

# Alexandria Gazette Packet



25 CENTS

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DECEMBER 9, 2021



Campagna Center president and CEO Tammy Mann.



Alexandria Mayor Justin Wilson and his wife Alex on the reviewing stand with Jeanne Warner and Grand Marshal Sen. Mark Warner.



Alexandria Acting Chief of Police Don Hayes, Sheriff Dana Lawhorne and Fire Chief Corey Smedley enjoy the parade with Lawhorne's granddaughter Harper.



Parade Grand Marshal Sen. Mark Warner, right, waves to the crowd as he walks alongside Jeanne Warner, widow of former Sen. John Warner.

## Plaid Tidings Scottish Walk returns to celebrate 50th anniversary.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**T**he sound of bagpipes returned to the streets of Old Town as the annual Scottish Walk Parade returned to celebrate its 50th anniversary Dec. 4 following last year's pandemic-induced hiatus.

The parade and related Scottish Walk Weekend events benefit the Campagna Center, which has been serving children and families in the city for 75 years.

"We are so delighted to see so much of Alexandria out this morning to celebrate the 50th year of the Scottish Walk Weekend," said Campagna Center President and CEO Tammy Mann.

Pipes and drums from the East coast joined Scottish clans, reenactment groups, Scottie dogs and classic cars. U.S. Sen. Mark Warner served as Grand Marshal and walked in the parade alongside Jeanne Warner, widow of former U.S. Sen. John Warner.

"This parade has always been a highlight of the wintertime and I certainly missed it when it was gone," said Tish Dalton as she

SEE SCOTTISH WALK, ON PAGE 6



Scottish Pipes and Drums.

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET



The Randall family.



Scottish Country Dancers.



Bob Montague drives his 1921 Lincoln with At Home Alexandria.



## Annual Holiday Store

Students in Community Lodgings' Youth Education Program can shop for gifts for their parents and siblings at the holiday store. Please join me in supporting the store through donations of NEW items from December 1-17. A partial list is included below.

<b>HOUSEWARES:</b>	<b>ADULT MEN:</b>	<b>ADULT WOMEN:</b>	<b>BABIES:</b>	<b>YOUTH:</b>	<b>TEENS:</b>
Towels/Linens	Wallets	Jewelry	Bottles	Sporting Equipment	Jewelry
Kitchen Tools	Ties	Beauty Products	Toys	Arts & Crafts Kits	Toiletries
Cookware/Tupperware	Tools	Hats & Gloves	Blankets	Board Games	Socks
Silverware/Flatware	Watches	Slippers	Baby Clothes	Legos/Blocks	Hats & Gloves
Glasses/Mugs	Hats & Gloves	Toiletries & Makeup	Hats & Gloves	Hats & Gloves	Headphones
Coffee Maker/Tea Kettle	Toiletries				

Drop off in person: M-F, 10AM-5PM at 3912 Elbert Avenue, Suite 108, Alexandria, VA 22305  
 or at Fifer Learning Center M-F, 11AM-2PM at 607 Notabene Drive, Alexandria, VA 22305  
 You may also order from their Amazon Wish List at <https://a.co/c8bx6TT>.



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# Red Flags, Confiscated Guns

Police across Virginia use new law to disarm people courts determine could be dangerous.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

Since Virginia's new red-flag law was signed by the Gov. Ralph Northam last year, according to data from the Virginia State Police, law enforcement officials across Virginia have issued 170 emergency substantial risk orders to temporarily confiscate firearms from people courts have determined could be dangerous. That includes 32 in Fairfax County, six in Arlington and five in Alexandria. Police officers and sheriffs deputies have also used the law in so-called "Second Amendment sanctuaries," including 13 risk orders in Virginia Beach and seven in Hanover County.

"These risk orders have been used across the commonwealth, in urban cities and rural counties," said Lori Haas, Virginia state director for the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence. "If a person is at risk of harm to self or others, it would be prudent for family members and loved ones and law enforcement to temporarily separate him or her from his firearm so that until the crisis passes, the person is not at risk of injury or death to him or herself or others."

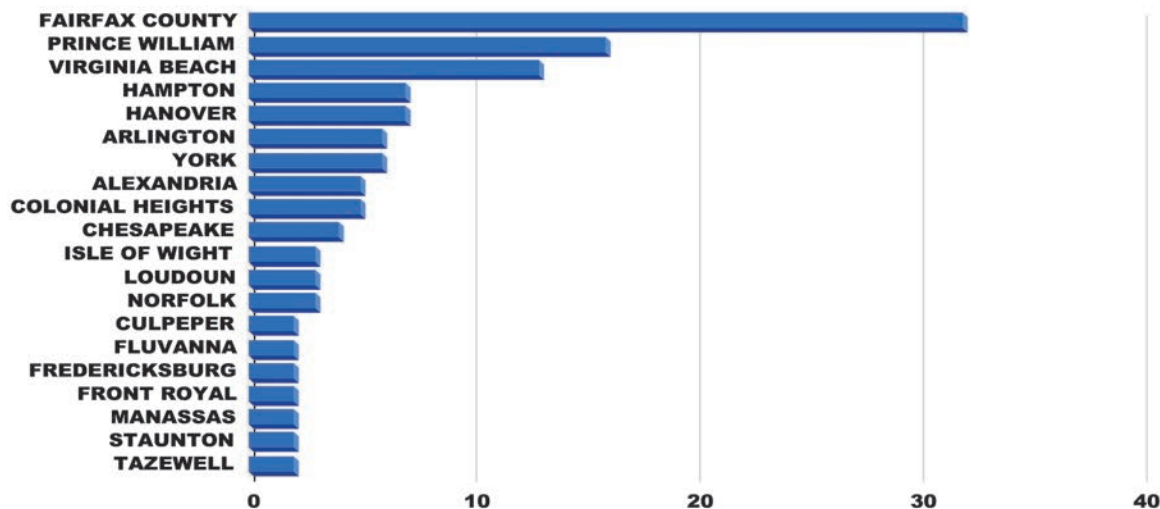
Since Republicans swept all three stateside officers and seized control of the House of Delegates last month, gun enthusiasts have been plotting to unravel many of the gun-violence prevention measures Democrats instituted over the last two years. One of their top priorities is getting rid of the red-flag law, which narrowly passed the state Senate in 2020 with a vote of 20 to 20. Democratic Lt. Gov. Justin Fairfax voted to break the tie to send the bill to the governor. Now that a Republican will be in that seat, the only way to stop the law from being overturned may be for Senate Democrats to prevent it from getting to the floor.

"Red flag laws leave the person in crisis alone," said Philip Van Cleve, president of the Virginia Citizens Defense League. "They can still kill themselves. They do nothing except take his guns away."

According to the Virginia Department of Health, Virginia had 1,036 gun deaths in 2018. About two-thirds were suicides, and one-third were homicides.

**WHEN DEMOCRATS** seized control of the General Assembly last year, one of their top priorities was

## Emergency Substantial Risk Orders



July 2020 to August 2021 data from the Virginia State Police

Fairfax County has made use of the new red flag laws more than any other county in Virginia, and also has the highest population.

implementing new gun-violence prevention measures. Although they failed to adopt an assault weapons ban, they were able to require background checks and ban guns from local parks and government buildings.

One of the signature gun bills was the red flag law, which allows citizens to alert authorities when a friend or family member may be in danger of posing a danger to themselves or others. That sets the stage for a judge to conduct a hearing where law-enforcement officials or prosecutors make the case that firearms should be temporarily confiscated.

"I'm pleased to see that it's being used, and I'm pleased to see it's being used all around the state," said Del. Rip Sullivan (D-48), who introduced the House version of the bill. "As it becomes more well known both to the public and to law enforcement, I wouldn't be surprised if it gets used more."

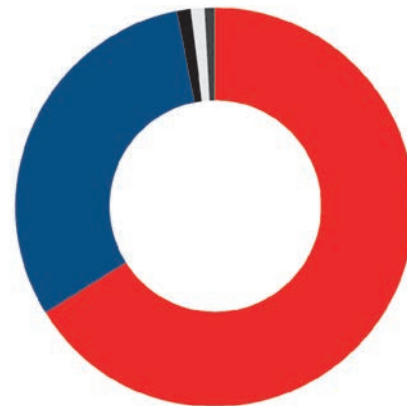
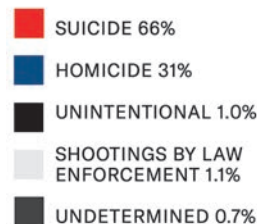
One of the sticking points with the process is that the individual in question is not present in the initial court hearing. The judge makes the ruling to confiscate the guns in an "ex parte" hearing where the accused has no opportunity to present a defense. After the judge orders the emergency risk order, law enforcement officials

serve the document and confiscate any known firearms for 14 days. Then the court holds a second hearing where the accused gets to mount a defense. At that point the judge can extend the order for 180 days or return the weapons. Gun-rights groups say the process is a violation of individual liberties, although supporters of gun-violence prevention say similar measures are taken when people have concerns over mental health or custody of children.

"There are other places in the code that type of process is done as a first step, and then you address it later," said Sen. George Barker (D-39), who introduced the Senate version of the bill. "They get an opportunity to contest it in court. So they do have a right to deal with it fairly quickly."

**NINETEEN STATES** and the District of Columbia have enacted some form of emergency risk orders, which are also known as gun-violence restraining orders and extreme risk-protection or-

## GUN DEATHS BY INTENT IN VIRGINIA



ders. Connecticut was the first state to enact a red flag law back in 1999 following a mass shooting at the Connecticut Lottery headquarters in 1998 when a disgruntled accountant killed four of his supervisors and then shot himself. The shooter has previously attempted suicide and was being treated for depression.

"Potential changes to the law could streamline the gun-removal process and make it easier for police to take preventive action when appropriate," wrote Duke University professor Jeffrey Swanson in a study of the Connecticut law. "One such change, which was suggested by an expert respondent interviewed for this study, would be to allow police to remove guns immediately with probable cause."

The tension between risk to safety and jeopardy of civil liberties was a sticking point for lawmakers in Virginia when they were debating the bill last year. Republicans argued that violating liberties in the name of protecting safety was a slippery slope, and that the same logic might be used to strip other rights. Many Republicans openly doubted that the legislation would accomplish anything.

"What purpose does it serve to serve an order on him telling him to turn over his firearms?" asked Sen.

Richard Stuart (R-28). "Couldn't he create havoc with a myriad of other things, and if this person is mentally disturbed shouldn't we deal with that first?"

When the bill was debated in the state Senate, Republicans tried unsuccessfully to amend the bill restricting it to people who might do harm to themselves, not others.

"The research has shown that people who intend to kill themselves with a firearm are hindered when the firearm is removed and suicide is much less likely to occur," said Sen. Creigh Deeds (D-25). "In the states where this legislation has passed that's what the studies show."

**NOW THAT THE** law has been in effect for more than a year, the contours of its effectiveness are coming into view. Some activists who pushed for the law say the numbers from the Virginia State Police show the law isn't being used enough. Considering the scope of the problem, they say, law-enforcement officers should be receiving more tips from citizens who are concerned that someone they know might be on the verge of committing the next mass shooting.

"Of the million people in Fairfax County, 32 is not a lot," said Paul Friedman, founder and executive director of the advocacy group Safer Country. "If the average citizen is paying attention to their neighbors and identifying people who are under enormous stress and have guns, we can prevent a lot more potential problems."

That's why Friedman is currently working with Fairfax County Supervisor Rodney Lusk on a public awareness campaign to let people know about the new law and the role they can play in stopping future gun violence.

The Board of Supervisors approved the campaign last summer, and since that time a working group has adopted the slogan "prevent a gun tragedy, speak up." Friedman is hoping that Lusk will work with the other supervisors to include funding for the campaign in the next budget, potentially hiring a staffer to oversee the campaign and extend its reach.

"Right now, awareness is low," said Lusk in a written statement after the board approved the initiative last summer. "I hope this effort helps the new law better achieve its intended goal of having guns in responsible hands."

# Love on the Docks Holiday boat parade lights up the waterfront.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**T**housands of spectators gathered along the Alexandria waterfront Dec. 4 as the 21st annual Holiday Boat Parade of Lights made its return with more than 50 boats lighting up the Potomac River.

Sponsored by Amazon, the mile-long parade was led by Alexandria's fireboat Relief and Washington, D.C.'s fireboat John H. Glenn, and closed with the Ever Vigilant Fire Boat 57 from the Prince George's County Volunteer Marine Fire and Rescue Station 57.

Best of Alexandria Show sponsored by Myron Mixon's Pitmaster BBQ was awarded to Santé and Captain Daniel Ricks who presented "COEXIST" in white lights and more than 40 colorful trees. Best Powerboat went to Kairos and Captain Tipper Williams Bradford for "Santa & His Cast of Characters" featuring lights, Santa and



Decorated boats line the Potomac River Dec. 4 in the 21st annual Holiday Boat Parade of Lights.

a cheerful crew in costumes. Best and Captain Doug Savage for "The twinkling lights and costumed toy characters including the bird-that-

swims positioned halfway up the sailboat's mast.

2021 Winners: Best of Alexandria Show sponsored by Myron Mixon's Pitmaster BBQ: Santé, Captain Daniel Ricks, "COEXIST"; Best Powerboat: Kairos, Captain Tipper Williams Bradford, "Santa & His Cast of Characters"; Best Sailboat: Dark Star, Captain Doug Savage, "The Island of Misfit Toys"; Thinking Outside the Christmas Box: Tuesday, Captain Joseph Landa, "Oompa Lumpa"; Most Holiday Cheer: Party of Five, Captain Alan Trombley, "Spooky Christmas"; Best Spirit of America: Aggie, Captain Tamara Collum, "NEW YEAR'S EVE COUNTDOWN PARTY"; Most Spirited Crew: D'Entanglement, Captain Dayon Harrison, "D'Entangled Christmas Wonderland"; Best Theme: Surprise, Captain Sarah Ollila, "X-mas Files"; Hardest Soul: Miss Behavin, Captain Kirt Barbee, "Gilligan Island"; Best Try: Knot Tide Down Captains Peter Furness & Rita Martin, "Jurassic Christmas."

PHOTO BY EVAN MICHIO/VISIT ALEXANDRIA

## A Taste of Scotland

**T**he Taste of Scotland welcomed a sold-out crowd Dec. 3 to kick off the Scottish Walk Weekend festivities benefitting the Campagna Center.

Held at the Atrium Building in Old Town, guests enjoyed whiskey-tasting stations, hors d'oeuvres, beer and wine bars and an opportunity to take in a panoramic view of the city from the building's newly completed rooftop terrace.

All proceeds benefit the programs of the Campagna Center. [www.campagnacenter.org](http://www.campagnacenter.org)

—JEANNE THEISMANN



Daniel Rapp, Walter Clarke and Joe Collum enjoy the Taste of Scotland Dec. 3 at the Atrium Building.



James Sacaria, Graham Hunter and Rob Shaull at the Dec. 3 Taste of Scotland.



Luke Powell with Dewar's reps Ali Recht and Sam Lindenfeldar at the Dec. 3 Taste of Scotland.



Campagna Center CEO Tammy Mann, second from right, with Kerry Willie, Campagna Center board treasurer Jerry Kelly and Campagna Center board chair Janice Abraham at the Taste of Scotland Dec. 3 at the Atrium Building.



Ted Hack with Scottish Walk Parade Grand Marshal Sen. Mark Warner.



Stratton Edwards, Sharmilli Edwards, Sarah Gamberini and Kristen Nunnally at the Taste of Scotland.



Andrew and Denise Palmieri with Rebecca Mahood and Adron Krekeler.

# HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS



PHOTO BY "MANGO" MIKE ANDERSON

## LIGHTING UP DEL RAY

Retiring Sheriff Dana Lawhorne led the countdown to the lighting of the 30-foot-tall Christmas tree Dec. 5 at Pat Miller Square in Del Ray. Hundreds flocked to the holiday event which included the lighting of a menorah. Lawhorne, a lifelong resident of Del Ray, thanked the crowd for their support during his time in law enforcement. "Thank you for 43 years of supporting me. I've loved every minute of it."



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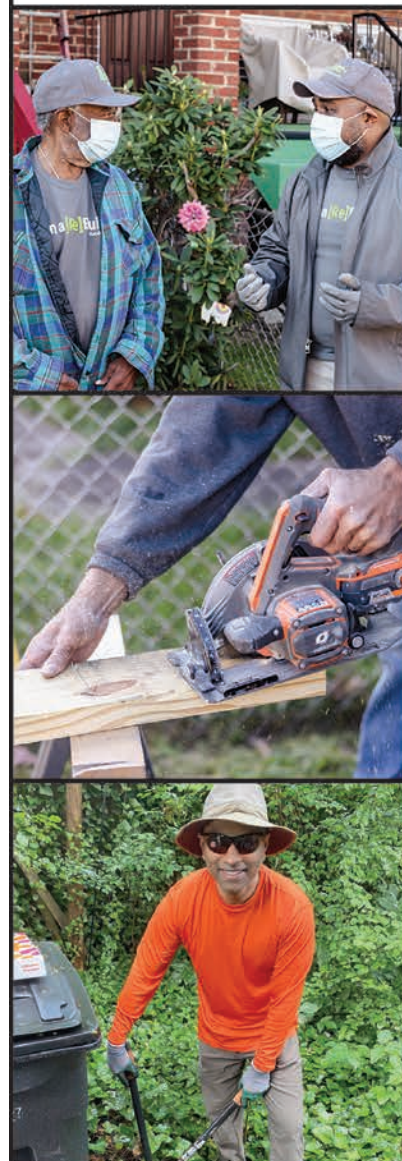
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Another Alexandria **Gazette Packet** Community Partner

# Scottish Walk Returns To Celebrate 50th Anniversary

FROM PAGE 1

viewed the parade along King Street. "It's great that everybody is back out today."

Serving as the unofficial start of the holiday season, the Scottish Walk Weekend celebrates the Scottish heritage of Old Town Alexandria while benefiting Campagna Center programs that serve more than 2,000 children and families daily across the city.

Said Campagna Center board chair Janice Abraham, "We're excited and thrilled to be part of the city and this glorious start of this season."

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

**"This parade has always been a highlight of the wintertime and I certainly missed it when it was gone."**

— Parade watcher Tish Dalton



Clan MacLeod.



PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

The City of Alexandria Pipes and Drums performs in the 50th annual Scottish Walk Parade Dec. 4 in Old Town.



Saint Andrew's Society of Philadelphia.



Celebrating the Scottish Walk.



The Airedale Terrier Club of Washington D.C.



The Rotary Club of Alexandria.



The Ballyshaners.



ACPS Superintendent Gregory Hutchings.



A kilt-clad stormtrooper.



A period-clad parade participant.

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

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# Collaboration Leads to VCE Success

Virginia Cooperative Extension Annual Showcase presentation for Arlington and Alexandria branches was on the importance of collaboration.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
GAZETTE PACKET

The unifying theme of the Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE) Annual Showcase presentation moved online this year on Dec. 3 for Arlington and Alexandria branches was the importance of collaboration. Community leaders, legislators, volunteers gathered online for the second virtual presentation highlighting the year's activities.

Since 1947 Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE) has been providing evidence-based information to communities to improve people's lives. It is a partnership between Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and local governments. Jane Randolph, director of Arlington Parks and Recreation, says VCE is funded with federal, state and county funds, one-third each.

The extension programs span youth/4-H, agriculture and natural resources, family, food and health and community resiliency. VCE has 107 units in Virginia with an office in the majority of the counties and cities in the Commonwealth including Arlington at 3308 S. Stafford and Alexandria at 1108 Jefferson Street. The mechanism for providing research-based information is through the many volunteers who train to become Master Gardeners, Master Food, Master Energy or Master Financial volunteers and who take the information to the community.

Randolph says in 2020 Arlington volunteers provided 43,000 hours which is equal to 20.5 employees. She said the Church of the Latter Day Saints volunteers alone provided 930 hours in invasive plant removal as an alternative to their required year of service that was not possible in the traditional way during COVID. She added that during the pandemic, virtual programs were used successfully and Arlington parks were used more often.

James Spengler, director of Alexandria Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities, agreed that park usage in Alexandria exploded. For the first time they had to barricade the entrances to parks and lock down tennis courts. He said that Alexandria is dense and many people have not experienced being close to nature, but there is the opportunity with half of Alexandria's parkland as natural land with no



FILE PHOTO BY SHIRLEY RUHE

Rebecca Hale, a Master Gardener, hands out spinach seeds perfect for growing microgreens in small spaces on balconies, at a previous VCE Annual Showcase.

active development. "Most are in favor of this but not necessarily in their backyard. They want manicured golf courses so anything we can do to teach them is helpful."

Spengler said they have been trying to understand how government operates where one segment of the population which is well versed with the government calls up with a complaint and wants immediate action but other areas don't call.

"We need to change our approach to open space."

VCE takes the research-based information to the community through demonstrations in community centers, schools, libraries, farmer's markets and programs in parks. For instance, Master Naturalist Romana Campos explains they took an outdoor nature-based program to Ft. Henry subsidized housing in Alexandria. They asked students to close their eyes and listen to the sounds around them, which were often loud city sounds, causing stress. The 4-H program helped find a way to reduce the stress. At Jerome "Buddie" Ford Nature Center they educated apartment residents on how to grow native plants in a small area on their balcony.

In Arlington the Master Gardeners have six demonstration gardens, and in Alexandria there is a junior "Can Shine Garden" at Ruby Tucker Center. The Master Naturalists identify illegal bike trails, remove trash and invasive plants and

educate the public about whitetail deer management.

The Energy Masters in Arlington were at the Arlington Fair with information about conservation and energy savings. This gets translated into action by sealing outlets and windows and electric vents as well as education about LED lights at such locations as Buckingham Apts.

Alisha Salazar, Family & Consumer Sciences Agent, explains her program focuses on health and well being — how to cook a healthy meal, get out of debt, seek equitable health for people of all ages and ethnicities. This means teaching children in school settings or after school programs about healthy meals and translating it into action through planting gardens or teaching seniors at a demonstration luncheon how it was planned and prepared and how to find grocery store bargains. Salazar says 72 percent of the people participating in these programs have improved their diets.

During COVID VCE faced the challenges of continuing to reach the community. They pivoted to online education and demonstrations and the HELP desk in Arlington experienced increased calls in 2021 with 25 percent more inquiries assisting 1400 individuals.

Now moving forward the extension offices are looking at leveraging their collaborative efforts to combat climate change and updating their master plans for management of trees and open space.

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# ‘Joy On the Avenue’

Holiday pop-up replaces The Sushi Bar in Del Ray.

“Joy On the Avenue,” a Christmas-themed pop-up cocktail bar, will open the weekend of Dec. 10-12 in the space formerly occupied by The Sushi Bar on Mount Vernon Avenue.

Located at 2312 Mount Vernon Avenue in Del Ray, the holiday-themed pop up replaces The Sushi Bar, one of the trio of restaurants owned by the Homegrown Restaurant Group in Del Ray. It sits between sister restaurants Holy Cow and Pork Barrel BBQ.

“The pop up will serve holiday cocktails in a festive, nostalgic setting in Del Ray,” said “Mango” Mike Anderson, founder of the Homegrown Restaurant Group.

Joy on the Avenue will serve light appetizers along with a selection of wine, beer and cocktails. The holiday pop-up will remain open through the holidays before closing down for several weeks. A new concept restaurant is planned for the location with a tentative opening of February 2022.

—JEANNE THEISMANN



“Joy On the Avenue” will open this weekend, replacing The Sushi Bar on Mount Vernon Avenue.

PHOTO BY “MANGO” MIKE ANDERSON



JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

**FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS** – Henry Dorton, left, Commander of American Legion Post 24 in Old Town, accepts a donation Dec. 4 in Market Square as part of the Red Kettle Campaign of the Salvation Army of the National Capital Area. Volunteers from organizations including the American Legion, the Alexandria Rotary Club, Burke & Herbert Bank and the Old Dominion Boat Club, will man Red Kettles throughout the area to raise funds for the organization. The campaign runs through Christmas Eve and online donations can be made at [www.salvationarmynga.org](http://www.salvationarmynga.org).

## BULLETIN BOARD

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

### NOW THRU DEC. 10

**Jingle Bell Kids Toy Drive Collection.** At Quander Road School, 6400 Quander Road, Alexandria. Personal Development Class Service-Learning Project Holiday Toy Drive for Kids in Nearby Shelters; “Gifting Community Kids for the Holidays. Ages: Toddlers -14 years old. Types of Items to Donate: Board/Card Games, Puzzles, Art supplies, Coloring/Activity books, Various Books, Stuffed animals, Dolls and Toy Cars/Trucks.

### SATURDAY/DEC. 18

**Wreaths Across America.** 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. At Alexandria National Cemetery, 1450 Wilkes Street, Alexandria. Join the VFW, scouts, and cadets in posting holiday wreaths on 4,300 Veterans’ graves. Help populate all graves, donate wreaths \$15 at <https://wreathscrossamerica.org/VAANCA>

### WINTER PREPAREDNESS INFO

As temperatures drop and the winter season approaches, the City of Alexandria offers information and resources about snow and ice re-

moval; staying warm and safe; and being prepared for storms.

#### Snow Removal

Responding to winter weather events is one of the City’s top priorities. City crews clear snow from 561 lane miles of roadway, 20 miles of City-owned walkways and trails, and 44 acres of municipal parking lots or City-owned squares. Snow and ice removal from this large network of streets and sidewalks takes time, hard work and communication between residents, business owners and City government. While commuting and travel patterns have significantly changed during the COVID-19 pandemic, it is still important to keep the transportation network clear of snow and ice to allow travel by emergency vehicles.

Here are some important facts about snow removal and winter weather emergencies in Alexandria:

Storms are designated with levels based on type and severity, from Level 1 (least severe) to Level 3 (most severe). Storm levels are updated on the City’s website as the weather changes.

Roads are plowed by priority. Snow emergency routes are plowed first, followed by secondary routes, intermediate routes and residential streets. The City’s SnowReport tracking system enables residents to view plowing priorities.

Clearing sidewalks, driveways and entrances is the responsibility of the adjacent property owner, occupant, community association or business. Time limits for clearing snow are determined by the storm level.

The City pretreats select roads with brine when low temperatures or precipitation are possible but rain is not expected. This preventive anti-icing measure—along with the City’s usual snow and ice prevention and removal techniques—helps keep roads safer.

Residents, businesses and visitors can do the following things to help snow crews and emergency responders during winter storms and other weather emergencies:

Do not park on snow emergency routes.

Keep shovels and either salt or sand handy.

Avoid shoveling snow into the street.

Sign up to become a Snow Buddy and help your neighbors who are unable to shovel snow.

Check on neighbors who may need assistance.

#### Staying Warm

The City offers several warming centers to provide daytime relief from the cold for community members who may not have access to a warm shelter or heating in their homes during the day.

The City’s overnight winter shelter services for individuals and fami-

lies experiencing homelessness are open in two locations, nightly from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., between December 1 and March 31. The winter shelter located at 2355-C Mill Road provides services to single adults, and Carpenter’s Shelter, located at 930 N. Henry St., provides services to families only.

At all shelter locations, staff and guests will have their temperature taken; be asked standard COVID-19 symptom questions; and required to wear face masks, maintain 6 feet of distance and to periodically use hand sanitizer for the duration of their stay. Guests will be encouraged to wash their hands with soap and water when entering the facility and staff will frequently sanitize all high-touch areas throughout the shelter.

#### Staying Safe

Don’t let winter weather take you by surprise. There are a variety of actions to take to stay safe:

Stay off the roads in the event of snow or ice.

Prepare an emergency kit and have an emergency plan in place.

Clear ice, snow and leaves from around fire hydrants and storm drains.

Heating equipment is a leading cause of home fire deaths, according to the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA). Half of home heating equipment fires are report-

ed during the months of December, January, and February. Learn more about steps you can take to prevent most heating-related fires from happening.

Visit [alexandriava.gov/Snow](http://alexandriava.gov/Snow) for more information about winter emergency preparedness, safety tips and snow removal in Alexandria.

For inquiries from the news media only, contact Andrea Blackford, Editorial Communications Manager, at [andrea.blackford@alexandriava.gov](mailto:andrea.blackford@alexandriava.gov) or 703.746.3959.

### WINTER RECREATION PROGRAM REGISTRATION BEGINS

Registration for winter classes and activities offered by the City of Alexandria’s Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities will begin at 9 a.m. on December 15, for City residents, and December 17 for nonresidents. Get ready for a flurry of fun this winter with a variety of in-person options for all ages, plus new virtual programs.

Winter registration applies to classes, leagues and activities occurring from January through April. All current health guidelines for staff and participants will be met, including use of face masks and enhanced cleaning between activity periods.

Registration will be available online or

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 11

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



# Bill Reagan Announces Retirement

SBDC founder, executive director  
to step down after 25 years.

By JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**B**ill Reagan, founder and Executive Director of the Alexandria Small Business Development Center, announced his retirement effective Jan. 31, 2022.

Since its founding 25 years ago, the SBDC has guided small, independent businesses with free business counseling and educational programming to anyone looking to start or grow their business in Alexandria.

"I am leaving with a sense of accomplishment and satisfaction," Reagan said. "You always wish you could have done more and of course there are things I would have loved to have done better. But I am stepping down at a time that SBDC can go on in their work for small businesses."

Under Reagan, the SBDC skillfully navigated the city's small business community through the challenges of economic downturns and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

"The pandemic has been an acid test for businesses," Reagan said. "It's been a horrible experience but it also forced business owners to do things to survive that have turned out to be great proactive steps for business management. The businesses that survived are well positioned to be successful."

Reagan was honored in 2020 as a Living Legend of Alexandria for the lasting impact he has had on the city.

"I am fortunate to have had the opportunity to envision something and, with a lot of people's help, start it and work with it for 25 years with some wonderful colleagues," said Reagan, who has lived in the city for 30 years. "So many people have come forward to tell me what I have meant to them and that is very fulfilling."

Reagan estimates that the SBDC has delivered more than 30,000 consulting hours and helped small businesses secure more than \$96 million in loans during his tenure.

In addition to Reagan, the SBDC team includes two full-time staff and several independent business consultants, who will continue their work following Reagan's departure. The Alexandria Economic

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



SBDC Executive Director Bill Reagan has announced his retirement effective Jan. 31, 2022.

By STEVEN HALPERSON/TISARA PHOTOGRAPHY

Development Partnership, which hosts and oversees the SBDC's operations, is coordinating with the city to evaluate existing small business support and to identify additional resources to continue to expand the services available to businesses of all types.

"We are so grateful for Bill's advocacy of and service to Alexandria small businesses and will miss his energy and enthusiasm as part of our larger economic development team," said AEDP CEO Stephanie Landrum. "We look forward to celebrating Bill and his accomplishments and will continue to evolve and expand our support for small business growth in the city, honoring the foundation constructed by Bill and the SBDC team."

Reagan, who enjoys traveling, has no specific plans for his retirement other than to spend more time with Matt Derhammer, his partner of 29 years.

"Matt has been such a stalwart these last 20 months," Reagan added. "I am looking forward to spending more quality time with him. At my stage in life, I want to have the time to enjoy the world at the pace I want to enjoy it."

As he is winding down his tenure, Reagan says he is optimistic for the future of the SBDC and small businesses in the Alexandria community.

"Everybody has been so battle tested during the pandemic," Reagan said. "But they rose to the occasion and they did it with new skill sets that will take them into the future. It warms my heart how well everybody stepped up and I can leave SBDC feeling really good about where things are for business."

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# Spampanato Brings Baroque to Life at St. Paul's



PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/THE GAZETTE

Adriano Spampanato stands in front of the chimes at St. Paul's Episcopal Church which he describes as a beautiful church designed by a French architect.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
GAZETTE PACKET

Adriano Spampanato opens with a D-minor chord as he practices the Bach prelude planned for Sunday at St. Paul's Episcopal Church on S. Pitt Street. His feet, in white heeled boots, move quickly over the pedals. He says, "These are special shoes. You feel more comfortable with the heel or you can't reach. You see the space between the pedals."

Spampanato explains the pedals do a lot of things. "They add really low sounds and provide a foundation. It gives more depth for the congregation." Spampanato is hoping to get a low pedal with a really great sound added to the organ. Currently it is digital "but the real pipes are more natural." He says it gives more impact when the congregation has begun to sing again.

The organ sits up in the church balcony with the pipes spread high across the church. Spampanato says you may watch and say the organ looks easy to play but, in truth, it is complex. "You have the right hand, the left hand and the feet. "It's kind of like an organ trio, a Chopin etude for the organ." Spampanato began playing the organ in his small French village when he was 9-years-old and has been playing ever since.

Spampanato moved to New York from Paris three years ago. "Let's



Adriano Spampanato, new organist and vocal coach at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, practices the Bach prelude he has chosen for the upcoming Sunday service.

try the American dream." Despite what some have told him, "I think it is still possible. I sense that Americans love to give a chance to everyone." He says, "They are pleased to hear me and gave me a

warm welcome here. There aren't too many French-Italians in this country. I am quite exotic."

Spampanato began his current job as conductor, vocal coach, and musician in October. He says

he chose St. Paul's because their organ is quite Baroque. He says he loves all music "but the Baroque from the 16th-18th century is really what I like." In addition, St. Paul's Episcopal is a beautiful church designed by a French architect. He also likes it that the church is open to ideas like climate change and LGBT rights. "It is important to me." Spampanato adds that in America with a good church position you can live but it isn't true in France, Italy, Spain or Portugal.

Spampanato plays at



Adriano Spampanato discusses life in America where he believes the American dream is still possible.



Adriano Spampanato illustrates the organ pedals on the Baroque style organ at St. Paul's Episcopal that add low sounds to the music.

the Sunday service and the Thursday choir practice and helps prepare for the service. He plays the piano, organ and harpsichord and chooses the prelude and postlude for the service. In addition, the church is hosting concerts once a month where the music director is asking him to be an advisor and which they hope to turn into a regular season.

When he isn't at St. Paul's, Spampanato is at the Kennedy Center where he works with young artists in the Cafritz Young Artists program to present concerts in French, Italian and German. He coaches them to work together and teaches them how to pronounce the words in the different languages. "I also try to give them cultural context so they can better visualize

their presentation." He says they just finished a concert at the Phillips Collection and will begin the Messiah soon.

In September Spampanato performed in Paris with his frequent partner, soprano, Axelle Fanyo. They have made a CD of French and German art songs. In October they performed at the London Wigmore Hall, and next week Spampanato is headed to Paris to participate in a chamber music competition with Fanyo.

Spampanato says he hopes one day to study to become a conductor. "A conductor has his own view of the music and he translates it to the musicians." His goal is to conduct while sitting at the organ or harpsichord where it would be more majestic, more intimate."

# Over 50 Years of Iconic Music Venue

**Birchmere tell-all book by local writers published in November.**

BY MIKE SALMON  
THE CONNECTION

For a band to play at the Birchmere in Alexandria, it was like almost making it to the big-time concert world of stadiums and arenas. Since opening in the mid 1960s, the Birchmere has been a launching ground for many musicians, showcasing songs and sounds that make it an important place to start a musicians tour. The festooned out front featured iconic musicians like Pete Seger, Arlo Guthrie, Johnny Cash, Ray Charles and Joan Baez to name a few.

An entertainment venue like that can't go through 55 years of concerts without a few stories to tell, and those stories are the meat behind the newly released book "All the Roads Lead to the Birchmere, America's Legendary Music Hall," that hit the shelves in early November. Authors Gary Oelze and Stephen Moore dipped into their memory banks, and the memory banks of many others that have been on stage there to come up with this 472-page documentary on paper.

"Many moments stand out as markers that built the reputation of this durable music venue," Oelze wrote. Oelze lives in the Del Ray part of Alexandria, while Moore lives in Bethesda.

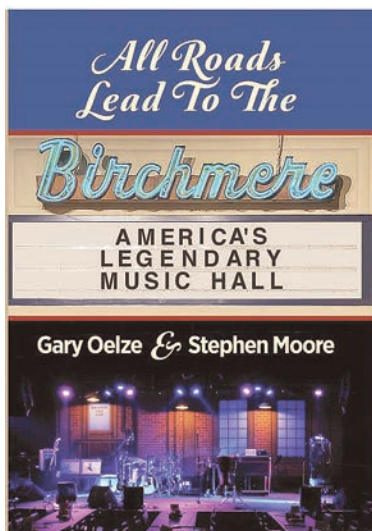
"We interviewed about 120 musicians, they viewed it as an intimate listening room," Moore said. The sound is different in a small place like this, and Moore found that some of the musicians prefer being close to the audience. "Here they can really see the people, they love that," Moore said.

"Intimate," is a place with about 500 seats and an artistic neon sign that looks out to Mount Vernon Avenue in Del Ray. The current venue is the third place the Birchmere has been over the years. They were at another location in Del Ray, and a spot in Shirlington before that. It's tough to survive with prime real estate like that on only concert revenue, so the food and drinks they serve are part of their financial picture.

People are there to see the shows though and hear



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED  
Authors Gary Oelze, left, and Stephen Moore.



Famed music venue is in an area that used to be known as Arlandria.

the music of Vince Gill from the Pure Prairie League, and the Eagles, Richie Havens of Woodstock fame, Herb Alpert and Mary Chapin Carpenter to name a few. "Many of the musicians see the Birchmere as their first stop on tours," Moore said.

Over the years, there are tales of musical discovery, but also tales of time and place.

For example, one of the stories involved the Grateful Dead's Mickey Hart who arrived late, and the Dead Heads were camped out all over the place around the Birchmere. The place was filled and it "almost exploded," said Moore.

Another story involved Ray Charles, a blind musician who took a time out unknowingly in one of the technician's rooms.

In 1991, Woody Harrelson of the television series "Cheers," hammered out a country set with his band "Three Cool Cats." Movie producer John Waters does a Christmas Show every December that's more comedy and commentary than music. Waters is coming again this year on December 15.

The book has 33 chapters on acts throughout the years, and thumbnail pictures of the musicians and the early days. Some are recognized at first sight, and some are not, at least not to the music fans of today's Top 40. The book took two years to write and the cover was produced by Stilson Greene, an artist in Leesburg. An afterward was written by newsman Bob Schieffer, who had his own country band at one point.

The book is available on BookLocker.

## BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 8

in person at the Registration and Reservation Office at Lee Center (1108 Jefferson St.). The complete list of winter programs is available online and at all Alexandria recreation, nature, and art centers, and City libraries. Visit alexandriava.gov/Recreation to register and for more information about City winter recreation programs.

**VOLUNTEERS WANTED**  
ACPS- Help Provide Meals to

Children Alexandria City Public School (ACPS) will provide two days worth of breakfast and lunch meals with a snack pack free for any enrolled ACPS student on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Friday distribution will include a meal(s) for Saturday. Volunteers will meet at various schools to assist with packing boxes and loading buses with boxed meals. Then, volunteers will ride the bus along to distribute the meals while on site at a few ACPS mobile pop-up locations. Click on each location to sign up:

Francis C. Hammond Middle School, TC Williams High School, or Jefferson Houston School. [www.volunteeralexandria.org](http://www.volunteeralexandria.org)

Alexandria Dept. of Community and Human Services- Volunteer Guardian

Looking for individuals who can assure the well-being of an incapacitated Alexandrian living in an Assisted Living Facility or Nursing Facility. Volunteer Guardians are appointed by the Court to make decisions  
SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 14

## Children's & Teens' Connection 2021



During the last weeks of each year, this newspaper devotes its pages to the creativity of local students and children. The results are always remarkable. It is a keepsake edition for many families. Even readers without children of that age spend time admiring and chuckling over the issue. The annual Children's Connection (including Children's Gazette and Children's Almanac) is a long-time tradition.

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# HOLIDAY CALENDAR

## NOW THRU JAN. 2

**Ice & Lights: The Winter Village** at Cameron Run, 4001 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria. Open nightly 5 to 10 p.m.; January 8 to February 27, 2022 (ice skating only), open Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Featuring an ice rink, multiple new holiday light displays perfect for Instagramming, a retail area, food, music and more. Admission: \$9 for general admission to Village; \$22 for village admission and skating; beginning January 8, \$14 for ice skating; free ages 2 and under. Visit [novaparks.com/events/ice-lights](http://novaparks.com/events/ice-lights)



© Ruth Judson / Nov 2019

## SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS

**Waterfront Art Market.** 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. At Torpedo Factory Art Center's waterfront entrance, 1 Cameron St., Alexandria. Visit the Waterfront entrance at Torpedo Factory Art Center to discover new artwork from a rotating lineup of the Art Center's studio artists. Find paintings and photographs to jewelry and wearables, then step inside to browse the three floors of the Art Center for even more original art for purchase. Visit [torpedofactory.org](http://torpedofactory.org)

## NOW THRU DEC. 31

**Jingle Journey.** At various locations in the Del Ray neighborhood, Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. With your little ones, go a magical scavenger hunt through Del Ray and piece together the Jingle Journey story. This event is free but requires online registration. Visit <https://www.artsonthehorizon.org/jingle-journey.html>.

## BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Saturdays and Sundays in December. 8-10 a.m. Invite friends and family to celebrate the holidays with Alexandria Restaurant Partners' Breakfast with Santa. Enjoy a festive breakfast menu, Prosecco Bellinis (for adults), takeaway treats for the kids, and a family photo with Santa Claus. (Saturday 12/11; Sunday 12/12; Saturday, 12/18; Sunday, 12/19; and Friday, 12/14) and Christmas Eve, Friday, December 24th at the locations below:  
Ada's on the River (\$55 adults/\$35 children)  
Phone: 703-638-1400  
Mia's Italian Kitchen (\$49 adults/\$29 children)  
Phone: 703-997-5300  
Theismann's Restaurant (\$45 adults/\$25 children)  
Phone: 703-739-0777

## DEC. 9, 21

**Museum Shopping Evenings** at Carlyle House. 5 to 8 p.m. At Carlyle House Museum Shop, 121 N. Fairfax St., Alexandria. Enjoy shopping small and local. Stop by the Carlyle House Museum Shop for wonderful holiday gifts. An assortment of Virginia made items, ornaments, soaps, and more are available for purchase. Visit [novaparks.com](http://novaparks.com).

## DEC. 10, 11, 19

**Mount Vernon by Candlelight.** At George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy., Mount Vernon. Take a candlelit guided tour and learn about holiday traditions in 18th-century Virginia. Visit with Mrs. Washington and other 18th-century residents of Mount Vernon in a 45-minute candlelit tour of the Mount Vernon

estate, followed by a reception. Hear stories of Christmases past from costumed character actors portraying Washington's family, friends, and enslaved or hired staff. Admission: \$36 for adults (ages 12 and up); \$28 for youth (ages 6-11); for members, \$26 for adults; \$18 for youth. Visit the website: [mountvernon.org/candlelight](http://mountvernon.org/candlelight)

## DEC. 3-18

"A Christmas Carol." At The Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St., Alexandria. The Little Theatre of Alexandria rings in the holiday season with a return of the classic by Charles Dickens. Ebenezer Scrooge, a miserable, bitter old miser, travels with ghostly guides through Christmas past, present and future to find the true meaning of the holidays. Visit the website: [thelittletheatre.com](http://thelittletheatre.com)

## DEC. 10 TO 12, 17 TO 19

**Del Ray Artisans' Fine Art & Fine Craft Holiday Market.** At 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Fridays, 6 to 9 p.m.; Saturdays and Sundays, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Featuring unique handmade fine arts and crafts from local artists. Choose from wall art, pottery, photography, jewelry, glass and much more from different artisans each weekend. Plus, purchase 2022 wall calendars, cookbooks and tote bags to support Del Ray Artisans. Visit the website: [delrayartisans.org](http://delrayartisans.org)

## DEC. 11, 18

**Candlelight Tours** at Lee-Fendall House. On the half hour from 5:30 p.m. through 7:30 p.m. At Lee-Fendall House, 614 Oronoco St., Alexandria. Celebrate the holiday season with evening candlelight tours of the Lee-Fendall House decked out in Victorian splendor. The antique toy exhibit will also be on view. Space is limited to 10 people at a time, and advance reservations are required. Visit the website: [leefendallhouse.org](http://leefendallhouse.org)

## DEC. 12

**Holiday Kissing Ball Workshops.** 2 p.m. At Lee-Fendall House, 614 Oronoco St., Alexandria. Learn the history behind using greenery to decorate homes for the holidays,

then craft your own boxwood kissing ball using fresh cuttings from the Lee-Fendall garden. Note that these workshops will be held outdoors, so please dress appropriately. Admission: \$25 per person (advance registration required). Visit the website: [leefendallhouse.org](http://leefendallhouse.org)

## DEC. 12, 19

**Old Town North Holiday Markets.** 1 to 3:30 p.m. At Montgomery Park, 901 N. Royal St., Alexandria. In addition to Old Town North's weekly Thursday Farmers Market, the Old Town North Community Partnership will be hosting three holiday markets at Montgomery Park. Explore the festive, European-style markets for hand-crafted gift items and specialty food items. Visit the website: [www.oldtownnorth.org](http://www.oldtownnorth.org)

## FRIDAY/DEC. 10

**Alexandria's Holiday Concert.** 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Del Ray United Methodist Church, 100 E. Windsor Ave., Alexandria. Celebrate the season together again at the always popular – and free – Alexandria Holiday Concert. Conductor Mike Evans and the hometown Alexandria Citizens Band will play your holiday favorites, and ask you to sing along for a few of the pieces. Dress in your holiday sweaters and Santa hats. Free tickets available at: <https://alexandriaholidayconcert.eventbrite.com>

## DEC. 10-11

**Colonial Holiday Nights** at Carlyle House. 5 to 8 p.m. At Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St., Alexandria. Experience the holiday season with Carlyle House focusing on how the Carlyles and their enslaved workers observed the holidays during the 18th century. Stay tuned for updates about live music. Tours offered of the first floor with timed entry on the hour and half hour. Space is limited and reservations are required. All participants including those under the age of 5 must be registered. Visit [novaparks.com](http://novaparks.com)

## SATURDAY/DEC. 11

**Del Ray Vintage & Flea Market.** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. At the Parking lot of 1900 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria.



Christmas Illuminations at Mount Vernon will be held Dec. 17-18 in Mount Vernon.

Don't miss the holiday edition of this monthly outdoor vintage and flea market in the heart of Alexandria's bustling Del Ray neighborhood. Find 50+ vendors offering vintage, antique, thrift and artisan goods at two open-air lots, with free appraisals plus bakery and coffee booths. Visit the website: [delrayvintageflea.com](http://delrayvintageflea.com)

## SATURDAY/DEC. 11

**A Victorian Christmas.** 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. At Lee-Fendall House, 614 Oronoco St., Alexandria. Experience the wonder of the season by visiting the Lee-Fendall House for a family-friendly Victorian Christmas. Enjoy traditional décor, music, seasonal crafts, a visit with Santa, a toy exhibit and more. Visit the website: [leefendallhouse.org](http://leefendallhouse.org)

## SATURDAY/DEC. 11

**Christmas Market and Holiday Craft Show.** 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. At John Carlyle Square Park, 300 John Carlyle St., Alexandria. John Carlyle Square Park will dress up for the holidays and host more than 80 artisans and crafters, independent consultants and other local small businesses. Check off your shopping list with everything from unique handmade jewelry to organic bath and body products to home décor, holiday ornaments and much more. Visit the website: [thecarlylecommunity.com](http://thecarlylecommunity.com)

## SATURDAY/DEC. 11

**Civil War Christmas in Camp.** 12 to 4 p.m. At Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site, 4301 W. Braddock Rd., Alexandria. Get in the holiday spirit with a patriotic Union Santa Claus, reenactors in winter camps celebrating the season, period decorations, soldier-led fort tours and kids' crafting activities. Visit the website: [alexandriava.gov/fortward](http://alexandriava.gov/fortward)

## SATURDAY/DEC. 11

**6th Annual Del Ray Candy Cane Bar Crawl.** 1 to 6 p.m. At various locations along Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Take a break from the bustle of holiday preparations and enjoy specialty drinks and delights at Del Ray restaurants during a neighborhood bar crawl to benefit

Neighborhood Health. Enjoy holiday costume contests for individuals and groups, raffle prizes and live music. Trolley transportation will be provided along the avenue. Visit the website: [visitdelray.com](http://visitdelray.com)

## DEC. 11, 12, 18, 19

**Tall Ship Providence Christmas Story Time.** At 12 p.m., 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. At Tall ship Providence, 1 Cameron St., Alexandria. Come aboard the tall ship Providence for a special Christmas story time. This year's tale will be "The Christmas Ship," the true story of the schooner Rouse Simmons, the ship that for years supplied Christmas trees to the people of Chicago by making a dangerous winter crossing of Lake Michigan. This story is sure to delight young sailors ages 5 to 12. Check in at the Gazebo on the G-H Pier next to Founder's Park. Visit the website: [tallshipprovidence.org](http://tallshipprovidence.org)

## DEC. 17 AND 19

**Holiday Concerts.** Dec. 17 at 7:30 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, and Sunday, Dec. 19 at 3 p.m. at George Washington Masonic Memorial. Under the direction of Music Director James Ross, the program will include excerpts from Handel's Messiah and familiar holiday carols and melodies. For Friday's performance, dancers from BalletNova take the stage with selections from Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker interspersed with music from Ellington's Nutcracker Suite. All children attending will be provided with sleigh bells for a surprise audience participation activity. Visit [www.alexsym.org](http://www.alexsym.org) or call (703) 548-0885.

## DEC. 17-18

**Civil War Christmas** at Carlyle House. 5 to 8 p.m. At Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St., Alexandria. Discover how Christmas was celebrated when the Green family lived at Carlyle House and the Mansion House Hotel was being used as a Civil War hospital. Stay tuned for updates about live music. Tours offered of the first floor with timed entry on the hour and half hour. Space is limited and reservations are required. Visit the website: [novaparks.com](http://novaparks.com)

# 3 Dates to Circle in December

BY HOPE NELSON  
GAZETTE PACKET

Amid the now-returning holiday parties and last-minute shopping excursions, there's still plenty of time to venture out to a local event. Here are some of December's best bets.

## Candy Cane Bar Crawl, Dec. 11

Not feeling the holiday spirit just yet? Don't worry: This weekend's sixth annual Candy Cane Bar Crawl will get you moving in the right direction.

The event raises funds for Neighborhood Health in a most delightful way: by offering a taste of more than a dozen of Del Ray's fine establishments with an abundance of food and drink specials throughout the day. Piece Out, Stomping Ground, Lena's, Northside 10 and more – so many great spots are represented, and so many cuisines to choose from! Advance tickets are \$15; \$20 at the door. 1-6 p.m.

## Christmas cookie decorating class at Lost Boy Cider, Dec. 14

Want to make your family's favorite Christmas cookies just a bit more festive? Pick up a technique or two at this decorating class. Sugarcoated Bakery will be on hand to walk you through some decorating techniques with some ready-to-eat cookies and ready-to-decorate icing.

Use the included to-go box to bring your wares home – or eat them right away and nobody will tell Santa. First cider free with class registration. \$47. 317 Hooffs Run Drive.

## Sake Five-Course Dinner at Kaizen Tavern, Dec. 15

Belly up to the sushi bar for a five-course feast featuring special sake pairings throughout the meal at Kaizen. From Hamachi tartare to surf and turf to a special dessert of tofu pudding and candied orange peel, expect to be surprised and delighted – and enjoy the sake pairings contoured to fit each course, as well. Call 703.836.1212 for reservations. \$85. 1909 Mount Vernon Ave.

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

**Obituary**

**Obituary**

**FEENEY, Florence Katherine**, passed away peacefully in her sleep on November 21, 2021. Born on May 26, 1922, in Woodstock, Ontario, Canada, she was the daughter of the late Robert George and Meta May Forbes. After marrying the love of her life, Frank Feeny, she left Canada and settled in the Philadelphia, Pa. area. Frank, a retired U.S. Navy Captain, also worked for the Department of the Navy, which led them to Alexandria, Virginia, in 1964, where she lived until she moved to an assisted living facility close to her son in Richmond, Va.

Among her many gifts was her skill as a weaver and she created many beautiful pieces with her loom. Gardening was a passion and her yard was always a peaceful sanctuary. Florence loved to travel and visited many different countries, enjoying each one. She had a special place in her heart for her animals and always had a dog or cat in her life. An important part of her life was her membership in the International P.E.O. Sisterhood, a philanthropic organization where women celebrate, educate and motivate women to achieve their aspirations. A past president, she was active in her local chapter until her move to Richmond.

Florence lived a long and productive life. Before her retirement, she served as Executive Secretary to the President of the American Red Cross. Although she became a U.S. citizen in 1992, she never lost her love for her homeland, Canada, and celebrated her rich Scottish heritage.

Florence was predeceased in death by her husband, Francis Farnell Feeny; and her son, Michael George Feeny. She is survived by her son, Francis Forbes Feeny and his wife, Marianne; her daughter-in-law, Pamela Feeny; three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She will be missed by many.

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Advertising agency looking for someone to assist with temporary admin job. 30- 40 hours a week. Data entry and Customer Service. Old Town office although much of the work can be done from home. Must be Microsoft knowledgeable. Attention to details / deadlines is important. Hours are flexible. If interested, please email [aiglesias@srcpmedia.com](mailto:aiglesias@srcpmedia.com)

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### NOW THROUGH-DEC. 12

Fall Salon. At Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union Street, Alexandria. Torpedo Factory Art Center is encouraging people to bring home original work from local artists this fall with major offerings dedicated to making art buying simple and affordable. Target Gallery's next group exhibition, Fall Salon, features 70 works by artists from the greater metropolitan region, all priced at \$1,000 or less.

### NOW THRU DEC. 17

MVUC Holiday Shop. Virtual. At 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria. Mount Vernon Unitarian Church's 56th Holiday Shop is virtual due to Covid. Vendors include Papazian Design, Late Bloomers, Bead Therapy, Deerhawk Art, The Bathing Raven Candle Company, Recycled bag Lady, Jane's Crafts, Nina Tisara Mosaics. Information: mvuc.org. Visit us at bit.ly/MVUCHoliday.

### THE HOLIDAYS IN DEL RAY

Dec. 8-19 Twelve Days of Wellness – Twelve days of tips and special promotions focused on self-care during the busy holiday season.  
Dec. 11 from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. 6th Annual Candy Cane Bar Crawl – proceeds benefiting Neighborhood Health.  
Dec. 11 from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Del Ray Holiday Pop-Up Market at Pat Miller Neighborhood Square.  
Dec. 13 from Noon to 1 p.m. DRBA Annual Holiday Luncheon & Star Awards at Lena's.

### FROM NOW TO DEC. 19

Holiday Market. At Del Ray Artisans gallery in the Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. Different artists each weekend. Choose from wall art, pottery, photography, jewelry, glass, and much more! Plus, FUNdraising 2022 wall calendars and upcycled tote bags to support Del Ray Artisans. Free admission. First three weekends in December. Fridays 6-9 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Visit the website: <https://delrayartisans.org/event/holiday-market-2021/>

### SATURDAY/DEC. 11

Market Square Concert. 3 p.m. At Market Square, 300 King Street, Alexandria. Featuring the Alexandria Harmonizers Men's Chorus as it brings fun and good cheer to the holiday season. Enjoy some of the best a cappella singing in the region by a group that never fails to surprise and entertain. A wide variety of seasonal music will be performed and the men promise a spirited and moving experience. Visit the website: [www.harmonizers.org](http://www.harmonizers.org).

### SATURDAY/DEC. 11

Storytime with Young Historians. 10-10:30 a.m. Virtual Only. Pick up an activity kit at Beatley Central Library before the event. Geared for ages 4-8, but all are welcome. December's theme is Kwanzaa.

### SATURDAY/DEC. 11

Christmas in Camp. 12-4 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum, Alexandria. Get in the holiday spirit and learn how Christmas was observed during the Civil War at Fort Ward Museum's annual Civil War Christmas in Camp program. This popular family-oriented event features a patriotic Civil War Santa Claus, reenactors in winter camp settings, period decorations, fort tours, and kids activities. The suggested donation is

## BULLETIN BOARD

### FROM PAGE 11

for older Alexandria residents who have lost the capacity to understand the consequences of their decisions. The volunteer will visit the resident monthly and follow the person's wishes as much as possible. [www.volunteeral-alexandria.org](http://www.volunteeral-alexandria.org)

Alexandria Families for Safer Streets - Executive Assistant to AFSS Board of Directors  
The agency is seeking an executive assistant to help coordinate a diverse group of tasks necessary to keep us on track and moving



The Market Square Concert will take place on Saturday/Dec. 11 at Market Square in Alexandria.

\$2 per person and \$5 for families.

### SATURDAY/DEC. 11

Kwanzaa How To Workshop. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Via Zoom. The Alexandria Black History Museum will present its annual Kwanzaa How-to Workshop, virtually. Learn how to do your own celebration as Cathy Riddick-Brown, Linda Haughton, Keith Calhoun, Malory Todd, and Lillian S. Patterson show you the origins, concepts, practices, and foods of Kwanzaa. You will learn about the seven Kwanzaa principles and symbols. The presenters will teach you easy crafts, activities and give you demonstrations on how to make Groundnut Stew for your Kwanzaa feast – things to discover and enchant for every age. Register here: [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_pR4zEQS5SPiuu-pj9jppaw](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_pR4zEQS5SPiuu-pj9jppaw)

### SUNDAY/DEC. 12

Beethoven's 251st Birthday Celebration. 4 p.m. At Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, 4915 East Campus Drive, Alexandria. New Dominion Chorale's Artistic Director Thomas Beveridge will conduct the Chorale and orchestra in Beethoven's "Ode to Joy," from the Finale of Symphony No. 9, the "Kyrie" and "Gloria" from his Mass in C major, and "Creation's Song." Renowned concert pianist Thomas Pandolfi, will perform Beethoven's "Choral Fantasy," composed when Beethoven was 38 years old for solo voices, mixed chorus, orchestra, and piano soloist. Tickets are \$25 for general admission, open seating. Visit [www.newdominion.org](http://www.newdominion.org) or [president@newdominion.org](mailto:president@newdominion.org) or call 202-244-7191.

### SUNDAY/DEC. 12

"Simple Gifts" with the Colonial Handbell Ringers. 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. At Alexandria History Museum at The Lyceum, Alexandria. The Colonial English Handbell Ringers are excited to return to ring in the holiday season with you with the holiday concert, "Simple Gifts." The program will include several traditional carols, kids' classics like "Frosty the Snowman," the "Song of Gladness" and "Bell Talk!" The performance is appropriate for all ages and is free.

### FRIDAY/DEC. 17

"A Cathedral Christmas." 7:30 p.m. At Episcopal High School Chapel, 1200 North Quaker Lane, Alexandria. Celebrate the holiday festivities with The Thirteen and organist, Marvin Mills, as we sing carols for the holiday season from the English Cathedral tradition. The Thirteen performs the great and unbroken tradition of English-language carols and anthems, many of them featuring the majestic

forward. Someone with office manager skills would be the ideal candidate. [www.volunteer-alexandria.org](http://www.volunteer-alexandria.org)

ALIVE! Volunteers are needed to assist with multiple programs relating to their Food Program, ALIVE! House, and Alexandria Eviction Prevention Partnership Program will distribute food at Mobile Pop-ups and Truck to Trunk events, etc. <https://www.volunteeralexandria.org/ALIVE>

Alzheimer's Association – Walk to End Alzheimer's

organs of our beautiful venues. Visit: <https://www.thethirteenchoir.org/2021-2022-season/a-cathedral-christmas>

### SATURDAY/DEC. 18

Wreaths Across America. 9:30-11 a.m. At Alexandria National Cemetery, 1450 Wilkes Street, Alexandria. Join the VFW, military Veterans, scouts, and cadets in posting holiday wreaths on 4,300 Veterans' graves. Help populate all graves, donate wreaths \$15 each at <https://wreathscrossamerica.org/vaanca>

### JAN. 7-29

The "Little Monsters" Exhibit. At Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Features artists' interpretation of their own little monsters—from fantasy to reality, from cute to terrifying. Take a peek at some fun workshops available to you during the exhibit. Open Thursdays 12-6 p.m., Fridays 12-9 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays 12-6 p.m. (Closed January 30). Details at [DelRayArtisans.org/event/little-monsters](http://DelRayArtisans.org/event/little-monsters)

### THE BIRCHMERE

At 3701 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. All shows are at 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted. Tickets available at [Ticketmaster.com](http://Ticketmaster.com). Contact The Birchmere at 703-549-7500 or [www.Birchmere.com](http://www.Birchmere.com).

### December

Thu. 9: KT Tunstall w/ Haley Johnsen \$45.00  
Fri. 10: Maggie Rose "Have A Seat Tour 2021" w/ Them Vibes & Dylan Hartigan \$29.50  
Sat. 11: Southside Johnny & The Asbury Jukes \$49.50  
Sun. 12: "Seasons Greetings from the Ozone" Bill Kirchen & Too Much Fun with Lost Planet Airmen #1 Dr. John Tichy – A Honky Tonk Holiday & Tribute to Commander Cody \$39.50  
Tue. 14: Shaun Cassidy \$55.00  
Wed. 15: A John Waters Christmas \$55.00  
Thu. 16: Carbon Leaf \$39.50  
Fri. 17: Carbon Leaf \$39.50  
Sat. 18: Tom Papa \$35.00 (Resched from 3/26/21. All 3/26/21 tickets honored) SOLD OUT!  
Sun. 19: Luther Re-Lives Holiday Show featuring William "Smooth" Wardlaw \$45.00  
Mon. 20: Puddles Pity Party \$49.50  
Sun. 26: MAYSA Holiday Show \$69.50  
Wed. 29: Hank Williams Tribute w/ Cathy Fink & Marcy Marxer, Robin & Linda Williams, Phil Wiggins, Patrick McAvinue, Mark Schatz \$29.50  
Thu. 30: Bela Dona Band \$35.00  
Fri. 31: New Years Eve with The Seldom Scene, Eastman String Band, & Wicked Sycamore -8pm- \$49.50

Saturday, Sept. 25 (National Harbor) & Saturday, Oct. 9, 2021 The National Mall, Washington, DC. Volunteers are needed on the day of the events to help with set up, sign placement, information services, promise flower distribution, cheerleaders, and route monitors. <https://www.volunteeralexandria.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](http://cancer.org/drive).

**YEAR-END SAVINGS EVENT**

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<p><b>BATTERY SPECIAL</b> <b>FREE</b> BATTERY CHECK-UP INCLUDES: CHECK COLD CRANKING AMPS AND VISUAL INSPECTION OF BATTERY CONDITION. INCLUDES BATTERY CONDITION PRINT OUT. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. OFFER ENDS 12/31/21.</p>	<p><b>LUBE, OIL &amp; FILTER SPECIAL</b> <b>\$39.95</b> \$44.95 FOR SYNTHETIC OIL CHANGE INCLUDES: CHANGE OIL (UP TO 5 QTS.), INSTALL GENUINE TOYOTA OIL FILTER, INSPECT &amp; ADJUST ALL FLUID LEVELS AND COMPLIMENTARY MULTI-POINT INSPECTION WITH PRINT OUT. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER ENDS 12/31/21.</p>	<p><b>ALIGNMENT SPECIAL</b> <b>\$89.95</b> 4-WHEEL ALIGNMENT INCLUDES: 4-WHEEL ALIGNMENT, INSPECT SUSPENSION, BALL JOINTS, STRUTS &amp; SHOCKS, TIRE CONDITION AND SET TIRE PRESSURE. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. OFFER ENDS 12/31/21.</p>	<p><b>BRAKE PAD SPECIAL</b> <b>\$99.95</b> BRAKE PAD REPLACEMENT INCLUDES: INSTALL GENUINE TOYOTA FRONT BRAKE PADS, INSPECT FRONT &amp; REAR ROTORS AND/OR DRUMS, CHECK TIRE CONDITION AND INSPECT ALL HARDWARE. TCMC PADS ONLY. MACHINE ROTORS AN ADDITIONAL \$199.95 NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER ENDS 12/31/21.</p>	<p><b>TOYOTACARE PLUS</b> <b>\$329.00</b> SPECIAL MAINTAIN PEACE OF MIND BY EXTENDING YOUR TOYOTACARE COMPLEMENTARY MAINTENANCE PLAN TO 4 YEARS/45,000 MILES! TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. OFFER ENDS 12/31/21.</p>	<p><b>SERVICE VARIABLE DISCOUNT</b> THE MORE YOU SPEND, THE MORE YOU SAVE! \$10 OFF... WHEN YOU SPEND \$50-\$99 \$15 OFF... WHEN YOU SPEND \$100-\$199 \$20 OFF... WHEN YOU SPEND \$200-\$499 \$50 OFF... WHEN YOU SPEND \$500+ TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. OFFER ENDS 12/31/21.</p>
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#WeAreAlexandria



**Beverley Hills | \$1,250,000**

This circa 1940 charmer is quite deceiving...the 2-story addition includes fabulous living space, a gourmet kitchen, and spa-like primary bedroom suite. Walk-out lower level with bedroom, full bath, and second family room. Deck off kitchen plus patio. 311 Kentucky Ave.  
**Betty Mallon 703.989.8548**  
[www.BettyMallon.com](http://www.BettyMallon.com)



OPEN SUN 12/12, 2-4PM

**Belle Haven on the Green | \$789,000**

One of a kind! Striking renovation of townhouse at Belle Haven on the Green. COMPLETE update and open floor plan with three bedrooms suites, garage/GYM. Three levels of perfect! Can settle quickly. 1787 Duffield Lane  
**Janet Caterson Price 703.622.5984**  
[www.JanetPriceHomes.com](http://www.JanetPriceHomes.com)



**Alnor Heights | \$699,000**

A single family home situated on a quiet cul-de-sac nestled among pricier properties! Enjoy entertaining with a huge 21 foot long living room and a 17x10 foot dining room. Gleaming hardwood floors throughout this 4-bedroom, 2.5-bath home. 56 Cockrell Street  
**Suzanne Morrison 703.863.3110**  
[www.SuzanneMorrison.com](http://www.SuzanneMorrison.com)



**Fair Haven | \$599,000**

Wonderfully updated Cape Cod located blocks from Metro. Inside this charming home is freshly painted with hardwood floors, updated kitchen, 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths, finished basement. Newly fenced yard & covered patio. 6111 Bangor Drive  
**Rebecca McCullough 571.384.0941**  
[RebeccaMcCullough.com](http://RebeccaMcCullough.com)



OPEN SAT 12/11, 1-3PM

**Old Town | \$459,900**

2-bedroom, 1-bath condo with views of the Masonic Temple. Spacious & open floor plan features a balcony, stainless steel appliances, washer/dryer. Conveniently located walking distance to restaurants & shops plus Metro across the street! 505 E Braddock Rd #303  
**Jen Walker 703.675.1566**  
[www.JenWalker.com](http://www.JenWalker.com)



**Mount Vernon Valley | \$425,000**

This home has beautiful flowers that bloom throughout spring and summer, a great fenced-in yard, and resides in a quiet neighborhood. With 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, a wonderful ranch-style home and hardwood floors, this home is made for easy living. 8203 Glyn Street  
**Jillian Keck Hogan 703.951.7655**  
[www.JillianKeckHogan.com](http://www.JillianKeckHogan.com)



**Rivergate  
\$1,599,999**

This superior 3-bedroom, 3.5-bath brick townhome is just steps to Rivergate Park. 4 levels with two-car garage, bonus room and personal sauna on the top floor, plus an oversized patio with gas-line hookup for outdoor entertaining. 814 Rivergate Place

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



**Old Town  
\$1,590,000**

This elegant 4-bedroom, 3-bath home is filled with light and historic character. Original circa 1840 details include hardwood floors, doors and hardware, 2 staircases, and 3 fireplaces. Stunning parlor, handsome dining room, fabulous chef's kitchen, and brick patio. 202 N Royal Street

**Babs Beckwith 703.627.5421**  
[www.BabsBeckwith.com](http://www.BabsBeckwith.com)



OPEN SAT 12/11, 12-2PM

**Del Ray  
\$719,900**

This 2-bedroom, 2-bath, light-filled townhome wows with an open floor plan and updated kitchen that features stainless steel appliances and granite counters. Finished lower level with a full bath. Private fenced-in backyard; Walk to shops and restaurants along "The Ave" in Del Ray. 433 E Luray Ave.

**Jen Walker 703.675.1566**  
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