler, a 2014 Living Legend of Alexandria, died May 19 at the age of 95.

its chair, the first woman and nurse to do so. She served on the Alexandria Youth Services Commission and the Advisory Committee for Adolescent Health Clinics. From 2000 to 2014, she served as chair of the Alexandria Schools Health Advisory Board and was recognized by the School Board in 2013 for her years of service.

Berler was a long-time member of the

League of Women Voters of Alexandria, serving as president for two terms from 1970 – 1973 and again from 1977-78. She also was chair of the Alexandria United Way and a member of their Campaign Cabinet in the late 1970s. She was involved with the Senior Citizens Employment and Services (now Senior Services of Alexandria) from 1968–79 and served on its board of directors

"When you get involved, something good always comes out of it."

--- Rose Berler when named as a Living Legend of Alexandria in 2014

in 1978–79.

In 1978, Berler became the first woman appointed to the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority, serving for nine years. In this role, she worked to ensure safe living conditions for women and children in public housing. She was also the commissioner and first woman appointed to the Virginia Housing Development Authority, serving between 1980 and 1984, as well as a member of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials.

Berler was honored with the George Washington Citizenship Award from the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce in 1975 and was the recipient of the Marguerite Payez Leadership Award from the Alexandria Commission on the Status of Women in 1994.

In 2014, Berler was named a Living Legend of Alexandria, saying at the time, "when you get involved, something good always comes out of it. So many people need help."

Berler was predeceased by her husband in 1991. She is survived by children Anne Berler of Myrtle Beach, S.C.; Joan Berler of Alexandria; and Daniel Berler of Washington, D.C.; a sister, Edith Offenhartz of Canton, Conn., and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held May 24 with interment at Ivy Hill Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the League of Women Voters. https://www.lwv. org/

Play Ball! Aces return as Fannon takes ownership.

By Jeanne Theismann Gazette Packet

S ummer baseball is back as the Alexandria Aces return for their 13th season as part of the Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League. Following a COVID-canceled 2020 season, the team returns with Chris Berset of the Cincinnati Reds organization as head coach and new owner Frank Fannon taking the reins from team founder Donald Dinan.

"I'm very excited about this opportunity," said Fannon following team practice at Frank Mann Field May 15. "I grew up a big baseball fan. As a kid 40 years ago, I came here to watch the Alexandria Dukes, a member of the Carolina League, play their games."

As part of the Cal Ripken League, majority owner of the Looking on are front of Major 4 ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE PACKET AMAY 27 - JUNE 2, 2021



Donald Dinan, right, congratulations Frank Fannon as the new majority owner of the Alexandria Aces May 15 at Frank Mann Field. Looking on are front office staff Mitch Wasserman and Zach Miller. MAY 27 - JUNE 2, 2021

League Baseball and professional scouts regularly attend games to recruit players for the MLB draft. Eight Cal Ripken League alumni, including Gio Diaz of the Washington Nationals, signed free agent contracts with MLB teams in 2020.

"We formed the team in 2006 with our first season in 2008," said team founder Donald Dinan. "Frank has been on the board since day one and due to a lot of reasons, I decided it was time for me to step back and let the next group take over and that's Frank."

Aidan Lansburgh, a senior at West Potomac High School, is part of the front office staff.

"I'll be overlooking ticketing, concessions, the broadcast team and social media team," Lansburgh said. "I plan to go into sports management in college and thought this would be a good launching

pad."

The Aces team is comprised of college baseball players from around the country that live with host families in Alexandria and play a 40-game season in June and July. All games are played at Frank Mann Field behind Cora Kelly Elementary School. Admission is \$5 and tickets are available at the gate. Local restaurants will cater food for concessions.

Mitch Wasserman, a sports and recreation junior at James Madison University, is also part of the front office staff.

"I do whatever needs to be done, whether it is game day marketing or sponsorships," Wasserman said. "This is the field I would like to go into but it's hard to get some experience."

See Play Ball!, Page 14 www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

First Master Gardener To Receive Environmental Award

By Shirley Ruhe Gazette Packet

oyce Hylton received the City of Alexandria Ellen Pickering Environmental Service Award Tuesday, May 11 at the virtual City Council Legislative meeting. This award recognizes members of the Alexandria community who demonstrate a commitment to protecting the environment and preserving local natural resources.

Hylton was nominated "as a significantly effective volunteer with Virginia Cooperative Extension."

Hylton has served as an Extension Master Gardener for 21 years where she has shared environmental landscape practices through two programs a year on Composting Practices, particularly significant in Alexandria's solid waste reduction efforts. She is also the in-house expert on Turf Management and Weed identification focusing on another area important in Alexandria — the reduction of pesticides and excessive use of fertilizers.

During the challenges posed by the pandemic, she transitioned the Extension Gardener Help Desk from in-person lab-based to an online remote access outreach available to all Alexandrians and is also engaged in training new volunteers in the many functions of the help desk.

The Ellen Pickering Environmental Excellence

See First Master Gardener, Page 14



Joyce Hylton, recipient of Ellen Pickering Environmental Service Award.



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OPINION

Mental Health: A Home for Healing

By Lorraine Johnson Volunteer, Artist, Pathway Homes' Client

t's Mental Health Awareness Month — a time when we work to remove stigmas around discussing mental illness. Putting a face on mental health is part of helping create acceptance. That's why I want to share my story.

For years, I was chronically in and out of hospitals. It was a struggle to be on my own or stay in one place for long. I was also homeless for periods of time. When I was homeless, I had a heightened sense of panic and overwhelming fear especially because I could have been harmed. I had to worry about the weather, where I would bathe, what I would eat and where I would sleep. When you are on the



streets, you feel like nobody cares about you — that you are a nobody.

That all changed 20 years ago when a woman told me about four housing programs, so I applied. Pathway Homes, a behavioral healthcare nonprofit, offered me housing. That's when my life stabilized. Having a home is the greatest thing that has ever happened to me. I wake up every day full of hope. I feel a sense of community and my neighbors are respectful of my privacy. I feel safe in my apartment as opposed to being out on the street.

Now that I have a home, I do not have that intense terror. Since I have my own home, I can shut the door and be safe in my surroundings. I can play music, read, watch TV, cook food and sleep in a comfortable bed. With the security of a home, I am able to create art, journal, write songs, read, and study my Bible. Having a home also enables me to concentrate on my mental health treatment. When I wake up in the morning, I am excited about my life and have a sense of optimism. Even though I have challenges with schizophrenia, I still feel hopeful and am not

suicidal anymore.

Having a home makes me feel like somebody. I walk around with my head held high and my shoulders back.

My confidence has led to incredible opportunities. Since I am an artist, I sent several pieces of art to President Obama. The White House sent me a commemorative picture of the White House dogs, Sunny and Bo, on the White House lawn balcony. Additionally, President Obama sent me a Humanitarian Award because I volunteered to many nonprofits. I also speak for several nonprofits that have helped me.

Pathway Homes has been a blessing, helping me heal. My desire is that everybody living with a mental illness have a home and feel like a somebody. After all, my name is Lorraine. I am a someone with mental health challenges, and I am a somebody. It started with having a home.

phones to pay for parking.

As a candidate for City Coun-

cil in 2000, I proposed a building

moratorium. Even then, it was evi-

dent that development was getting

out of hand. Densification for its

own sake contributes to our fiscal

and social problems, and reduces

the overall livability and historic

charm of our city. Vote smartly, Al-

j/83848393981?pwd=NjQwal-

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SATURDAY/MAY 29

J2c1RNeCtJcDZGbTY0MTZXZz09.

tion to yoga, the "equipment," and

See Bulletin, Page 14

basic poses in a relaxed, outdoor

Van Fleet

Alexandria

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Voting for City Council: Some Advice

Dear Editor:

When Alexandria voters go to the polls on June 8, they must vote for members of the City Council who have contributed favorably to our overall welfare. An example of this is that four City Council Members voted to eliminate the School Resource Officer's Program. The Resource Officers often serve as educators, emergency managers, and informal counselors. This program was instrumental in providing school security, and resembles what one would expect from a successful mentor program, wherein the students learn that law and order is not a pejorative issue. The four dissenters should find other work, since school safety and security is not a priority with them.

Another serious issue is that City Council members who continue to vote for even more density should not be reelected. As the most dense city in Virginia (and within the top five nationally), the Council needs to carefully consider the overall impact of every proposed development that increases this density, lest we become a Manhattan on the Potomac. We have reduced considerably the ambiance of the waterfront by erecting massive buildings that exceed the boundaries of what has been zoned. Also, visitors find it almost impossible to locate a parking place, and when they do, not everyone uses cell

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

SAFEWAY OFFERS WALK-IN VACCINATIONS Safeway Pharmacy in Alexandria is

offering free Pfizer ad J&J-Janssen Covid vacations in May and June at 7451 Mount Vernon Square Ctr., Alexandria. Everyone can receive the vaccine regardless of

BULLETIN BOARD

insurance coverage or immigration status, including individuals who are undocumented. This store was closed. There are bars on the doors, however, the doors open, and the clinic will be open to the public Thursdays and Fridays from 2 p.m. until 6 p.m. Saturdays from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m.

THURSDAY/MAY 27

Mayoral Candidates Forum. 7-8 p.m. Featuring Candidates Allison Silberberg and Justin Wilson. Sponsored by the Seminary Ridge Civic Association. Click the link below to join the webinar: https://us02web.zoom.us/

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Following the Money

From Page 3

\$960 from Jeff Franzen,
Lincoln Property Co
\$960 from Terry Lierman,
Summit Global Ventures
\$480 from Peter Lawson,
Ford Motor Company
\$240 from Benjamin Basloe,
Sjogrens Foundation

Kevin Harris

\$5,000 from Warith Deen, Niagara Gold and Silver \$960 from Dan Brendel, Coast News in Oceanside, Calif. \$480 from Brian Wendroff, Wendroff CPA

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© Money \$240 from Edward Wendling, Advanced Solutions International

Meronne Teklu

\$1,000 from Nini Legesse, United States Patent Trade Office \$500 from Zena Ayalew, Department of Health and Human Services \$500 from Alexander Teklu of Springfield \$500 from Nitirwork Armstrong of Silver Spring, Md. \$250 from Jonathan Krall, Naval Research Laboratory

* fundraising numbers are from before March 31

John Warner, Former Secretary of the Navy, United States Senator from Virginia, Dies

Sharing official statements on the life of John Warner.

MARK WARNER

S. Sen. Mark R. Warner (D-VA), Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, released the following statement regarding the passing of former Secretary of the Navy and United States Senator from Virginia John Warner (no relation), who held the seat Warner now holds from 1979 to 2009:

"John Warner was a consummate statesman and a public servant who always put Virginia before politics; who put the nation's security before partisanship; who put the country's needs above his own.

"John Warner and I ran against each other back in 1996. I've often said since that the right Warner won that race. And one way that I know that is that even though we came from different political parties – even though we ran spirited, albeit respectful, campaigns that year – as soon as the election was called, it was over. And even though John Warner was already a towering institution in Virginia politics, and I was just some young upstart, he allowed me to become his friend. I felt then, as I do today, incredibly privileged.

"Later, when I became Governor of Virginia, anytime I had to ask folks to take a tough stand in order to do what was right for Virginia, John Warner was always right there, volunteering to put his name and his credibility on the line, because that's who he was.

"When John retired from the Senate in 2009, he was able to do so with satisfaction at a job well done, and I was blessed to take his place in the Senate. But truthfully, John's service to our country never ended; he remained an active participant in public affairs. He was always available with a keen ear, sound judgment, good humor and a few words of encouragement and advice. The last time I saw him just a few weeks ago, he was full of questions about the latest in the Senate and in Virginia.

"In Virginia, we expect a lot of our elected officials. We expect them to lead, yet remain humble. We expect them to serve, but with dignity. We expect them to fight for what they believe in, but without making it personal. John Warner was the embodiment of all that and more. I firmly believe that we could use more role models like him today.

There's little I'm prouder of than the fact that he twice endorsed me for re-election.

"I will dearly miss having John's counsel and wisdom to call upon in the years ahead. But more than that, I will miss his friendship, because I loved him. My deepest condolences go out to his children and his entire family, especially his devoted wife of many years, Jeanne."

TIM KAINE

U.S. Senator Tim Kaine released the following statement today on the passing of former U.S. Senator John Warner:

"I am stunned at the loss of John Warner. Virginia has lost an unmatched leader, and my family has lost a dear friend.

"John Warner and my father-inlaw, Linwood Holton, interrupted their college studies to join the Navy during World War II. Each served in the Pacific theatre, and they met when they returned to Washington and Lee at the close of the war. Their fraternity brother days started a friendship that lasted 75 years. Lin and John worked together, built the Virginia Republican Party from irrelevance into a formidable force, competed against one another in the 1978 Virginia Senate race, and always found time for new projects and humorous reminiscence.

"When I married Anne in 1984, I entered the large circle of John's friends. From his thirty-year post in the Senate, he helped me as Mayor and Governor again and again. In particular, I will never forget his advocacy that helped save the Metro Silver Line from the brink of extinction. His advice on matters large and small (mostly solicited but occasionally offered even though I hadn't asked!) was always farsighted, patriotic, and delivered in pithy and memorable phrases.

"Once I came to the Senate, I

See John Warner, Page 10



OBITUARY

Steve Gresham Noted architect, community leader dies at 70.

By Jeanne Theismann Gazette Packet

teve Gresham was known for many things: his intellect, his wit, his love of classic rock and the vast collection of his trademark bow ties. But the renowned architect and community leader was also a private man, rarely letting on to even his closest friends that he had his pilot's license, was a member of Mensa, and in the midst of the pandemic, that he had been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. On April 29, Gresham died following a year-long battle with the disease. He was 70 years old.

"Steve had just one request of me for his memorial," said Sally Gresham, his wife of nearly 47 years. "He wanted people to know that he loved his wife and family dearly and from time to time tried to make the world a better place."

Stephen Wells Gresham was born Jan. 19, 1951, in Norfolk, Va., to Wells Gresham and Jane McMurren Gresham. He attended the University of Virginia, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in

"Steve was loyal to a fault to the people, places and things he cared for. I was blessed to be one of those people."

— Dan Meacham, longtime friend of Steve Gresham

Architecture in 1974. He began his career at Baskervill, one of the nation's oldest architectural firms, in Richmond, before earning a Master of Architecture from Georgia Institute of Technology in 1979. Gresham received his Executive Master of Business Administration from Georgia State University in 1988.

"I last sat with Steve in his home on April 17," said fellow Georgia Tech classmate and friend Kevin Cantley. "We remembered fondly our four decades together and he told me how much he hoped that the places he had the opportunity to touch were left better than before he touched them. I assured him just how many lives had been touched and changed because of him."

Gresham was a partner and to be awarded LEED Pla 8 & Alexandria Gazette Packet & May 27 - June 2, 2021



Renowned architect Steve Gresham died April 29 at the age of 70.



Steve and Sally Gresham on their wedding day in July of 1974.



founder of the Washington, D.C. office of Niles Bolton Associates, where he served for 38 years. As Principal-in-Charge, he led The Blair Towns in Silver Spring, Md., the first LEED Certified multifamily project in the country, and The Trellis House, the first LEED for Homes Multifamily Midrise project to be awarded LEED Platinum Cer-MAY 27 - JUNE 2, 2021 tification in Washington, D.C.

Gresham lectured on various architectural-related subjects and testified at Congressional subcommittee hearings on the Construction Safety, Health & Education Improvement Acts of 1990 and 1991.

As a community leader, Gresham SEE STEVE GRESHAM, PAGE 10



Steve Gresham, left, with wife Sally, son Christopher, daughter-inlaw Morganne and grandson Emerson.



Steve and Sally Gresham were married for 46 years.

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Senior Living

Just Can't Wait to Get Back on the Road Again

Vaccinated Seniors plan vacations, trips to reunite with family.

> By Marilyn Campbell Gazette Packet

S ifting through photos of rafting trips through Labyrinth Canyon on the tranquil waters of the Green River and hiking in the Needles district of Utah's Canyonlands National Park, Arlene Richter recalls her past travels as she begins planning for new adventures. The adventure-loving Bethesda mother of two adult children is fully vaccinated and ready for her next trip.

"Travel is a great way to explore," said Richter. "I'm always curious and love to learn about the world and people."

Now that nearly 85 percent of those 65 and older in Montgomery County and almost 70 percent in Fairfax County, Arlington County and Alexandria are fully vaccinated against COVID-19, seniors such as Richter have less trepidation about resuming their travels. From trips to visit children and grandchildren to hiking in national parks, after a one year or more of near confinement because of their high risk due to the pandemic, seniors are ready to travel.

Travel advisors and tour companies have seen a dramatic uptick in requests of seniors who are planning to travel.

"When vaccines became available, the number of calls to our call center doubled from February to March. Nearly all of the programs we're operating this summer are filled to capacity," said Chris Heppner, spokesperson for Road Scholar www.roadscholar.org, a not-forprofit educational travel organization for adults. "We require people to be fully vaccinated to participate. We have surveyed our participants and nearly 100

percent either have been vaccinated or plan to be." One of those seniors is 76-year-old Tanya Levine, a widow from Arlington. She's heading to Chicago in June to visit her daughter and grandchildren.

"It's been so hard not seeing my family in person and missing certain milestones," she said. "We're going to celebrate all of the birthday parties, baptisms and graduations that we missed during the pandemic. The thought of it all is so overwhelming. I'm beyond elated. I know that tears of joy will be flowing the entire trip."

Most vacation requests have tended to be stateside and popular destinations are those that offer outdoor adventure.

"While we wait for the international world to fully open, senior travelers are looking toward domestic www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



Travel enthusiast Arlene Richter, pictured here in the Needles district of Utah's Canyonlands National Park, is fully vaccinated and ready to resume her travels.

"The National Parks are, without doubt, incredibly popular. Seniors are incredibly excited and just want to get back out there and make up for lost time."

— Frank Marini

lost time."

travel and exploration of the West in areas like Utah, Colorado, and Wyoming," said Adrienne Saxton, a Falls Churchbased travel advisor and curator. "Domestic river cruises exploring the Mississippi, the Pacific Northwest and wine cruises are also high on the requests. These areas have been booking fast and furiously."

"The National Parks are, without doubt, incredibly popular for us," added Frank Marini, president of Amtrak Vacations. "Seniors are incredibly excited and just want to get back out there and make up for

Vienna couple Barrie and Jane Taylor became fully vaccinated in March and are heading to San Diego to visit their son, daughter-in-law and granddaughter who was born last November. Their family visit will be followed by a trip to Glacier National Park.

"This will be the first time meeting our granddaughter. Zoom calls can in no way make up for being able to hold her in our arms," said Jane. "My husband and I usually take four big trips a year and at least two of those are international. We won't leave the country this year and we'll still wear masks and practice social distancing."

The freedom to travel is one of the best rewards of being vaccinated, said Richter. "I've been all over the place and hope to continue going to new places."



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PRINT & DIGITAL



Steve Gresham

From Page 8

was active in the Rotary Club of Alexandria, where he served as President and Assistant Governor and received numerous chairman and special recognition awards at the club and district levels.

"I first met Steve in the early 1990s," said former Rotary District Governor Sandy Duckworth. "I was blown away by his ability to organize and cooperate with others to achieve a super outcome. It was abundantly clear that Steve believed and lived the Rotary motto of 'Service Above Self.' He was a leader and intricate member of every committee and project with which he was involved."

Gresham's design work ranged from country clubs to condominiums and senior housing projects. He opened the Alexandria office of Niles Bolton Associates in 1987.

"Steve joined the firm in 1982 and was employee number 15," said founder Niles Bolton of his longtime friend and partner. "Today we have more than 1,200 employees and Steve was instrumental in our company's growth. He worked on over 559 projects and assignments and loved being in the role of a counselor to his clients."

During a virtual memorial held May 22, friends and family shared their recollections of Gresham over the years.

"My first mistake with Steve was thinking I could match wits with him," said longtime colleague and friend Dan Meacham. "There was no subject too small, no subject too large, no conversation too short for Steve to contemplate in his studious and sarcastic fashion. Steve was loyal to a fault to the people, places and things he cared for. I was blessed to be one of those people." Gresham's widow recounted

their 67 years together.

"Steve and I have known each other since we were kids growing up in Norfolk," said Sally Gresham. "We have been best friends, cohorts, soul mates, lovers, and incredible life partners in our years together. He was kind, talented, humble, analytic, witty, and a loving husband, father, son, and

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grandfather."

Added their son Christopher, who goes by C'Pher, "My dad's dedication to his family was ever flowing and as unstoppable as the tides. He loved my mom so much – an amount that cannot be put into words – and he taught me to be kind, considerate, honorable and to live to the beat of my own drum."

Gresham is survived by Sally W. Gresham, his wife of 46 years; son, Christopher "C'Pher" Gresham; daughter-in-law, Morganne Rosenhaus; and grandson, Emerson Gresham. Additional survivors include his mother Jane Gresham, and sister Kathy Dungan. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Rotary Foundation [raise.rotary.org] or the Architecture School at the University of Virginia [givecampus.com].

"Up until the end he was unmovable, unflappable – a foundation of granite in our lives," C'pher Gresham added. "Remember him as a man of great integrity, a man that left the world a better place than how he found it."

complete for the

oast 17 years

703-999-2928

John Warner, Former Secretary of the Navy, United States Senator from Virginia, Dies

From Page **7**

understood even more deeply the influence of John Warner. I came to know John McCain, Carl Levin, and so many others who served with him and attested to his integrity and outsized influence in a body he loved so dearly. In particular, John's service in the Navy during World War II, as a Marine during the Korean War, and as Secretary of the Navy, made him a steady hand as Chair and Ranking Member of the Senate Armed Services Committee. And in this new chapter in my life, John's advice again became essential.

"I consider it a deep honor to represent Virginia on the Armed Services Committee as John did, and I often think of him during Armed Services deliberations, wondering how he would handle the dilemmas of the day. Shortly after I was elected to my first term, I asked John to lunch in the Senate Dining Room.

He hadn't been in many years. When he walked into the room, the place absolutely lit up, and a steady stream of Senators and Senate staff made a path to the table to visit with a person they loved so much.

"John and I once talked about how the Senate of today was more partisan and less relationship-based than during his years of service. But at the end of our conversation, he told me: 'But Tim, it's not in the water supply or sick building syndrome. It's in the character and priorities of the people who walk into the building every day.

So you have a chance to walk into the Capitol and make it better each day.'

"Not having John Warner to go to for advice leaves a big hole in my life. But we can all celebrate a public servant who stood on principle, made us proud, and exemplified the best of what politics can be.

"My condolences go out to Jeanne and the entire Warner family."

DON BEYER

U.S. Representative Don Beyer (D-VA) issued the following statement today on the passing of former U.S. Senator John Warner:

"John Warner was a great American who served his country in World War II, the Korean War, and as Navy Secretary, and served Virginia in the Senate for thirty years. I am proud to have been his friend, and he was instrumental in my career and in those of so many others. John's bipartisan spirit that put country and Commonwealth over party epitomizes what Virginians want in their leaders, and his fair mindedness and generosity were legend. He was a lovely man, and I will miss him."

Rep. Don Beyer (D-VA) served as Virginia's Lieutenant Governor from 1990-1998.

RALPH NORTHAM

Today Governor Ralph Northam released the following statement on the passing of former U.S. Senator John Warner:

"Virginia, and America, have lost a giant.

As a sailor, a senator, a statesman, and a gentleman, former U.S. Senator John Warner spent his life in public service. A World War II veteran of the Navy, he served as Secretary of the Navy, led the Senate Armed Services Committee, and was a respected voice in Washington on military affairs.

John helped build up his political party and always remained an independent voice.

He used that voice in the Senate to forge bipartisan compromise, knowing how and when to reach across the aisle. And he always put Virginia first.

John Warner truly was the best of what public service and elected leadership should be, and his loss leaves a deep void. Pam and I join the Commonwealth in mourning his death. Our prayers for comfort go out to his wife Jeanne, his three children, grandchildren, scores of friends, and all those who loved him."

In honor of Senator John Warner, Governor Northam ordered that the Virginia state flag be flown at half-staff over the Virginia Capitol on the day of his funeral.

GERRY CONNOLLY

Congressman Gerald E. Connolly (D-VA), released the following statement on the passing of former Senator John Warner:

"I am deeply saddened to learn of the passing of former Senator John Warner. He was a Gentleman who maintained civility in his politics in an era of rising intolerance. He was the go-to congressional contact to get things done when I was Fairfax County Chairman during the BRAC process and resisted extremist elements In his own party. He is missed."

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Animals are transferred from facilities throughout the East Coast and across the country to find homes in Alexandria.

Under treatment at the AWLA for numerous puncture wounds, Arthur enjoys cuddling with AWLA staff member Arianne Killen.

Animals From Across the Country Find Homes in Alexandria

By Barbara S. Moffet

ife wasn't full of hope for an eight-year-old shepherd mix known as Henry. Arriving as a stray at a shelter in Hardy County, W.Va., Henry had suffered from neglect most of his life. He tested positive for Lyme disease and severe anemia caused by worms, he had a baseball-sized tumor on his abdomen, dental disease and his nails were so long they had grown in circles.

But Henry's life was about to get much better. A rescue group known as Potomac Highlands Animal Rescue (PHAR), which regularly works with the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria (AWLA), saw a brighter future for him. In an arrangement with the West Virginia shelter, PHAR set him up with medical care and a stay in a local foster home. After learning about Henry, the AWLA agreed to take him.

Henry, who by then was known as Henry IV, proved to be a laidback resident of the AWLA, serving for a while as an "office dog," but he didn't languish at the shelter. "Henry was adopted by a wonderful family who contacted me and said he is the most perfect, docile boy," recalls Chestina Merriner, a longtime PHAR volunteer who had "recruited" Henry at the county facility.

PHAR is one of several groups the AWLA works with to help animals beyond Alexandria — in southern Virginia, West Virginia and other regions of the country where animals' chances for adoption are slim. Many of the partner www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



Henry, transferred to the AWLA by a West Virginia-based rescue group, relaxes at the shelter before his adoption.

facilities lack onsite veterinarians, surgical capabilities and other resources to cope with homeless animals, especially those who come in sick or injured. They find that working with the AWLA can be the perfect solution. "We have such a pet-friendly community here," said AWLA Transfer and Training Coordinator Erin Short. "A lot of people are willing to open their homes to give these animals a chance. And our team does a great job of match-making."

The AWLA has begun regularly working with more shelters and rescues, including the Rockingham-Harrisonburg (Va.) SPCA; the Humane Society of Raleigh County (W.Va.); Save a Dog, Save a Cat and; most recently, the Foxie G Foundation in Maryland. The AWLA routinely takes in animals from Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia delivered by a rescue group called One by One Animal Advocates and even receives animals from Florida's Miami Dade area from True & Faith Pet Rescue Mission. The AWLA also has sheltered animals by the dozen from across the country in the wake of hurricanes and other natural disasters.

In February, AWLA volunteers modified a van to retrieve 50 cats who were refugees from the severe ice storms in Texas, and brought half of them back to the AWLA shelter for adoption. Each cat had small food and water dishes in their carrier, along with a tiny litter box, said Short, who was on hand for the cats' arrival at the AWLA. "After the long journey, everyone they saw was their new best friend," she recalled.

By working with and taking in

animals from more of the under resourced facilities, the AWLA not only helps those shelters and rescues but also improves adoption rates throughout the region, bringing animals to Northern Virginia, where there is such a demand for them. "No one goes into animal welfare for any reason other than to help animals, and so many of our shelter partners have to make difficult decisions about who and how they can help daily," said AWLA Executive Director Stella Hanly. "That's why we don't like like phrases like 'no-kill shelter' or 'kill shelter.' These facilities are all doing everything they can to help the animals in their care, and if we can assist them by taking in some of them, then we are making a difference in this life-saving effort."

Some of the animals transferred to the AWLA by partners need significant medical attention before they can be considered for adoption. Two Boston terriers from True & Faithful Pet Rescue Mission, one whose vision was clouded by cataracts and the other suffering from an intestinal ailment, had successful surgery arranged by the AWLA and were adopted, thanks to funds donated by the community. Harry, an affectionate black-andwhite cat brought to Alexandria by PHAR, had been wounded by buckshot, but surgery paid for by a generous donor proved effective at saving his injured legs, and he was soon adopted. Merriner from PHAR does more than deliver animals on her nearly weekly visits to the AWLA: she often fills her truck up before returning home with donated pet supplies for use by her fosters.

The AWLA was preparing to accept a large group of rabbits when PHAR rescued a sweet, handsome orange tabby cat from the Martinsburg, W.Va., shelter who was suffering from numerous puncture wounds after being attacked by another cat, including a large open wound on his shoulder and paw. Would the AWLA take "Arthur" on too, the group asked. The answer was yes. Later testing positive for Feline Leukemia Virus, Arthur was treated for his wounds and made available for adoption at the AWLA. Though his diagnosis meant Arthur's life expectancy would be shortened by the disease, his new adopters were thrilled to welcome him into their family.

"We're very grateful for our rescue partners because without them, we wouldn't be able to do what we do," Merriner said. "We've been able to save thousands of animals over the years; I can't imagine not having help from Alexandria."

The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria is a local 501(c)(3) organization that operates the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter, Alexandria's only open-access animal shelter. In response to the global pandemic, the AWLA has established a virtual adoption process and is operating a Pet Pantry that provides pet food and supplies to community members in need. The AWLA also offers assistance to Alexandrians with questions about wildlife and animals in the community. More information can be found at AlexandriaAnimals.org.

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Entertainment

4 Restaurants to Supply Your Memorial Day Cookout

By Hope Nelson Gazette Packet

et's face it: It's been a year of cooking at home. Maybe this is one Memorial Day weekend you're looking for someone else to do the heavy lifting while you simply sit and enjoy the results. If so, you're not alone – and plenty of restaurants around town are up to the task.

Chadwicks,

203 Strand St.

Looking for the all-American burger? Look no further. It's one of the things Chadwicks does best. From beef to turkey to veggie, Chadwicks starts with a strong base and then levels up with toppings

Appetite

such as bacon jam, fried egg, mushroom, pickled onion and more. If you're not in the burg-

er mood, whet your appetite with a crabcake sandwich, a fried green tomato grilled cheese, a salmon BLT and more.

Hops n Shine,

3410 Mount Vernon Ave.

Hops n Shine is known for its grilled cheese sandwiches, and it would be a shame not to take them up on their specialties on such a festive weekend. For a full-throttle choice, you could do worse than the Holy Cheesus, which features American, pepper-



A Cajun shrimp boil: Smoked Shrimp, andouille sausage, corn, and potatoes. From Hops n Shine.

jack, cheddar and muenster on the inside of the sandwich with a crust encased in shredded cheese. Or go with the meatier steak and cheese.

Don't do cheese? No sweat - Hops n Shine

offers a dairy-free substitute.

PLNT Burger, 1700 Duke St. Located within Whole Foods, PLNT Burger

and you'll soon see what all the fuss is about. Go for the standard-issue PLNT Burger – a Beyond meat patty with caramelized onions, lettuce, tomato, pickles and PLNT sauce – or venture further afield with the mushroom bacon burger, the steakhouse burger, the limited-time Baja burger (featuring guacamole and fried jalapenos) and more. Don't forget some herb fries on the side – and maybe a milkshake, because it's hot outside. **Café Pizzaiolo**,

can be relatively overlooked by those not al-

ready indoctrinated to its ways. But – whether plant-based or not – pop in to take a taste

1623 Fern St.

And finally, let's finish off with a less conventional choice. Sometimes, the best cookout isn't even a cookout – it's a fiery-hot oven with a piping pizza as the end result. Café Pizzaiolo definitely brings its best to the table.

From the Caprese to the White Tomato to the Spicy Veggie and many more, Café Pizzaiolo is a one-stop shop for any manner of toppings you can dream up. Not feeling like a pie? Calzones work just as well to bring out the Memorial Day spirit.

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 JUNE 27

Timeless Tradition. 12-4 p.m. At The Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. The copyist program at the National Gallery of Art offers a unique opportunity for artists to study the techniques of old masters through intimate study in the galleries. This exhibit presents the work of members of this program alongside a color photo of the original and an artist's statement explaining why the work was chosen and what was learned through copying. Visit the website: www.nvfaa.org

MAY 25 TO JUNE 27

Birds of a Feather. Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery announces the opening of its juried show "Birds of a Feather, which opens on May 25, 2021 and runs through June 27, 2021. The birds are back, and they are celebrating. Themed work will be eligible for recognition by the jurors. Non-themed work may also be exhibited. Visit the website: http://torpedofactory.org/visit/

WEDNESDAY/MAY 26

The Potomac: It's Health and Future. 7 p.m. Via Zoom. The Friends of Dyke Marsh hosts Hedrick Belin of the Potomac Conservancy, who will discuss the Potomac's water quality results from the latest Potomac Report Card (see https:// potomacreportcard.org/), the role of tree protection, stormwater pollution, climate change and how citizen activism is opening new opportunities to protect water quality. The program is free and open to the public. Visit www.fodm.org to register.

STARTING MAY 27

Tall Ship Providence River Cruises and Dockside Tours. Dockside ship tours available now Wednesdays through Sundays. Admission: Dockside ship tours - \$16 adults, \$14 military/senior, \$12 children, age 5-12; Cruises between \$45-69 per person.
Tall ship Providence, 1 Cameron St., Alarendria, Call 202, 723, 8482.

Alexandria. Call 703-772-8483 Tallshipprovidence.org.

e THURSDAY/MAY 27

"Off-Stage: Musical Gems from the Opera and Ballet" - Chamber Music. 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. At The Secret Garden of the Rectory, 711 Princess Street, Alexandria. Relive stunning moments from the opera and ballet stages when musicians from the Kennedy Center's other resident orchestra make a special appearance in the Secret Garden with a unique program of excerpts in imaginative arrangements, including favorite selections from Carmen, Don Giovanni, Tosca and Cavallea Rusticana. Visit the website https://www.classicalmovements. com/secretgardenconcerts/

CYCLEBOATS

TO BEGIN OPERATION Potomac Paddle Club is a pontoon pedal boat or "Cycleboat" in the nation's capital region that will begin service from Old Town beginning May 28. This social adventure is the perfect way for friends to hop between waterfront locations and take in the sights. Passengers will be able to take a cruise from Old Town to National Harbor and back. Boats will dock at Old Town's Waterfront Park behind the Torpedo Factory. Visit www.PotomacPaddleClub.com.

SATURDAY/MAY 29

- Jazz Festival. 4-9 p.m. At Oronoco Bay Park, 100 Madison Street, Alexandria. The City of Alexandria invites the public to the Annual Alexandria Jazz Festival. Admission is free. The Jazz Festival will feature a variety of musicians and styles of jazz throughout the day. Featured artists include:
- 4 p.m. Cubano Groove (bossa nova); 5:20 p.m. - VERONNEAU (contemporary);
- 6:35 p.m. Eric Byrd Trio (straight);
 8 p.m. Joel Ross 'Good Vibes' (modern).
 Due to COVID-19 public health guidelines, attendance will be limited and pre-registration for assigned seating will be required in order to maintain physical distance between parties from different households.
 Parties will be limited to four people or fewer. Masks covering the nose and mouth will be required for all attendees over age 2. Because space is limited, early pre-registration is encouraged. Visit alexandriava.gov/Recreation to

reserve seating.

SUNDAY/MAY 30

Fiesta Asia. Asian Dance at The Athenaeum. 2-3:45 p.m. In conjunction with the Asian Heritage Celebration in May, learn some basic Asian dance styles at the Athenaeum. You will widen your cultural experiences and acquire a new skill set – because you never know when you will be invited to a party where you can show off your dancing talents.

Open to children age 8 and above. (Adults are welcome too.). Session 1 - 2 - 2:45 p.m; Session 2 - 3 -3:45 p.m.

MONDAY/MAY 31

Memorial Day Tribute. 12-8 p.m. At Watergate at Landmark, 307 Yoakum Parkway, Alexandria. Military Children's Six Foundation Tribute, Candlelight Vigil and Community Picnic.

- Military children paying homage to the fallen heroes on this Memorial Day. This is a free family-friendly event, where food, beverages, entertainment, and lots of activities for children. All are welcome. This is an outdoo
- r free event for families. RSVP is required. Visit the website: www. mc6.foundation

JUNE 1 TO AUG. 31

Creative Summer Programs is a series of workshops exploring the arts. Learn techniques in painting, sculpture, collage, mixed media, sketching, and more from local artists. Delve into your creative consciousness solo or with friends. Online and in-person, for children and/or adults, free and paid programs are offered. Sign up for what inspires you! Held at Del Ray Artisans (2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria VA) unless noted. Details: DelRayArtisans.org/programs/ creative-summer/

THURSDAY/JUNE 3

Secrets of D-Day. 7-9 p.m. Virtual. Dr. Kim Bernard Holien, U.S. Army Historian,

- retired will discuss D-Day secrets, known and unknown. A 'Rest of the Story' presentation about the secrets that made the Allies victorious on the 'day of days'.
- Website: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_c09H1FqN-S8anHYIEwqpYrA

FRIDAY/JUNE 4

D-Day's Black Heroes. 12 p.m. Virtual. Linda Hervieux, Paris-based American journalist, photographer, and author of "Forgotten: The Untold Story of D-Day's Black Heroes, at Home and at War," the critically acclaimed story of D-Day's only African-American combat soldiers, who were effectively written out of the history of the Norman invasion. Website: https://zoom.us/webinar/ register/WN_WkYEcl8BRBSfQg8EuaHEuA



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Obituary

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LEGAL NOTICE Notice is hereby given to members of the American Society of Clinical Oncology, Inc. and the Association for Clinical Oncology that their Annual Business Meeting will be held online on Tuesday, June 8 at 1:00 PM U.S. Eastern Time. Members will be emailed a link to use to access the online Annual Business Meeting in advance of the event. Members with questions can email nicole. medrano@asco.org or call 571-483-1317. This notice is issued at the direction of the Boards of Directors of the American Society of Clinical Oncology and the Association for Clinical Oncology.



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Rose Enevoldsen Berler, 95, a long-time resident and civic leader in Alexandria, died 19 May 2021 in Lewes, Delaware, after a stroke. Rose was an avid gardener, whose yard won numerous neighborhood awards.

A nurse by training and graduate of Sinai Hospital School of Nursing in Baltimore, she served as a member of the Visiting Nurses Association of Northern Virginia. Rose served on the Board of Directors of Alexandria Hospital Corporation, later Alexandria Health Services Corporation, from 1978 to 1997, including serving a term as its chair, the first woman and nurse to do so. She served on the Alexandria Youth Services Commission and the Advisory Committee for Adolescent Health Clinics. From 2000 to 2014, she served as chair of the Alexandria Schools Health Advisory Board, and was recognized by the School Board in 2013 for her years of service.

She was a long-time member of the League of Women Voters of Alexandria, serving as president for two terms from 1970 – 1973 and again from 1977-78. She also was chair of the Alexandria United Way and a member of their Campaign Cabinet in the late 1970s. In 1978, she became the first woman appointed to the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority, serving for nine years. In this role, she worked to ensure safe living conditions for women and children in public housing. She was also the commissioner and first woman appointed to the Virginia Housing Development Authority, serving between 1980 and 1984, as well as a member of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials.

Rose earned the George Washington Citizenship Award from the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce. She was also the recipient of the Marguerite Payez Leadership Award from the Alexandria Commission on the Status of Women. In 2014, she was named a Living Legend of Alexandria.

Rose Enevoldsen Berler was born on 7 January in Norfolk, Virginia. Her husband, Seymour Berler, died in 1991. She is survived by three children, Anne of Myrtle Beach, SC

Joan of Alexandria, VA, and Daniel of Washington, D.C., a sister, Edith Offenhartz of

Canton, CT, and numerous nieces and nephews. In lieu of flowers, the family requests

donations be made to the League of Women Voters. https://www.lwv.org/

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A+ Rating

Philosophically Meandering

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As I discussed a few weeks back, having all this time off/apart from cancer-related activities is unsettling in a peculiar way. I'm not in remission. I'm certainly not cured, and I'm still receiving regular treatment: a bone-strengthening shot every four weeks at the Infusion Center and of course, my daily lenvima pill. Given the nature of what symptoms/side effects I experience, it's only after my quarterly CT scan and recently added, a bone scan, followed-up by a post-scan video visit with my oncologist and endocrinologist (combined with my semi annual brain MRI) that I have an accurate/real-time sense of whether I'm coming or going, if you know what I mean?

The result of these intervals and intermittent visits is that I, not the doctors, have my best sense of self. Though I can - and am encouraged to do so, email my doctors and/or call an advice nurse at all hours to discuss whatever ails me, realistically, on a daily, hourly and/ or minute-by-minute existence, I'm the one that I have to talk to, and most likely, listen to. And though I think I know myself pretty well, a cancer diagnosis creates a prism through which all of our thoughts are filtered. Sometimes, what initially passes through is not identical to what comes out. Cancer is in control, sort of like the producers of "The Outer Limits" said they were in control of your television during the two years: 1963 and '64, when "The Outer Limits" was nearly must-watch television. They controlled more than just the horizontal on your television. They controlled the information going into your head. What you did with that information was entirely up to you. Only then, you were in control.

Much has changed in the almost 60 years since "The Outer Limits" was controlling television sets. And so too, much has changed for those diagnosed with cancer. However positive and hopeful, and effective the evolution of a cancer diagnosis and treatment has become, when "The cancer" (as "Forrest, Forrest Gump" called it) appears on your scan or marks your blood, you are no longer "the master of your domain." In fact, your domain has shrunk considerably and quite precipitously. Whatever you thought was going to be happening in your life now takes a back seat to everything your oncologist says needs to happen. Integrating into your life all the unexpected, life-changing advisories will be a task unlike any you've previously ever undertaken. Pondering your cancer-patient future will not result in one gulp, it will result in a series of gulps. As a consequence of your diagnosis/prognosis, you'll become an expert in gulps, morning, noon and night, when you're alone or with others.

And as you are gulping, you are forever trying to find your place in the universe. As a diagnosee, you join an immense club, the kind of club Grouch Marx said he "wouldn't join, if they would have me as a member." Ignoring your new reality seems totally irresponsible, but focusing 24-7 on your less-than-ideal circumstances seems like overkill (pardon the double entendre). This focus likely emboldens the cancer while weakening your resolve. I mean, your situation is bad enough, you don't need to make it worse by having it for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Having it once and a while, like a snack is more than enough. The weight of a premature death (any death is premature, right?) is simply too great a burden to bear without making it heavier. I'm not suggesting one ever acquiesce and give into their cancer. Instead, I'm suggesting, find a place for it in your life where it's sort of along for the ride, rather than it being the driver

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





News



Alexandria Aces owner Frank Fannon, second from right, with front office staff and former owner Donald Dinan at Frank Mann Field May 15. Pictured, from left, are: Mitch Wasserman, Director of Game Day Operations, former team owner Donald Dinan, General Manager Aidan Lansburgh, majority owner Frank Fannon, and Director of Marketing Zach Miller.

Play Ball!

From Page 4

Zach Miller, the Aces Director of Marketing, agreed with Wasserman.

"It's not easy getting experience working for a sports organization," said the recent Mary Washington graduate. "I'll be concentrating on getting sponsorships from different businesses and restaurants around the city."

Internships with the team are available.

The Aces are still seeking host families to house players. Contact Siobhan Casey at 703-966-5172 for details. For sponsorship information, contact Zach Miller at 571-278-6745. Team owner Frank Fannon can be reached at 703-861-1864.

"I have been involved with the Aces since 2008 and am excited about all the good

"I am excited about all the good things that are going to happen here in Alexandria."

—Alexandria Aces majority owner Frank Fannon

things that are going to happen here in Alexandria," Fannon said.

The first two home games are June 8 and 9 at Frank Mann Field at 6:30 p.m. The season runs through July 21.

www.alexandriaaces.org

First Master Gardener To Receive Environmental Award

From Page 5

Award is named in honor of Francis Ellen Pickering 1who was a long-time city activist whose lobbying efforts more than 40 years ago helped create the Mount Vernon Trail between Alexandria and Washington, D.C. She was also deeply committed to preserving the City's waterfront.

Hylton's nomination summarizes: "Joyce

Bulletin Board

From Page 6

setting on the Carlyle House Magnolia Terrace! No experience necessary or required. Cost is \$10. Visit the website:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/yoga-101-tickets-143386303293

PFIZER VACCINATION TO AGES 12 AND UP

The Alexandria Health Department (AHD) and other providers in Alexandria are now offering COVID-19 vaccinations to residents ages 12 and older. The Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine was previously approved for use in those aged 16 and older, and the Moderna and Johnson is a stellar example of a passionate, engaged, active and effective educator and resident of Alexandria and well deserving."

This is the first time the award has been presented to a Virginia Extension Master Gardener.

The award was presented by the Alexandria Environmental Policy Commission and Alexandria Renew Enterprises.

- & Johnson vaccines are currently only available for ages 18 and older. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention approved use of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for ages 12-15 by accepting the recommendation of its Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices,
- which met earlier in the day to review safety data for the vaccine in this age group.

Pfizer Vaccine (First Dose, Ages 12+)

- Saturday, June 5 Hours: 1-3:30 p.m.
- Location: Francis Hammond Middle School, 4646 Seminary Rd, Alexandria, VA 22304
- . The Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine Seminary Rd, Alexandria, VA 22304 Sly approved for use in those aged standard Johnson Accepted

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#WeAreAlexandria



Fort Hunt | \$2,195,000 Welcome to 1904 Mallinson Way ... a truly special opportunity to own one of only six custom homes in idyllic Grand View. This stately brick colonial has breathtaking views of the Potomac River and boasts a lovely upper balcony perfect for taking in the scenery. Tracy Dunn 571.212.3658 www.tracybdunn.com

OPEN SUN 5/30, 2-4PM

Hello there, history buff! This 3-level end townhome

gem is calling your name with its sparkling energy,

welcoming spaces and unique features. 2 bedrooms,

1.5 baths, 2 fireplaces, gleaming original floors, brick

patio; all on the prettiest block. 309 N. St. Asaph St.



Townsend | \$1,235,000

Fantastic location and opportunity! With classic details and endless possibilities to capitalize on the needs of today, the best of both worlds meet here in a forever home which will continue to be the place everyone gathers for years to come! 1600 Ivanhoe Court Genevieve Moorhouse 703.401.5902 www.GenevieveMoorhouse.com



Marlan Heights | \$980,000

This solid brick home at the top of a cul-de-sac, will give you gorgeous sunrises and winter river views. The landscaped grounds, elevated deck, and stone patio are perfect for outdoor entertaining or just relaxing. 3 bedrooms & 3 renovated baths. 7111 Burtonwood Dr. Sandra Gehring 703.626.9851 www.homeinalexandria.com

OPEN SUN 5/30, 2-4PM



New Alexandria | \$775,000 Delightful 3-bedroom, 2-bath Cape Cod with a 1-car garage! Open main level, gourmet kitchen, built-ins, wonderful custom mill work, private patio, large corner lot, newly refinished hardwoods and more! This home is truly a gem, don't miss it! 1501 Olde Towne Road Margot Lynn 703.973.3722 www.MargotLynnRealtor.com

OPEN SAT 5/29 & SUN 5/30, 2-4PM

Springfield | **\$980,000**

Old Town | \$822,000

Ann Duff 703.965.8700

www.AnnDuff.com

Flooded with natural light, this spacious brick colonial offers the perfect balance of open concept & traditional living. Almost 5,800 SF featuring 6 bedrooms, 4 full baths, hardwoods, 19-ft ceilings, sparkling kitchen with large island, & finished basement. 6849 Creek Crest Way Rebecca McMaster 703.814.0598 www.MPHhometeam.com

Rose Hill Manor | \$799,500

Detached colonial with 5 bedrooms and 3 baths on the upper level, a 6th bedroom on the lower level, and located on a half-ace cul-de-sac lot. Hardwood floors throughout, family room walks out to a 2-tiered deck, wonderfulyard.6406MayBlvd.HayesWoodHomes.com Chris Hayes 703.944.7737

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