



A Civil War-era Union Santa Claus gives out candy canes to a visitor in an officers' hut during the Civil War Christmas in Camp program Dec. 11 at Fort Ward Museum.



A regiment of reenactors of the 3rd U.S. Regular Infantry Company K during the Civil War Christmas in Camp program Dec. 11 at Fort Ward Museum.

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

## Christmas in Camp Fort Ward reenacts Civil War Christmas.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**R**eenactors and a patriotic-clad Union Santa Claus greeted visitors to Fort Ward as part of the annual Civil War Christmas in Camp program Dec. 11 at Fort Ward Museum.

"We are here portraying the Union regular army as it was during the Civil War encamped here at Fort Ward around Christmas time," said reenactor David Welker. "A few were infantry in the Washington area between the campaigns."

The event featured period decorations, soldier-led tours of the fort and reenactors in a winter camp setting.

"Women were here as visitors," added reenactor Kelly Dipippa. "With the army this close, if it was someone you haven't seen in months or years of course you would take the opportunity to come say hello and spend some time with each other."

A highlight of the event was a Civil War-era Union Santa Claus, based on an 1863 cover of Harper's Weekly by artist Thomas Nast.

Reenactors interpreted army life in winter camps and celebrated by opening Christmas boxes from home, singing carols of the period around a campfire and preparing holiday meals.

"We are the same regiment that guards the Tomb of the Unknowns today," said Welker in portraying a member of the 3rd U.S. Reg-



Siblings Vivian and Tommy Field smell a clove-studded orange during a visit with Civil War reenactors Kelly Dipippa and David Welker during the Civil War Christmas in Camp program Dec. 11 at Fort Ward Museum.

ular Infantry Company K. "We portray the regiment as it was during the American Civil War."

Fort Ward is the best preserved of the Union forts in the extensive system known as the Defenses of Washington. The Museum

offers exhibits and public programs throughout the year. [www.alexandriava.gov/Fort-Ward](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Fort-Ward).



A Civil War-era Union Santa talks to visitors in an officers' hut during the Civil War Christmas in Camp program Dec. 11 at Fort Ward Museum.



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# COMMUNITY

## Miracle on Commerce Street Collects for Women's Shelter



**Dee Johnson, Director of Client Services at ALIVE! House in Alexandria.**

Dee Johnson surveys the contributions of household goods and personal supplies donated for the Transitional Shelter for Women and Children at the Miracle on Commerce Street event Dec. 18. Johnson says the ALIVE! Shelter is full with four families. "Since a lot in the Shelter aren't working, there is a high need for gift cards, so they can choose what they need, as well as household products and feminine supplies."



**Julie Duszak and Dave Wacht at Goodies Frozen Custard and Treats**

Julie Duszak, holding "the best cup of hot chocolate," and Dave Wacht share a big apple donut caramel sundae from Goodies Frozen Custard and Treats at the in-person holiday home goods collection event for Alexandrians in need. Goodies sponsored the holiday collection event which was held in Alexandria's iconic Mutual Ice House Building where they create and serve their Wisconsin-style frozen custard.



**Vivian Barnett confides to Santa that she wants roller blades this Christmas.**

Vivian Barnett says she doesn't know how to skate yet but she has a lot of sidewalks around her condo development. Santa had arrived early on Saturday but says he didn't bring Rudolph because he didn't want to wear him out before Christmas. Santa sits in front of a wall of boxes loaded with contributions from the community ranging from Listerine and Shout to maxi pads and dish towels. To learn more about the wish lists see <https://www.alive-inc.org>. ALIVE! is the oldest and largest private safety net in Alexandria dedicated to fighting poverty and hunger.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## HELPING THE HOMELESS

Brothers of Universal Lodge #1 Prince Hall Masons are joined by Del Ray Business Association members Gayle Reuter, left, and Pat Miller, right, at the Del Ray Community Day Dec. 5 at Pat Miller Square to make a donation of supplies to families at the Carpenter's Shelter. Lodge members made an additional donation of supplies for families of Alexandria City High School students Dec. 21 at the King Street campus.



**Miracle on Commerce Street household goods collection Dec. 18.**





Firefighters and Friends to the Rescue founder Willie Bailey proudly shows off a banner thanking the sponsors of the annual toy drive Dec. 18 at Samuel Tucker Elementary School.



Volunteers from InspireLit help a family select books during the Firefighters and Friends to the Rescue annual toy drive Dec. 18 at Samuel Tucker Elementary School.

# To the Rescue

## West End toy drive serves 350 families.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

Children from across the city descended on Samuel Tucker Elementary School Dec. 18 to select new toys and books as part of the annual toy drive sponsored by Firefighters and Friends to the Rescue.

Founded by Del Ray resident and Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Battalion Chief Willie Bailey, the organization has been collecting toys for families in need for more than two decades.

"We served more than 350 families this year," Bailey said. "In the end we were able to distribute over 1,000 toys for Alexandria families in need."

In addition to toys, children were able to select books provided by the nonprofit InspireLit.

"Each child received three books with more than 1,000 being distributed," Bailey said. "Though we remain in a pandemic our sponsors were not going to let that prevent them from supporting the event. They all really came through this year."

Volunteers in the community have supported the event for more than two decades, including Mindy Lyle, who became involved with the toy drive as the director of the West End's Adopt-a-Family program.

"I found out what Willie was doing about five years ago," said Lyle, who began as coordinator of the West End's Adopt-a-Family program in 2010. "I told him that we have to



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Volunteers prepare to distribute more than 1,000 toys at the Firefighters and Friends to the Rescue toy drive Dec. 18 at Samuel Tucker Elementary School.



Firefighters and Friends to the Rescue founder Willie Bailey, left, with volunteers Mindy Lyle and William Chesley at the annual toy drive distribution Dec. 18 at Samuel Tucker Elementary School.



A young girl selects a book as part of the annual toy drive by Firefighters and Friends to the Rescue Dec. 18 at Samuel Tucker Elementary School.

do this in the West End. This area has been so neglected for so many years."

Sponsors include: John Taylor of Jack Taylor's Alexandria Toyota; Bruce Witucki and Union Street Public House; Trae Lamond and Chadwick's Restaurant; Capital Youth empowerment Program; Sam Chamberlain of Five Guys; Brendan Kelly of Kelly's Irish Times Restaurant; InspireLit; Energesco Solutions LLC; Marine Corps Toys for Tots; Departmental Progressive Club; Alexandria Redevelopment Housing Authority; Firefighters and Friends to the Rescue; Caring Angels Therapy Dogs; and Samuel Tucker Elementary School staff.

Lyle said that the need has continued to grow in the city, particularly the West End.

"As the need has continued to grow, the support of community partners like Willie and Lenny Greenburg of Greenhill has totally mushroomed in the last 5-7 years," said Lyle, adding with a laugh, "Willie said that I bugged him enough that it was easier for him to do something here than to keep listening to me and it has really made a difference to the families of our community."



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# 2022 Northern Virginia Association of Realtors Forecast

Prediction: The “rather frantic” real estate market activity will be firmly in place in Alexandria for 2022.



Derrick Swaak, NVAR



Ryan McLaughlin, NVAR



Terry L. Clower, Ph.D., GMU Center for Regional Analysis

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

The Northern Virginia Association of Realtors recently spotlighted predictions for Fairfax County, Arlington County and City of Alexandria. The association collaborated on the consensus housing forecast with the Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University’s Schar School of Policy and Government to answer one question: Where is the market headed?

“In 2022, we expect the market to be a little slower but still fast-paced in terms of sales. Homes are going to move quickly. We’re still going to see a lot of opportunities to buy, but you have to be ready for it,” said NVAR CEO Ryan McLaughlin. He also predicted that inventory would be scarce and that home prices would rise, but more slowly.

Derrick Swaak, 2021 president of NVAR and partner/managing broker at TTR Sotheby’s International Realty McLean, said they convened a panel of key experts from different industry sectors. They reviewed the preliminary forecasts GMU economists developed based upon statistical patterns and trends and augmented them with data-driven results.

McLaughlin predicted some

moderation could be in store for the 2022 market. “[It] will be a bit cooler, but it will still be a very good year for residential real estate. We do expect a slower pace in home sales as mortgage rates increase and housing options remain scarce. Although home prices will continue to rise, they will still be at a more moderate pace than in the past year,” he said.

According to McLaughlin, since the spring of 2020, Realtors witnessed a residential real estate market that defied expectations amid a pandemic that brought the economy to a near standstill. The housing market, McLaughlin said, did more than just survive; it thrived. He attributed this to the region’s built-in competitive economic advantages, including a strong technology sector and employment boosted by federal government jobs. “The influx of new jobs provided and still to come by Amazon has created a ripple effect that benefits the region,” McLaughlin said.

Terry L. Clower, professor of Public Policy at George Mason University and director of GMU’s Center for Regional Analysis, was guest speaker.

“Median sales prices in Alexandria for single-family homes will lose some of the volatility seen in 2021,” said Clower. “Still, we ex-

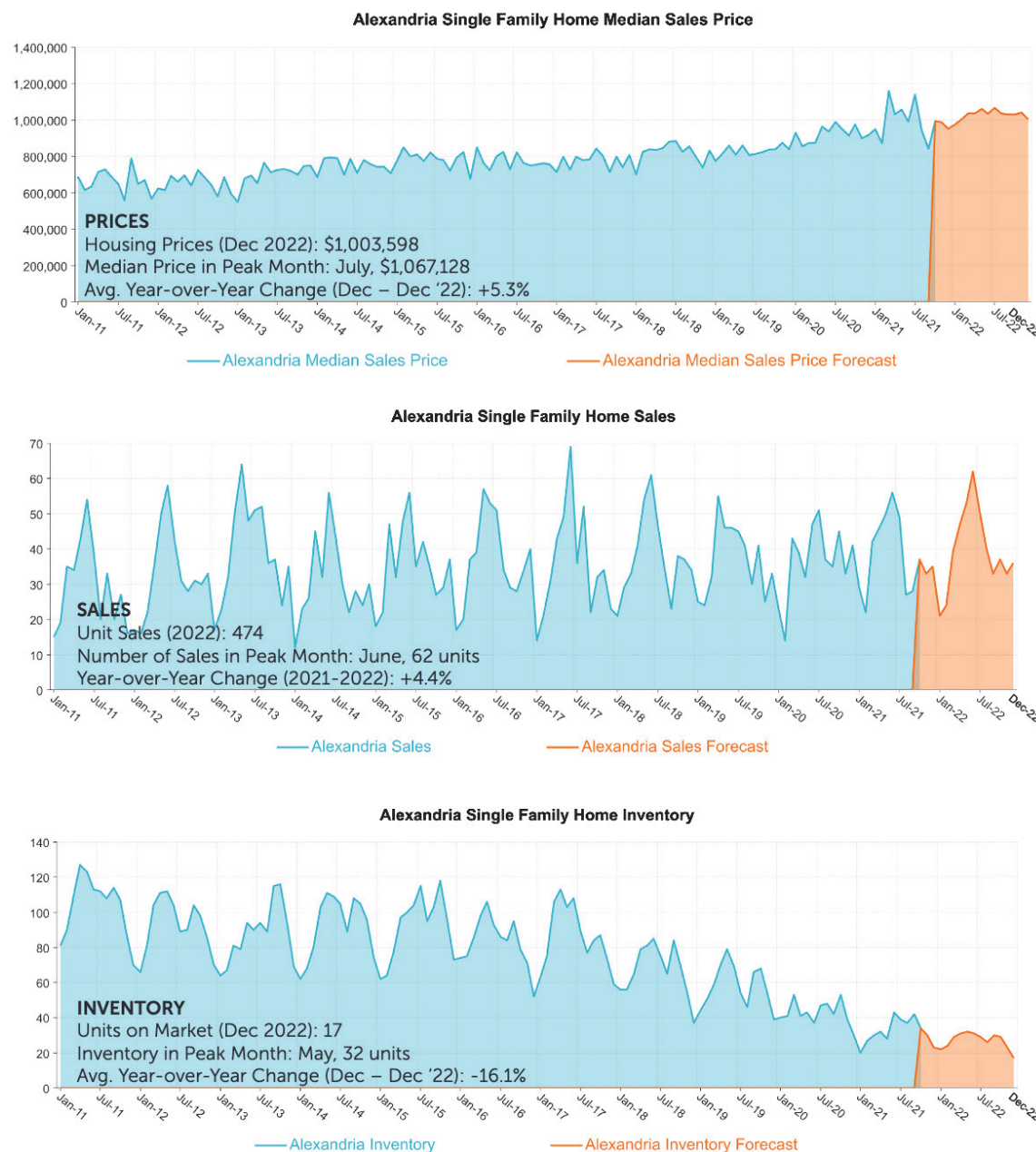
“There’s going to be heavy competition for most houses ... If you want to buy a home, you’re going to have to compete for it. If you want to sell a home, you’ll get everything you’re asking for, particularly for a single-family.”

— Terry L. Clower, Ph.D., GMU’s Center for Regional Analysis

## Alexandria City Single Family 2022



### KEY MARKET STATISTICS



The NVAR/GMU Market Forecast is a consensus forecast developed by the Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University in collaboration with the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors®. NVAR assembled a key panel of experts from differing sectors of the real estate industry to review preliminary forecasts and offer their insights into current and near-future market conditions.

For questions about the forecast contact:  
Ann Gutkin, NVAR (703) 207-3216 agutkin@nvar.com

City of Alexandria Single Family Homes: Median Sales Price; Home Sales; and Home Inventory. Actual Jan. 2011- Jul. 2021 in blue and Predicted for 2022 in orange.

pect year-end prices to be 5.3% higher – among the best performing market segments in 2022.” Monthly sales will peak at about 60 in June in Alexandria, he said, and then inventories will continue to drop. “We expect there to be about 20 single-family homes for sale in all of Alexandria at the end of December 2022.”

Alexandria townhouse inventories will also shrink, Clower said, though he predicts total annual unit sales will rise 4.1% (+42 units). “This effectively means that days on market will be lower, keeping the rather frantic market activity firmly in place in Alexandria for 2022. This will also be the story

of the city’s condo markets with a jump in annual units sold of 11.2%.”

While market conditions could support more dramatic price gains in condos, likely increases in condo association fees that impact buyer purchasing power could well keep a damper on prices.

Older condo buildings across the region, not just in Arlington, will face some challenges. Those older buildings “will still need to have excellent documentation to alleviate concerns about the financial sustainability of condo associations and the physical condition of their properties,” Clower said.

“What we’re expecting in this

region is a little bit slower price increase, and that’s somewhat because our prices are already pretty high,” Clower said. Regionally, “We are at the top of our market,” he said.

“It’s already expensive to try to buy a home in Alexandria.

Yes, wages are rising in many of our sectors. ... But, it’s also important to remember that while our wages have been rising, inflation has been going up too. On a national basis, we’re actually losing ground to inflation. ... So that means that while it sounds like oh, well, people can afford a lot more pricing for their home — well, SEE 2022 NORTHERN, PAGE 8



## Alexandria Police Investigate Juvenile Shooting Death

The Alexandria Police Department's Criminal Investigation Division is investigating the death of a 16-year-old with a gunshot wound to the upper leg. A call for service made approximately at 11:58 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 11, 2021, reported a juvenile arrived at Inova Hospital with a gunshot wound to the upper leg. While at the hospital the 16-year-old juvenile succumbed to his injury.

Preliminary investigation suggests that there is no threat to public safety and that this was an isolated incident.

The investigation remains ongoing. Any witnesses or individuals with information about this incident are asked to contact Detective Ryan Clinch by phone at 703.597.6355, email at [ryan.clinch@alexandriava.gov](mailto:ryan.clinch@alexandriava.gov) or call APD's non-emergency number at 703.746.4444.

## Alexandria Reduces Speed Limit on Seminary Road to Support Vision Zero Safety Goals

As part of the Vision Zero initiative to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries, the City of Alexandria has reduced the speed limit on Seminary Road (between I-395 and the City limits) from 35 mph to 25 mph. This decision follows the Traffic and Parking Board's unanimous recommendation to lower the posted speed. New speed limit signs were installed this week.

Speed is a critical factor in the severity and frequency of crashes. This section of Seminary Road has the highest number of injury crashes per mile per year, compared to similar streets in Alexandria. Between January 2016 and June 2021, there were 239 reportable crashes on this section of Seminary Road. Of those crashes, two were fatal, eight involved severe injury and 59 involved

non-life-threatening injuries. A third person was killed on Seminary Road at Fairbanks Avenue in September 2021.

The likelihood of a person being killed or seriously injured when struck at 35 miles per hour is significantly higher than if that person is struck at 25 miles per hour. After the speed limit was reduced on Quaker Lane and on Seminary Road east of I-395, both speeds and average annual number of crashes declined.

The Vision Zero Action Plan, which was approved by the City Council, identified speed limit reductions on high-crash corridors as a priority strategy to improve safety. Slower speed limits can save lives and support the City's adopted Vision Zero goal of eliminating traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2028.

Visit [alexandriava.gov/VisionZero](http://alexandriava.gov/VisionZero) for more information.

## Alexandria Driver Charged with Striking Pedestrian on Four Mile Road

The Alexandria Police Department's Crash Reconstruction Team is investigating a motor vehicle crash which occurred in the 500 block of Four Mile Road, on Dec. 11, 2021, at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Preliminary investigation found that the suspect, a 40-year-old Alexandria resident, crashed into a pedestrian and numerous parked vehicles.

The victim, a 29-year-old female, was transported to George Washington University Hospital with serious but not life-threatening injuries.

The suspect was arrested at the scene for DUI Maiming and DUI Second Offense.

Any witnesses or individuals with information about this incident are asked to contact Officer J. Burney at 703.859.0806 or call APD's non-emergency number at 703.746.4444.

The Alexandria Police Department is committed to spreading the word about the dangers of drunk driving and to remind all drivers: If you plan to drink alcohol, plan for a sober ride home. Historically, the December Holiday Season experiences more drunk-driving-related fatalities than any other holiday period throughout the year.



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# Covid Rising

**T**he most effective step in fighting Covid-19 is vaccination. But even people who have received two shots might only have 30 percent protection against the new omicron variant.

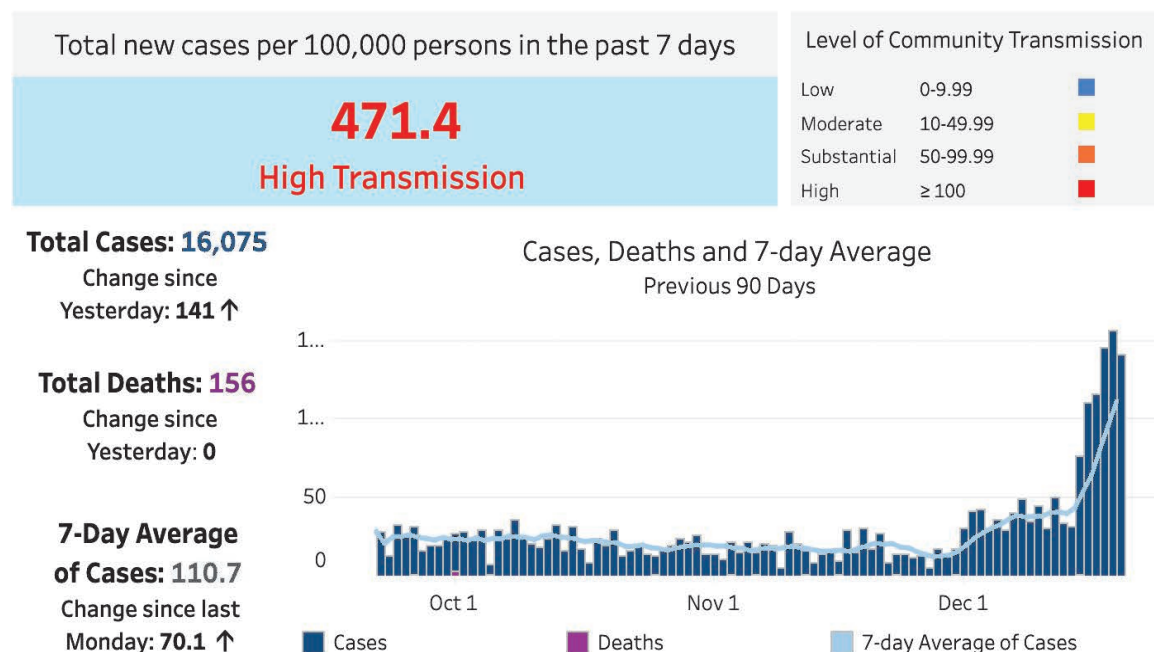
Adding a booster to those two shots “boosts” the protection up to approximately 80 percent, according

to reports.

More than 70% of Alexandrians are fully vaccinated, but only 28% of those have been boosted.

Overlapping strategies to avoid infection work best, so in addition to vaccination and booster shots, wear a mask when indoors in public, and get tested if you’ve been exposed or have symptoms.

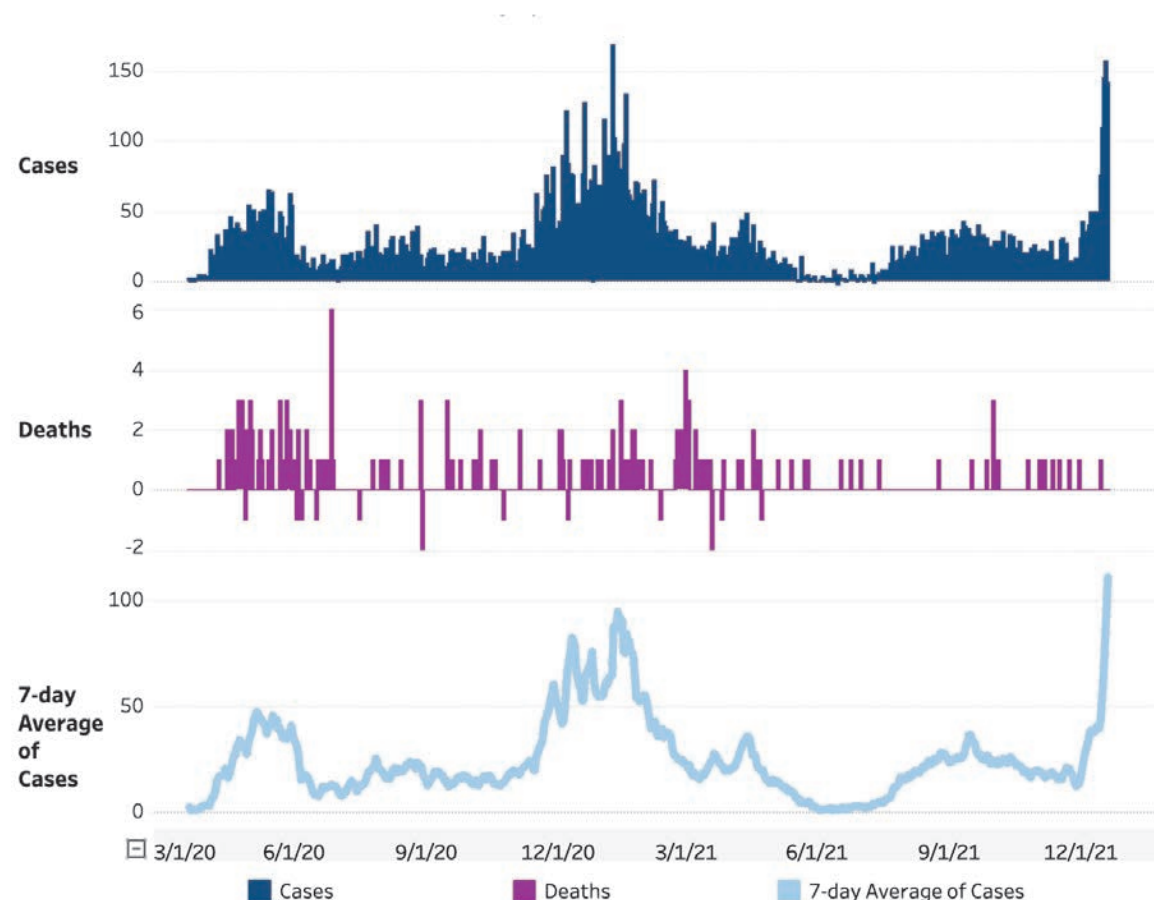
## Alexandria COVID-19 Dashboard



Data was updated on **December 20, 2021**

Case numbers for Covid-19 are rising sharply in Alexandria. There were 145 new cases on Dec. 18; 156 new cases on Dec. 19; 141 new cases on Dec. 20.

## Cases, Deaths and 7-day Average



The 7-day average of Covid cases in the City of Alexandria hit an all-pandemic high of 110 on Dec. 20, 2021. The previous high was Jan. 12, 2021 at 94.6.

## 2022 Northern Virginia Association of Realtors Forecast

FROM PAGE 6

maybe they can or maybe they can't."

Clower said inflation is running about 6.8%. "At year end we're expecting it to be in that mid-to-high 6% range."

Clower talked about the region's economy, which is one of the strongest in the country, and Federal Reserve policymakers' actions that could affect the housing market forecast in 2022. Clower predicted an increase of 87,000 jobs in the overall metropolitan region. The regional economy continued to perform well, bolstered by the technology sector and new rounds of federal spending as Congress enacted key portions of the administration's economic plan.

### Drop in Inventory

Clower said many believe inventory in Northern Virginia cannot fall any further, but it does and it will. There might be some variation in the submarkets, but there would not be a lot of choices overall.

"There's going to be heavy competition for most houses ... If you want to buy a home, you're going to have to compete for it. If you want to sell a home, you'll get everything you're asking for, particularly for a single-family," said Clower.

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# CALENDAR

## FRIDAY/DEC. 24

**Stuff the Van.** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. At the Animal League of Alexandria, 4101 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria. Join the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria to donate goodies for cats, dogs and other furry friends. You can participate in person or remain physically distant while helping to fill the AWLA van with holiday goodies that will keep homeless animals entertained all year long! Register at [AlexandriaAnimals.org/StufftheVan](http://AlexandriaAnimals.org/StufftheVan).

## FRIDAY/DEC. 31

**Make a Ship's Biscuit.** 1-5 p.m. At the Alexandria Archaeology Museum, Alexandria. A nearly complete ship's biscuit from the 18th century was found in Alexandria recently. Make your own ship's biscuit to commemorate the discovery and the city's waterfront history! Each biscuit will be stamped with the new year and then baked at home to track its preservation. No registration required.

Artisans Gallery in the Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. The "Little Monsters" exhibit at Del Ray Artisans gallery features artists' interpretation of their own little monsters—from scary to funny. Check out related workshops. Gallery hours are Thursday 12-6 p.m., Friday 12-9 p.m., Saturday 12-6 p.m., and Sunday 12-6 p.m. Details at: <https://DelRayArtisans.org/event/little-monsters>

## JAN. 7-29

**Little Monsters Exhibit.** At Del Ray

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 10

## 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)

## FRIDAY/DEC. 24

**Waterskiing Santa.** 1 p.m. At Waterfront Park (1 King St. and 1A Prince St.), Alexandria City Marina (0 Cameron St.), Founders Park (351 N. Union St.) and Point Lumley Park (1 Duke St.) Gather along

SEE HOLIDAY, PAGE 10



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The Waterskiing Santa event will be held Friday, Dec. 24, 2021 in Alexandria.

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## Oh, Deer



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I didn't see you coming and from the look of you, neither did you see/understand/anticipate where I was going. Otherwise, you would have side-stepped the traffic, hesitated a bit and perhaps not landed on my windshield. Fortunately, I wasn't hurt. However, I'm guessing you were. I couldn't see where you landed as my windshield was smashed into a thousand cracks. As a result, I could barely see two feet in front of my face. Besides, the shock of it all, especially the impact of the deer hitting my windshield flush in its face left me a bit shaken.

Since I was not far from home, I decided, after getting out of my car and examining the damage - and getting my bearings, that the car was drivable; it was however very difficult to see through the windshield. Moreover, given the lowered position of the rearview mirror caused by the impact buckling the windshield/roof from the accident, I could barely see behind me either. Nevertheless, two miles or so from home, I decided I wanted to base my accident-related operations from home, rather than on the street/in a parking lot.

At first glance at my windshield, without thoroughly reviewing the entirety of the damage/impact, I thought the repair was simply a windshield replacement as covered by the Comprehensive coverage of my car insurance policy. No fuss, really. I even booked an appointment online for the next afternoon. But later that night, looking out from a second-floor window in my house which overlooks the driveway where my car was parked, I noticed a little something glistening in the night and decided I needed a closer look in the morning/daylight. That next morning, I discovered the real extent of the damage. The windshield damage was significant for sure, but the roof had buckled as well, and it was sagging toward the dashboard. A major complication. Immediately I went back inside and canceled my windshield replacement appointment and called my car insurance company instead.

After hearing my tale of woe, the insurance company representative made rental-car arrangements for me and called a tow company to come to my house to collect the car. Which, a few hours later, it did. When the tow truck driver saw the damage, he predicted, given the damage to the roof as well as to the windshield, that this impact was likely to result in a "total" loss. Sure enough, a few days later, the insurance adjuster called to deliver the bad news. Though the settlement was more than fair, it still meant that my 13 years of car-payment-free driving was likely over.

Since the accident occurred, I've driven by the scene a few times and saw no sign of the deer. Perhaps he bounced off my windshield and somehow got the better of our collision and simply wandered into the woods nearby. I can hope, can't I? Remembering what I saw of the deer at our impact, it did not appear to have any doe. Otherwise, in addition to my cost for a replacement car, the deer might have been out a couple of bucks as well.

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

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## HOLIDAY CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 9

historic Alexandria's Potomac River waterfront for a spectacular show by Waterskiing Santa and his merry crew. Come early to see the pre-show (on jet skis). Visit [waterskiingsanta.com](http://waterskiingsanta.com)

### FRIDAY/DEC. 31

**Olde Year's Day at Torpedo Factory Art Center.** 1 to 5 p.m. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. The whole family can celebrate the close of 2021 at Torpedo Factory Art Center. Find hands-on activities, meet artists working in their studios, and get inspired for 2022. Visit the

website: [torpedofactory.org](http://torpedofactory.org)

### FRIDAY/DEC. 31

**First Night Alexandria.** 12 p.m. to midnight. At various locations throughout Old Town Alexandria. Experience the region's signature New Year's Eve festival of music and more. Enjoy live performances throughout the day and into the evening for kids, teens, adults and seniors. New events include a kick-off at Market Square and a "Battle of the Buskers," leading up to the midnight countdown and fireworks finale over the Potomac River. Visit the event website for a full schedule of events. Visit the website: [firstnightalexandria.org](http://firstnightalexandria.org)

## CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 9

### THE BIRCHMERE

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

December

Sun. 26: MAYSA Holiday Show \$69.50

Mon. Dec. 27: MAX WEINBERG'S JUKEBOX \$65.00

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

January

Sat. Jan. 1: THOMM JUTZ to open for Last Train Home.

Sun. Jan. 2: Cheryl Wheeler and Buskin & Batteau \$39.50

Fri/Sat. Jan. 7 & 8: Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder \$45.00

Sun. Jan. 9: THE S.O.S. BAND \$69.50

Wed/Thu. Jan. 12 & 13: Musiq Soulchild \$79.50

Fri/Sat/Sun. Jan. 14, 15, 16: Eddie From Ohio \$49.50

Thu/Fri. Jan. 20 & 21: Keb' Mo' Band with special guest The Brother Brothers \$89.50

Sat. Jan. 22: A Tribute to JOHNNY ARTIS featuring Johnny Artis Legacy Band & Friends with Ron Holloway, Regina Blackman, Stacy Brooks & Gary Thomas \$35.00

Sun. Jan. 23: JOSH ABBOTT BAND \$35.00

Mon. Jan. 24: J. BROWN \$35.00

Wed. Jan. 26: SWEET HONEY IN THE ROCK \$45.00

## 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.

### DEC. 27-30

2021 MVBA Winter Basketball Camp at The District Sports Center. For boys and girls ages 5-17 years old. Visit the website: [www.markvincentbasketballcamps.com/](http://www.markvincentbasketballcamps.com/) Or email [MarkVincentBasketballAcademy@gmail.com](mailto:MarkVincentBasketballAcademy@gmail.com).

### STARTING JAN. 15

Gadsby's Tavern Museum Recruiting Volunteers. 9-11 a.m. Gadsby's Tavern Museum is recruiting volunteers to lead guided tours. Guided tours use the historic tavern spaces to share the stories of diverse people in early America both shaped and were shaped by the young nation. Training begins January 15 from 9 - 11 a.m. with an in-person workshop, continues with virtual evening classes, and wraps-up with a second in-person workshop in late February/early March. Participants will end the series ready to complete their tour certification. Volunteers with both weekend and weekday availability are needed. A minimum of one shift per month (approximately three hours) is required once training is complete. To apply, submit an application online at [AlexandriaVa.gov/GadsbysTavern](http://AlexandriaVa.gov/GadsbysTavern).

### MONDAY/JAN. 17

Trail Cleanup. 10 a.m. to noon. At Mount Vernon Trail, 615 Slaters Lane, Alexandria. The Friends of Mount Vernon Trail will be improving the trail near Marina Towers in Alexandria. Volunteers may perform some of the following work: Using pruners and loppers to remove invasive vines; Using hand saws to cut tree branches; Hauling away vegetation and fallen tree branches; and Picking up trash.

### 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.volunteeralalexandria.org](http://www.volunteeralalexandria.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 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.volunteeralexandria.org](http://www.volunteeralexandria.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 forward. Someone with office manager skills would be the ideal candidate. [www.volunteeralexandria.org](http://www.volunteeralexandria.org)

STEM Professionals Needed. Help assist K-12 STEM teachers as part of the American Association for the Advancement of Science's STEM Volunteer Program, [stemvolunteers.org](http://stemvolunteers.org), during the 2018-19 school year. In the 2017-18 school year, there are 85 volunteers in 6 Northern Virginia school districts. Contact Don Rea at 571-551- 2488, or [donaaldea@aol.com](mailto:donaaldea@aol.com).

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>

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# HAPPY HOLIDAYS

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