

## ‘Friendsgiving’

Hundreds turn out for community dinner.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

Hundreds of children and families gathered at Charles Houston Recreation Center Nov. 22 as the annual Friendsgiving dinner made its return to an in-person event following a pause due to the pandemic.

“We’ve been doing this for about 10 years now,” said Alexandria Recreation and Community Specialist Michael Johnson, a coordinator of the event. “We only missed one year when COVID first started but last year we delivered meals to homes. It was a great success to see the fellowship enjoyed as we brought everyone together for an in-person gathering.”

More than 250 turned out for the pre-Thanksgiving meal sponsored by the Alexandria Police, Fire and Sheriff’s departments and the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities. Over 120 Thanksgiving baskets filled with hams and turkeys were given out by volunteers for designated families in need to enjoy on Thanksgiving Day.

“The dinner was originally started with the Alexandria Police Department and the recreation department as a way to get first responders and community members more engaged with each other,” Johnson said. “Officer Benny Evans did all the meal prep and cooking with some volunteer cooks from My Father’s House along with the Social Responsibility Group and a host of others. SRG is new – about three years old now – and a great asset to the city.”

Volunteers at the dinner included Sheriff Sean Casey, Undersheriff Robyn Nichols and members of the Alexandria Sheriff’s Office along with members of the Alexandria chapter of Omega Psi Phi fraternity.



Sheriff Sean Casey and Alexandria Recreation and Community Outreach specialist Michael Johnson at the annual Friendsgiving dinner Nov. 22 at Charles Houston Recreation Center.



Alexandria Sheriff Sean Casey, second from left, is joined by ASO volunteers at the annual Friendsgiving dinner Nov. 22 at Charles Houston Recreation Center.



Guests and volunteers enjoy the annual Friendsgiving dinner Nov. 22 at Charles Houston Recreation Center.



Volunteers from the Alexandria chapter of Omega Psi Phi prepare to give out Thanksgiving dinner baskets to families in need as part of the annual Friendsgiving dinner event Nov. 22 at Charles Houston Recreation Center.

Several local agencies and businesses sponsored the event, including Michael & Sons and the Keith Burns Foundation pro-

viding turkeys and hams for local families.

“Thank you Michael Johnson for inviting the Alexandria Sheriff’s Office to participate

in your annual Friendsgiving dinner party,” said Casey on social media. “We enjoyed the delicious food and great conversations!”

## Inova Experiencing Unprecedented Patient Volumes

Due to another spike in flu, COVID-19, RSV and other illnesses following the Thanksgiving holiday, Inova’s hospitals are experiencing unprecedented patient volumes and strain on hospital capacity.

Inova Emergency Departments, in particular, across the system are experiencing a significant surge in patient volume and are operating at or over capacity. For every patient discharged another is waiting to be admitted.

While Inova is equipped to handle the current surge, the following recommendations could help stem the surge:

- ❖ Get vaccinated for both flu and COVID-19 and boosted for COVID-19 if you’re eligible.
- ❖ Continue to practice safety measures including hand hygiene, masking, and social distancing as appropriate.
- ❖ Stay home and away from others if you or your children are not feeling well.
- ❖ Know where to go for your medical

care. <https://www.inova.org/know-where-to-go>

In addition, patients are encouraged to consider if the hospital-based emergency department is the appropriate level of care to meet their medical needs. For emergency needs, Inova’s freestanding emergency departments provide the same level of emergency care and may have shorter wait times.

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or an Inova GoHealth Urgent Care Center is more appropriate. <https://www.inova.org/locations/inova-gohealth-urgent-care> Inova also partners with DispatchHealth, which provides urgent medical care at your home.

If you are experiencing a life-threatening medical emergency, call 911, or go to the nearest emergency department.

Click here <https://www.inova.org/know-where-to-go> for guidance to determine what level of medical care you need.





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2022 has been quite a year. One thing that has been consistent throughout is the remarkable support of my wonderful clients. Your loyalty is appreciated more than you know, especially as we've had to navigate through a year full of change. My goal is always to return that loyalty and give you the outstanding service that you deserve.

As we enter the holiday season, I hope you make many special moments with family and friends, and embrace the spirit of the season. I wish you all the best during the holidays and a wonderful 2023.



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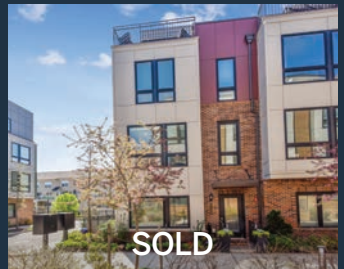
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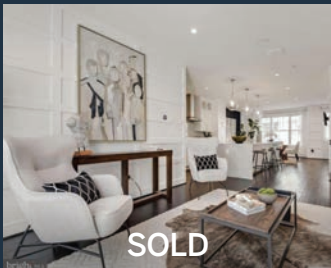
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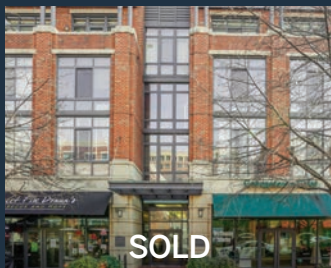
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# NEWS

## Nickel and Dimed Behind Bars

Lawmakers take a look at fines and fees charged to inmates at jails across Virginia.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

People who were locked up in the Alexandria jail are not staying there for free, and taxpayers are paying only part of the bill.

From telephone calls and emails to commissary items and money transfers, sheriffs and regional jail directors across Virginia have a wide variety of fines and fees they assess to people who are incarcerated. That's creating a sense of alarm among people who are concerned about consumer exploitation of the most captive of markets. Now members of the General Assembly are about to consider a set of recommendations to crack down on predatory contracts with third-party vendors who are making millions of dollars from some of the most marginalized people.

"The amount of money that it should cost to be in jail shouldn't be exorbitant, and it shouldn't be such a burden that it's going to put people in a more difficult position than they already are when they come in here," said Alexandria Sheriff Sean Casey. "It's a matter of figuring out what's a fair cost for something while you are in jail."

Earlier, the General Assembly set up a work group to look at the fines and fees that are assessed to people who are incarcerated. Now that group is making recommendations to be considered next year, and lawmakers will be considering them in the upcoming session of the legislature. According to a draft version of a forthcoming report, recommendations include making telephone call free for up to 120 minutes a day, eliminating fines and fees associated with sending and receiving emails and prohibiting the practice of sheriffs charging inmates up to \$3 a day to defray the cost of incarceration, a controversial practice known as "pay to stay."

"To charge them an exorbitant fee is simply unchristian," said state Sen. Joe Morrissey (D-16), who introduced the legislation creating the work group. "You have a monopoly over that individual. They're incarcerated, so it's not like they can go out and get their own provider."

**THE COST OF MAKING** telephone calls is one of the most pressing burdens for people who are incarcerated. According to a 2018 report from the Prison Policy Initiative, the average cost of a 15-minute phone call in Virginia is \$4.51 and can be as much as \$14.65. Here in Alexandria, Sheriff Casey says people who are incarcerated are currently charged 20 cents a minute. Critics say technology has outpaced these anachronistic charges, and the only reason jails continue with this outdated system is that they are getting a share of the revenue.



Alexandria City Jail

PHOTO BY MICHAEL LEE POPE/GAZETTE PACKET

"One in three families goes into debt trying to stay in contact with an incarcerated loved one," said Shawn Weneta, a policy strategist at the ACLU of Virginia. "We should be facilitating communication between families and incarcerated people, and we can do it so cheaply."

Contracts for telecommunications services offer one of the most lucrative ways to make money off of people behind bars, and in recent years they've become increasingly controversial. A news outlet known as "The Appeal" recently reported on a Fairfax County telecommunications contract with a company known as Smart Communications that

**FOLLOWING THE MONEY** isn't easy, and members of the work group say they had a difficult time getting sheriffs and regional jail directors to hand over relevant data and information. When they finally got their hands on a small percentage of what they were looking for, the documents were heavily redacted. For members of the work group, trying to determine a way to make sure people behind bars are not being bilked requires much more data and information from the Virginia Board of Local and Regional Jails, which oversaw the process of collecting and sharing the documents.

**"The amount of money that it should cost to be in jail shouldn't be exorbitant, and it shouldn't be such a burden that it's going to put people in a more difficult position than they already are when they come in here."**

— Alexandria Sheriff Sean Casey

charged people \$3 for a 30-minute video call, 50 cents an email and \$1 per electronic image. The contract included language promising members of the sheriff's office cruises from "Tampa Bay to the Caribbean."

"Complimentary Caribbean cruises are not complementary. These so-called 'training summit cruises' are paid for through a mark-up in the jail contract," Del. Patrick Hope (D-47) told The Appeal. "It may be legal, but it's a loophole in the law that should be closed."

"It's frustrating that we didn't get all the data we needed and more importantly members of the work group didn't have access to that data," said Del. Amanda Batten (R-96), a member of the work group and chairwoman of the relevant subcommittee in the House of Delegates. "The state has a responsibility to people who are in the care of the state to make sure that they are not overpaying for services and goods that are essential to their wellbeing."

To get a sense of the kind of money jails

are making from commissions on third-party contracts, the work group turned to a dataset released by the State Compensation Board known as the Jail Costs Report. That document outlines the revenue sheriffs and regional jails receive as commissions, and Alexandria has one of the highest commission revenue per person per day in Virginia -- more than \$10 per person per day. Only two other jails had higher commission revenue than Alexandria, the Culpeper jail and Albemarle-Charlottesville jail.

"All that money has to go directly back to our inmates," said Casey, who says during the pandemic all the inmates received a free 30-minute phone call every week. "We bought everybody radios. We bought everybody more puzzle books. We bought everybody candy bars and different food and sundry items. We even gave people \$5 in their account every single week so they would have money to either do more phone time or they could buy more stuff off the commissary list."

**THE CYCLE OF** revenues and expenditures is about to receive more scrutiny as members of the General Assembly prepare to consider the recommendations of the work group, which are aimed at easing the burden on people who are incarcerated. Even if money raised from these contracts is spent on inmates, the problem is that some people might be prevented from making a call or sending an email in the first place.

"That should not be the job of a sheriff to raise money from inmates in order to buy them a mattress," said Morrissey. "The General Assembly and the state of Virginia should be providing the jailers with the money to buy that mattress."





Alexandria Seaport Foundation board chair Helen Morris, right, with Charlotte Hall of the Old Town Business Association at the Wine on the Water ASF fundraiser Sept. 17 at Canal Center Plaza.



Alexandria Seaport Foundation fundraising committee members Farrell Wilkins and Margaret O'Mera at Wine on the Water Sept. 17 at Canal Center Plaza.



PHOTO BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

Angelique Moss, right, of the Alexandria-Caen Sister Cities Committee, serves Valdela Chevre Cidre Fermier to guests at the Cider Festival Nov. 19 at Lloyd House.

## 'The Need is Greater Than Ever'

### Seaport Foundation sets sights on 2023 expansion.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
<b2>GAZETTE PACKET

Inside the modest building along the Alexandria waterfront, the Alexandria Seaport Foundation is gearing up for a pivotal year as the nonprofit begins a capital fundraising campaign in hopes of completing a new building by the end of 2023.

"The next year will be a huge year for us," said ASF executive director Kathy Seifert. "We are going to double the size of the organization and build a second facility adjacent to our existing building. We will formally launch the capital campaign in January and hope to raise \$2 million to complete our project."

Alexandria Seaport Foundation held its annual Wine on the Water fundraiser in September, raising \$80,000, exceeding the original goal by more than \$20,000. On Giving Tuesday, ASF beat their \$15,000 fundraising goal by \$5,000.

"We had not been able to host Wine on the Water since pre-pandemic so it was exciting to have everyone in the Seaport family back on site together," Seifert said. "A successful 2023 is all about getting this new building up and being able to serve more kids through our programs. These kids post-pandemic are really suffering."

ASF board chair Helen Morris used the Wine on the Water event to announce the campaign to build a new Seaport Center.

"The Seaport is an amazing place right now," Morris said. "Our shop is full and coming out of COVID our youth have needs like we have never seen before."

Seifert said that Alexandria Seaport Foundation is working on permits for the new center with hopes that it will be up and running by the end of 2023.

"The mission of our apprentice program is to improve the lives of kids who have become disconnected, who really need to redirect their lives and change the trajectory of their futures," said Seifert, who has been with the organization for 15 years. "The need is greater than ever. It is not just kids dropping out -- everything going on around us has taken a toll on an already vulnerable population."

The ASF apprenticeship program uses woodworking, boatbuilding and adult mentoring programs to work with at-risk individuals ages 17-23.

"Our goal is to provide a life-changing, hands-on learning opportunity so that these kids leave the program with the life, educational and career skills they need to be self-sufficient adults," Seifert added.

Seifert announced the addition of Dana Johnston effective Oct. 1 as the new ASF Development Director, a position she held until taking over as executive director five years ago.

"I am fortunate to have a great board," Seifert said. "We have also started an Ambassadors Club group of young, dynamic leaders in the community. They have done amazing work and bring an incredible energy and social networking savvy to the foundation. They can do things I can't do."

The Alexandria Seaport Foundation capital campaign will formally kick off in January. For more information or to donate, visit [www.alexandriaseaport.org](http://www.alexandriaseaport.org)

## Celebrating Cider

### Festival returns to Lloyd House.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

Chilly temperatures were no deterrent to crowds gathering at The Lloyd House for the Nov. 19 return of the city's annual Cider Festival in celebration of Virginia Cider Week.

Hosted by the Office of Historic Alexandria in partnership with the Virginia Association of Cider Makers, the festival featured cider tastings, live entertainment and information on the history of cider in the City of Alexandria.

"We are so excited to host the return of the Cider Festival after taking two years off because of COVID," said Gretchen Bulova, Director of the Office of Historic Alexandria. "We are featuring nine Virginia cideries as well as some cider from France through our Sister City in Caen."

Angelique Moss, chair of Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee, was on hand serving Valdela Chevre Cidre Fermier.

"This is a cider from the Brittany region of France," Moss said. "I am representing our Sister City in France and showcasing French culture and cuisine. And Caen is known for their cider."

The festival included offerings

from Albemarle Cider Works, Big Fish, Bryant's Cider, Lost Boy Cider, Muse Orchard, Potter's Craft Cider, Winchester Cider Works, and Bold Rock Distillery.

Cider was a popular beverage in 18th and early 19th century Alexandria and offered at area taverns. Thomas Jefferson cultivated 18 varieties of apples in his orchard at Monticello and today there are over 30 different apple varieties grown specifically for cider production throughout Virginia.

"All of our apples are harvested in the Blue Ridge Mountains within 30 miles of the distillery," said Ashley Collins of Bold Rock distillery in Nellysford, Va. "We opened exactly 10 years ago and are now in 35 states across the country so it has been a great expansion for us."

Cider is fermented like wine, not brewed like beer. One of the most common misconceptions is that hard cider is made in a single style rather than the many different styles that are produced. Virginia Cider Week was established by the Virginia General Assembly in 2012 to recognize this growing segment of Virginia's economy.

"The proceeds from this event benefit the Office of Historic Alexandria," added Bulova. "In 2019, proceeds helped fund the conservation of the historic hose reel at Friendship Firehouse so this will help continue the preservation of Alexandria's history. We have had a great day."

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## CAREGIVING



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Deborah Tompkins Johnson with her father Garland Tompkins prior to his death at the age of 91.

# A New Normal

## Preparing for parental caregiving.

BY DEBORAH TOMPKINS JOHNSON  
SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

**M**y father contracted a rare infection in 2016. Despite doctors' telling us to call all the family in, Dad beat the infection while hospitalized at the McGuire VA hospital in south Richmond. For the next five months though, my dad endured multiple hospital stays along with physical therapy and occupational therapy in a rehabilitation/skilled nursing facility before he could return home.

For the next four years, it was a challenge traveling from Northern Virginia to Petersburg and then back north to Richmond for appointments with Dad's primary care doctor and specialists.

Enter a dear friend who is a nurse, whose husband also worked some in health care. Her husband said to me, "Deb, get used to a new normal." In that moment I could not comprehend or process what he was saying to me. It was a few weeks or maybe a couple of months later when I understood what he was saying: Visits to doctors, transportation hires, nursing aide arrangements, managing medicines, supporting Dad's hospital stays that required advocating with health care professionals, etc., etc., would be the constant challenge with my dad probably from here on out. My friend's husband was SO right. This new normal not only applied to me, but to many of my relatives and friends, and perhaps also to you.

SEE CAREGIVING, PAGE 8



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## Major Casinos Coming to Virginia

BY DEL. PAUL KRIZEK

Part Two of Virginia Casino Update

Last week I wrote about the two new casinos in Bristol and Portsmouth that are either opened already, as is the case with Bristol's temporary site, or about to open, like the first Virginia permanent casino site in Portsmouth by Rush Street Gaming's Rivers Casino. That first casino is to open on January 15th, 2023. Today I will focus on the next two Virginia casinos to be coming online a little bit later, in Norfolk and Danville.

Not to be outdone, ahead of their casino opening, the Pamunkey Indian Tribe, the first tribe in Virginia to be federally recognized and in all likelihood the first tribe to make contact with the Europeans centuries ago, has been on the ground since July 2020 in Norfolk, helping the area's most vulnerable citizens facing food insecurity during the pandemic. The Tribe reached out to 50 food pantries in the city that were operating prior to the pandemic and found only 20 still operating. They committed to partner with 10 food pantries throughout the city and support them financially in order to ensure that they remained open and able to help those in need. For those two years, the Tribe's aid provided for approximately 350,000. It is the Tribe's goal to see that no person in Norfolk ever goes hungry again. This is an extraordinary commitment by the Pamunkey Tribe considering their casino is still at least another year from opening. The Tribe has also been partnering with the Norfolk Tides, a local minor league baseball team, to provide free tickets to thousands of children through local community groups such as the Booker T. Washington High School Foundation and the Southside Boys and Girls Club.

I have visited the Pamunkey Nation. They have been thwarted at every turn throughout their history by broken treaties, disease, land



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Photo of design for the completed Caesars facility in Danville, seen during the groundbreaking event in August.

grabs by settlers, slavery of their citizens, the 1925 Racial Integrity Act which tried to erase their very identity and forced many of the Pamunkey to move north to where people of color were more accepted. It is a real testament to their resilience to have survived and maintained their culture and now to exercise their sovereignty. It is only fitting that they will benefit from their casino to provide them the opportunity to continue to give back to their community and surrounding communities in Hampton Roads too.

MEANWHILE, earlier this summer, I went to the groundbreaking of where the casino and hotel will be in Danville. This will be an iconic site as it includes what the city of Danville calls the "Three Sisters" smokestacks as a reminder of the city's once prosperous industrial past. The city has already benefited from an upfront investment of \$15 million and a \$5 million payment to the city for the purchase of the casino site. It's going to be truly a destination for people from all over the country as it will include a 500-room hotel, entertainment spaces to hold up to 2,000 people, and multiple restaurants from fine dining to a sports bar and food hall. The project supports 900 construction jobs for all stages of the project, and the capital investment is over \$600 million. This part of the Commonwealth has gone through rough economic times for decades, and this in-

vestment is already making a big difference. Caesars is planning to open a temporary site next summer, a year before the permanent construction is completed. It will not include hotel rooms but the surrounding community should be able to accommodate the increase in visitors to the smaller, temporary site.

In just its first quarter of operations, the one casino that is open right now, the Bristol Casino, delivered over \$2.5 million in tax revenue for the Commonwealth, which distributes funding to the Problem Gambling Treatment and Support Fund, the Family and Children's Trust Fund, and the host locality of Bristol and the neighboring region. The Problem Gambling and Support Fund was included in the original casino legislation and is receiving \$20,000 a month in revenue from the Bristol Casino, and there is also over \$100,000 a month from online sports tax revenue that is being used to not just prevent problem gambling but to treat it too. I will be introducing a bill to establish and maintain a problem gambling treatment and support advisory committee to enable collaboration among prevention and treatment providers and gaming operators on more efforts to reduce the negative impacts of problem gambling.

It is important that we don't ignore the negative repercussions of increasing the availability of gaming to those with an addiction to gambling and how problem gambling can negatively affect people's lives. Indeed, if you or someone you know has a gambling problem you can call the Virginia Problem Gambling Helpline at 1-888-532-3500.

As these casinos open throughout the Commonwealth over the coming years, the revenue stream will grow exponentially, providing much-needed funding and jobs to economically revitalize local communities and fund essential programs and services, and with important financial support to prevent and treat problem gambling.

many from seeking treatment.

**Richard Merritt, Member**  
Alexandria Public Health  
Advisory Commission

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Mental Illness Is Not a Predictor of Violence

Much of our attention in the Commonwealth over the past weeks has focused on the two mass murders that occurred, first in Charlottesville and then in Chesapeake. In response, Governor Youngkin appears determined to distract us from taking meaningful action by declaring the mass shootings are the result of a mental health crisis and suggesting what's needed is to "bolster" mental health services.

It's true there is a mental health crisis in Virginia, as well as across the nation, and more mental health services are unquestionably needed; however, that isn't going to address the problem of gun violence in Virginia. The simple fact is the vast majority of violence in the U.S., including that by gunfire, is not per-

petrated by people with mental illness. The overwhelming majority of individuals with mental illness are not violent and mental illness is not the cause of gun violence.

Several studies confirm that only about 4% of all violence stems from mental illness, and the contribution to gun violence is even lower. Research points to many other factors associated with an increased risk for gun violence, viz., a history of violence, including domestic violence, use of alcohol or illegal drugs, being young and male, and/or a personal history of physical or sexual abuse or trauma. In short, mental illness is not a predictor of violence no matter how it is carried out. The most troubling thing about the governor's response is that it stigmatizes

the millions of people struggling with mental health issues who are not violent, thereby discouraging

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**NEWS DEPARTMENT:**  
[gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Editor & Publisher**

Mary Kimm  
[mimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mimm@connectionnewspapers.com)  
@MaryKimm

**Jeanne Theismann**

[jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com)  
@TheismannMedia

**Janet Barnett, John Bordner,**

**Mark Mogie**  
Contributing Photographers  
[gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Shirley Ruhe**

Contributing Photographer and Writer  
[gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Eden Brown, Bridgette Adu-Wadier**

Contributing Writers  
[gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Hope Nelson**

Food Writer  
[hope@kitchenrecessionista.com](mailto:hope@kitchenrecessionista.com)  
@kitchenrecess

**Michael Pope**

Senior Reporter  
[michaelpope@gmail.com](mailto:michaelpope@gmail.com)  
@michaelpope

**ADVERTISING:**

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**Debbie Funk**

Display Advertising/National Sales  
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**David Griffin**

Marketing Assistant  
703-778-9431  
[dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com)

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703-778-9431

**Publisher**

Jerry Vernon  
703-549-0004  
[jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Art/Design:**

Laurence Foong  
**Production Manager:**  
Geovani Flores

**Editor Emeritus:**

Mary Anne Weber

**CIRCULATION**

**Circulation Manager:**

Ann Oliver  
[circulation@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:circulation@connectionnewspapers.com)

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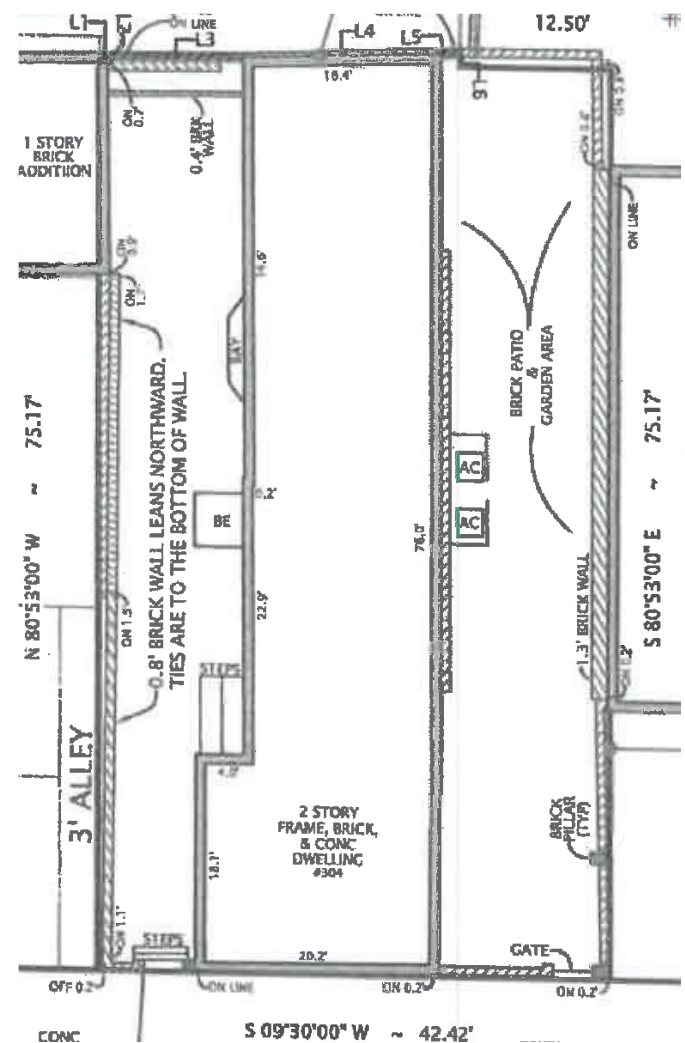
Purchased in 1770 from the original Trustees of Alexandria by merchant Thomas Carson, its most recent occupants were William Webb Lowe, nuclear physicist, and Sylvia Stallings Lowe, renowned scholar, editor, and writer (New Yorker, Harper's). Come make your mark on history!!!

**Open House Sunday, December 4, 1-4pm**  
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## CAREGIVING

# A New Normal

FROM PAGE 5

As I talk to family members, friends, colleagues and acquaintances, many of them, too, are living this new normal with their parents or other aging loved ones. Thankfully, people are living longer, but this reality comes with great changes to the lives of our loved ones and therefore, to our lives. Increasingly, more and more of my conversations with family and friends are dotted with anecdotes about caring for parents.

In many cases the parent was cared for at home initially. But admittance to an assisted living facility often became necessary.

Please understand when a loved one needs to be admitted into a facility, the caregiving responsibilities do not end. We must simply adopt a different routine. Yet another new normal.

As our population ages, I'd say adult caregiving is rather prevalent. It seems to be all around me. Depending on your age, it is likely all around you as well. If you are a young adult, you might not be personally experiencing this development. But it is very likely your parents are, if their parents, your grandparents are blessed with long life.

So, here we go: This commentary intends to introduce a series of articles on elderly caregiving.

In upcoming articles, I will introduce you to some resources. For example, a colleague gave me a book that was helpful in shaping my attitude and approach to my father's care. We will hear from professionals and hopefully, some who are in caregiving mode now. Importantly, we will touch on palliative care, as well as hospice. In many cases the loved one does not necessarily need to be in their last days or weeks to receive hospice support.

Give it some thought. Might you be experiencing this new normal? If so, also, do take great care of you.

Deborah Tompkins Johnson is an alumna of Leadership Alexandria and served for many years on the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. She retired from Dominion Energy as the Northern Virginia Regional Policy Director. You can find Deborah on social media at Instagram: @deborahatompkinsjohnson and on Facebook at <https://m.facebook.com/Deborahatompkinsjohnson/>

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## Scottish Christmas Walk Parade

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2022 • PARADE STARTS AT 11AM



[campagnacenter.org/scottish-walk](http://campagnacenter.org/scottish-walk)

• [#ALXScottishWalk](https://twitter.com/ALXScottishWalk)



## THE 51ST ANNUAL SCOTTISH CHRISTMAS WALK PARADE

PRESENTED BY



## CAMPAGNA CENTER 2022 EVENTS

### TASTE OF SCOTLAND

Presented by



THE GOODHART GROUP

**Friday, December 2, 7:30–11:00 PM**

Torpedo Factory Art Center  
105 N Union Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

Join us for a festive cocktail party on Friday, December 2nd to kick off Alexandria's Biggest Holiday Weekend! Tickets to the Taste of Scotland include whiskey-tasting stations, delicious hors d'oeuvres, beer & wine bars, and a custom art exhibit from the Torpedo Factory Art Center. Proceeds benefit Campagna Center programs. Special thanks to our presenting sponsor Goodhart Group and our venue Torpedo Factory Art Center!

JOIN THE CELEBRATIONS!  
Purchase tickets to the Taste of Scotland at  
[campagnacenter.org/taste-of-scotland](http://campagnacenter.org/taste-of-scotland)



**PATRON PAIR**  
\$375 (2 tickets)



**PATRON INDIVIDUAL**  
\$200 (1 ticket)

Taste of Scotland tickets are partially tax-deductible.



### THE 51ST ANNUAL ALEXANDRIA SCOTTISH CHRISTMAS WALK PARADE

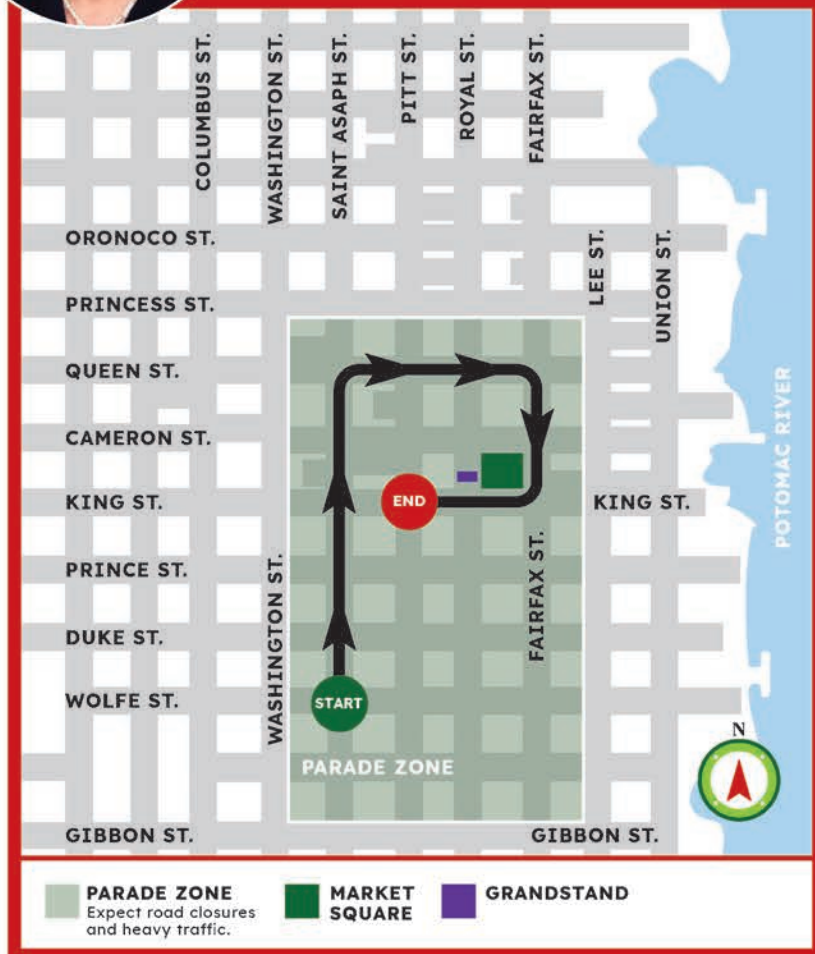
**Saturday, December 3, 11:00 AM**

Old Town Alexandria

Alexandria was founded in 1749 by Scottish merchants and was named after Scotsman John Alexander who owned the land that became Alexandria. Today, the city continues celebrating its heritage with the iconic Alexandria Scottish Christmas Walk Parade. Dozens of Scottish clans dressed in colorful tartans parade through the streets of Old Town, joined by pipe and drum bands from around the region, as well as community groups, terriers, hounds, and more. The Alexandria Scottish Christmas Walk Parade is produced by Visit Alexandria in partnership with Campagna Center and the City of Alexandria. Special thanks to the Junior Friends of Campagna Center for ongoing volunteer support of this event!



The Grand Marshal of the 51st Annual Alexandria Scottish Walk Parade is former Alexandria City Councilwoman Del Pepper!







Since 1945, Campagna Center has served the residents of Alexandria by delivering exceptional educational and social development programs from cradle to career. Together we have been honored to support children and families and continue to deliver meaningful educational services so that everyone in the Alexandria community could thrive, even in the most challenging of circumstances.



### Early Childhood

- A total of **529** infants, toddlers, and preschoolers participated in our Early Childhood programs, all of which were held in-person for the duration of the program year.
- **78%** of children enrolled in our Early Childhood programs demonstrated improvement across assessments in language, literacy, math, physical development, and social and emotional growth.
- Campagna Center staff connected families to medical supports, with **98%** of children in our Early Childhood programs being provided access to medical care by the end of the program year.



### School-Aged Children

- The number of kindergarten students deemed “high-risk” for not meeting literacy benchmarks in Wright to Read was cut in half from **67% to 33%** by the end of the program year, and on average, students in the early literacy pilot showed a **52%** improvement relative to their grade-level benchmarks.
- **95%** of parents with children enrolled in Campagna Kids would recommend the program to other families, and **89%** of parents agreed or strongly agreed that their child benefitted from Campagna Kids program activities.
- **456** tutoring sessions were provided to **29** students in the Building Better Futures college and career readiness program, with tutoring sessions being rated an average of **4.2/5** stars by students.



### Adults

- Our **16** volunteer language instructors spent **2,536** hours working with New Neighbors students on their English-language learning.
- **76%** of New Neighbors students graduated from their language classes and progressed to the next level in their English studies, with **100%** of students reporting that the program helped grow their English vocabulary.
- New Neighbors were provided with dual-generation supports, with **9** adult students in the program enrolling their children in other Campagna Center educational programs, including Campagna Kids, Wright to Read, and Early Head Start.

## GIVE THE GIFT OF EDUCATION

Funds raised during **Alexandria's Biggest Holiday Weekend** support the educational programs of Campagna Center, Alexandria's oldest nonprofit. With your gift, you can ensure that everyone in our community has the tools they need to thrive. Scan the QR code to the right to make a tax-deductible donation to Campagna Center, or visit [campagnacenter.org/scottish-walk](https://campagnacenter.org/scottish-walk)



**\$150**

would provide 10 books to a **Wright to Read** student and tutor.



**\$300**

would provide extended care to a child in **Alexandria Head Start** for one month.



**\$500**

would provide career counseling to a high school student for a full year.



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Sponsorship listing as of November 21, 2022.

Special thanks to the Junior Friends of the Campagna Center for the coordination and planning of the weekend's festivities. Our great appreciation also extends to the founding partnership organizations, St. Andrews Society of Washington, D.C., and Old Presbyterian Meeting House. Graphic design by Scholastica Graphic Design, LLC.



## APPETITE

# 4 Foodie Dates to Circle in December

BY HOPE NELSON  
ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE PACKET

**F**rom soirees with Santa to food and drink pairings to a good old-fashioned holiday bar crawl, Alexandria is pulling out all the stops to get into the holiday spirit. Here are some of the month's best bets.

### Breakfast With Santa, through Dec. 24

Santa has a big night ahead of him on the 24th, so naturally he'll need to fuel up first! Bring your kiddos to visit him at various Alexandria Restaurant Partners restaurants around Old Town – including Mia's Italian Kitchen, Ada's on the River and Theismann's – and enjoy a bite to eat alongside the big

man. Sample the likes of pastries, French toast, smoked salmon, bacon and sausage, a yogurt parfait and more, and then wash it down with some coffee, tea and a mimosa, Bellini or Prosecco for the adults. Get your kids' lists ready to meet Santa and take a photo with him before he heads back to the North Pole. Call Mia's, Ada's or Theismann's for details on timing and pricing.

### Cookies and Cider Pairing at Lost Boy Cider, Dec. 3

Cookies and cider: What could be more festive than that? Lost Boy Cider is teaming up with Scuttlebutt Bakeshop to kick off the holiday season with sweet treats and frosty spiced beverages. Your entry ticket earns you four three-ounce pours of Lost Boy's featured

ciders as well as four cookies just waiting to pair with the drinks (or to be eaten after the fact). 1-4 p.m. \$25. 317 Hooffs Run Drive.

### Caviar and Bubbles at Cheesetique, Dec. 8

First we've got cookies and cider on Dec. 3; now, partake in some caviar and sparkling wine on Dec. 8 at Cheesetique! Sarah Mayo of Black River Caviar will be the featured speaker for the event, which will cover the ins and outs of caviar production as well as allowing for sampling of both caviar and sparkling wine. 7-8 p.m. \$55. 2411 Mount Vernon Ave.

### Del Ray Candy Cane Bar Crawl, Dec. 10

The seventh annual edition of this hol-

iday staple is upon us. Sample food and drink from a number of Del Ray institutions with this year's Candy Cane Bar Crawl. Start your journey at Lena's Wood-Fired Pizza and Tap or Hops n Shine (check-in begins at 12:30 p.m.) and then work your way down to the opposite end of Mount Vernon Avenue. Along the way, make stopoffs at Pork Barrel BBQ, Del Ray Pizzeria and more to have a taste of festive food, beers and holiday cocktails. 1-6 p.m. \$15 in advance, \$25 at the door.

*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).*

## CALENDAR



The Holiday Boat Parade of Lights will take place Saturday, Dec. 3, 2022 in Alexandria.

### NOW THRU DEC. 29

An Eye for Nature Exhibition. At Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria. Nina Tisara and Steven Halperson have teamed up for an exhibition of Tisara's mosaic art and Halperson's fine art photography. The exhibit may be seen from 10 a.m. to noon, Mondays and Tuesdays and 7 to 9 p.m. on Thursdays except for Thanksgiving. To schedule other hours contact [ninat@ninatisara.com](mailto:ninat@ninatisara.com).

### NOW THRU JAN. 8, 2023

The Botanical Gourmet. Presented by the Botanical Arts Society of the National Capital Region. At The Athenaeum, Alexandria. For eons, animals ranging from massive leaf-eating dinosaurs to minuscule nectar sipping insects have been attuned to the healthful benefits of a plant-based diet. For their part, plants have enlisted the help of animals by attracting them with visual and other cues for purposes of reproduction. These interactions, while necessary, are

purely transactional. They lack the aesthetic spirit. That's where botanical artists step in. Botanical art is neither scientific illustration nor decorative floral composition, but an engaging combination of the two. Like blue jays or cabbage moths, botanical artists are drawn to shiny red berries and bright yellow flowers, but unlike other creatures, they have the means to depict their attraction. The works in this exhibit focus specifically on plants that have health-giving nutritional properties for people.

### DEC. 2-3

Alexandria Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend. Taste of Scotland: Friday, December 2, 2022; Parade: Saturday, December 3, 2022. Campagna Center is pleased to announce a new presenting partnership for the 51st Annual Alexandria Scottish Christmas Walk Parade on Saturday, December 3. The parade will be produced by Visit Alexandria in partnership with Campagna Center and the City of Alexandria, as part of Alexandria's Biggest Holiday

Weekend. Learn more about the 2022 parade at [ALXscottishwalk.com](http://ALXscottishwalk.com), or send questions directly to [alxscottishwalk@visitalexva.com](mailto:alxscottishwalk@visitalexva.com).

### DEC. 2, 3, 9, 10, 18

Holiday Candlelight Tour. At Mount Vernon Estate. Experience the holidays like George and Martha Washington. Meet Mrs. Washington and 18th-century Mount Vernon residents during a 45-minute candlelit estate tour; see the themed Christmas trees, and shop for holiday gifts.

### DEC. 2-18

Del Ray Artisans Holiday Market. At 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Offers unique handmade fine arts and crafts from local artists. Choose from wall art, pottery, photography, jewelry, glass, and much more! Plus 2023 wall calendars to support Del Ray Artisans nonprofit. Free admission. Market is the first three weekends in December (Dec 2-4, Dec 9-11, Dec 16-18). Different artists each weekend! Open Fridays 6-9 p.m., Saturdays and



© Glenn Cook Photography / Metropolitan School of the Arts

The Metropolitan School of the Arts presents "The Nutcracker Ballet" on Dec. 3-4, 2022 in Alexandria.

Sundays 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Details: [delrayartisans.org/holiday-market](http://delrayartisans.org/holiday-market)

### SATURDAY/DEC. 3

Holiday Boat Parade of Lights. Old Town's waterfront will shine for the 22nd Annual Alexandria Holiday Boat Parade of Lights sponsored by Amazon on Saturday, December 3, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. when more than 50 brightly lit boats cruise along one mile of the Potomac River shoreline. Boat parade dockside festivities will entertain parade-goers from 2 to 8 p.m. The boat parade is part of a

weekend of festivities including the 51st annual Alexandria Scottish Christmas Walk Parade. Head to Waterfront Park at the foot of King Street, near the official parade start line at the Alexandria City Marina, for festivities from 2 to 8 p.m. including a pop-up beer garden from Alexandria's award-winning Port City Brewing Company, hot chocolate from Dolci Gelati, gourmet popcorn from America's Favorite Gourmet Popcorn and holiday music from 97.1 WASH-FM.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 14



**THE CHAMBER ALX**

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**DECEMBER 6TH  
8AM-10AM**

**TICKETS AT THECHAMBERALX.COM**

## CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 13

### SATURDAY/DEC. 3

Used Book Sale: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria. Selection of over 20,000 gently used children's books, fiction, history, biography, home and garden, cooking, crafts, sports, religion, travel, CDs, DVDs, and more. Unless specially priced, \$1 for hard backs, 50 cents for large paperbacks, and 25 cents for mass market paperbacks. Visit <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-sherwood-regional>.

### DEC. 3-4

"The Nutcracker Ballet." At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, 4915 E. Campus Drive, Alexandria. Presented by the Metropolitan School of the Arts. On Sat., Dec. 3 and Sun., Dec. 4 at 12 p.m. and 5 p.m. on both days. This year, MSA is replacing the Russian musical suite with Ukrainian folk dance in support of the Ukrainian crisis, and invited Colleen Prince, a dancer/choreographer from Carpathia Folk Dance Ensemble of Washington, D.C. to help choreograph the MSA Nutcracker. Tickets range from \$30 to \$32 per person. Go to [www.metropolitanarts.org](http://www.metropolitanarts.org) for more information, and purchase tickets at <https://ci.ovationtix.com/35491/production/1140336>.

### SUNDAY/DEC. 11

Washington Philharmonic. 3 p.m. At George Washington Masonic National Memorial. Featuring Anna Binneweg, conductor; Michael Stephen Brown, piano Beethoven: Coriolan Overture, Op. 62 Michael Stephen Brown: Concerto for Piano and Strings Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 5 in E minor, Op. 64

### MONDAY/DEC. 12

Have you ever experienced Aurora Borealis? Start off the season with this magical ultra violet art class with resident artist Mirela. Pop on by on Monday, Dec. 12 for a colorful evening of painting with resident artist Mirela. Reservations are required and seating is limited. Visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pal-ette-22-art-sip-winter-aurora-borealis-tickets-462632455127?aff=Dec22Email>

### 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

Thu. 1: Rick Springfield "Stripped Down" \$115.00  
Fri. 2: Chris Botti \$110.00  
Sat. 3: Chris Botti \$110.00 SOLD OUT!

Sun. 4: Dar Williams "All Request Show!" w/ Jesse Terry \$45.00  
Thu. 8: An Acoustic Christmas with Over The Rhine \$45.00  
Fri. 9: Delvon Lamarr Organ Trio \$29.50  
Sat. 10: Pieces of A Dream \$45.00  
Sun. 11: Karla Bonoff & Livingston Taylor "Home for the Holidays" \$45.00  
Mon. 12: Samantha Fish w/ The Jesse Dayton Band \$45.00 SOLD OUT!  
Tue. 13: Storm Large: Holiday Ordeal \$59.50  
Thu. 15: Carbon Leaf \$45.00  
Fri. 16: Carbon Leaf \$45.00 SOLD OUT!  
Sat. 17: Southside Johnny & The Asbury Jukes \$49.50  
Sun. 18: LUTHER RE-LIVES Holiday Concert featuring William "Smooth" Wardlaw \$45.00  
Tue. 20: Samara Joy "A Joyful Holiday" \$39.50 SOLD OUT!  
Wed. 21: A John Waters Christmas \$59.50  
Thu. 22: MAYSA – A Very MAYSA Christmas! \$69.50  
Fri. 23: Charles Esten w/ N'est Pas \$59.50  
Thu. 29: Bela Dona Band \$35.00  
Fri. 30: 25th Annual HANK WILLIAMS Tribue with Robin & Linda Williams, Daryl Davis, Cathy Fink & Marcy Marxer, Patrick McAvinue, & Alex Lacquement \$35.00  
Sat. 31: New Years Eve with The Seldom Scene, Eastman String Band, & Wicked Sycamore -8pm- \$49.50

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# HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT 2022

## NOW THRU DEC. 6

DWCNV Toy Collection. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Drop off items at 13155 Compton Rd., Clifton, or drop off items at 12714 Chestnut St., Clifton. Democratic Women of Clifton and Northern Virginia sponsors of Fairfax Firefighters and Friends to the Rescue, will collect new, unwrapped toys for children of all ages; gift cards to Best Buy, Target, Old Navy, etc for older children, and monetary donations for purchase of new coats. Mail checks payable to FF&FR to DWCVN, P.O. Box 143, Clifton VA 20124, or bring items to any of three collection points: 13155 Compton Rd. or 12714 Chestnut St., in Clifton, or 12301 Delevan Dr., Herndon, before Dec 6th. The Women also are collecting monetary donations (checks or grocery store gift cards) payable to Britepaths, at DWCVN, P.O. Box 143, Clifton VA 20124 by Dec 31, to stabilize low-income working families. Visit the website: [www.democratic-womenofclifton.org](http://www.democratic-womenofclifton.org)

## DEC 1-23

"Snow Maiden." At Syntetic Theater, 1800 S. Bell St, Arlington. In a frozen forest, a lonely boy builds a girl from snow. When she mysteriously comes to life, mischief, laughter, and enchantment abound. But what will happen when the ice begins to melt? Told through dazzling movement, dance, and acrobatics, Snow Maiden is a magical tale of hope, friendship and the transformative power of dreams. Based on the beloved folktale Snegurochka, Snow Maiden is a holiday treat for friends and fans of all ages.

## DEC. 1-31

Home for the Holidays Art Show. At Arts Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Works by local artists on display the entire month of December. Visit [www.artsherndon.org](http://www.artsherndon.org). Call 703-956-6590.

## DEC. 2-17

The PARC at Tysons Holiday Market. Fridays and Saturdays. Celebrate the holiday season with local makers, crafters, and artisans from the Fairfax County area! Visit the holiday market at The PARC at Tysons on the first three Fridays and Saturdays of December for a pop-up shop of local artisans and small businesses offering holiday-inspired goods. The PARC will be transformed into a festive indoors and outdoors winter village, featuring a local holiday market and (free!) snowtastic activities for the whole family to enjoy! Food and beverages can be purchased onsite from local businesses as well.

## DEC. 2-11

Traveling Players presents "Commedia Christmas Carol." Tickets are now available for "Commedia Christmas Carol," which runs Fridays-Sundays, Dec. 2- Dec. 11 at Traveling Players Studio in Tysons Corner Center. Performed by Traveling Players middle and high school students, the play is a new imagining of Dickens' classic ghost story, a perfect holiday treat for the whole family. Visit <https://www.travelingplayers.org/performances/>

## DEC. 2-18

Holiday Market. At 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Del Ray Artisans 27th Annual Holiday Market offers unique handmade fine arts and crafts from local artists. Choose from wall art, pottery, photography, jewelry, glass, and much more! Plus 2023 wall calendars to support Del Ray Artisans nonprofit. Free admission. Market is the first three weekends in December (Dec 2-4, Dec 9-11, Dec 16-18). Different artists each weekend!



## Alexandria's Biggest Holiday Weekend

<https://visitaalexandria.com/holidays/biggest-weekend/>

Celebrate the return of top signature events, including the 51st Annual Alexandria Scottish Christmas Walk Parade and the Alexandria Holiday Boat Parade of Lights.

The Christmas Walk will take place in historic Old Town Alexandria at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 3, 2022. Alexandria was founded in 1749 by Scottish merchants and was named after Scotsman John Alexander who owned the land that became Alexandria. Bagpipers include the Kiltie Band of York and the City of Alexandria Pipes and Drums plus a bagpipin Santa closing the parade. This year's Grand Marshal is Redella "Del" Pepper, the recently retired, longest-serving member of Alexandria City Council with more than 36 years of service to the community.

Open Fridays 6-9 p.m., Saturdays & Sundays 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Details: [delrayartisans.org/holiday-market](http://delrayartisans.org/holiday-market)

## DEC. 2-11

Fairfax City Holiday Market. Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. The Fairfax City Downtown Holiday Market will be open the first two weekends of December on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Shop at the market of craft vendors as you enjoy Old Town Square in the heart of Historic Downtown Fairfax covered in holiday lights. The festival will include live holiday music, hot drinks, heated tents and gourmet treats, and more!

## DEC. 2-3

Alexandria Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend. Taste of Scotland: Friday, December 2, 2022; Parade: Saturday, Dec. 3, 2022. Campagna Center has a new presenting partnership for the 51st Annual Alexandria Scottish Christmas Walk. The parade will be produced by Visit Alexandria in partnership with Campagna Center and the City of Alexandria, as part of Alexandria's Biggest Holiday Weekend. Learn more about the 2022 parade at [ALX-scottishwalk.com](http://ALX-scottishwalk.com), or send questions directly to [alxscottishwalk@visitaalexva.com](mailto:alxscottishwalk@visitaalexva.com).

## DEC. 2-3

McLean Holiday Art & Crafts Festival. At McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. The McLean Holiday Art & Crafts Festival will feature a wide variety of high-quality handmade items just in time for the holidays. This indoor show features the work of 80 talented, juried, regional artisans. Produced by MCC in conjunction with the Northern Virginia Handcrafters Guild, the juried show will be held Friday through Sunday, Dec. 2 through 4. Show hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 2; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 3; and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 4. Admission is \$5, free for children ages 12 or younger. The admission price is good for all three days of the show. Visit the center's website, [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org), or call 703-790-0123, TTY: 711.

## DEC. 2-3 AND 9-10

Holiday on the Farm. 5:30-7:30 p.m. (timed entries). At Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. See the farm as you never have before, lit up with hundreds of holiday

## SATURDAY/DEC. 3

Holiday Boat Parade of Lights. Old Town's waterfront will shine for the 22nd Annual Alexandria Holiday Boat Parade of Lights sponsored by Amazon on Saturday, December 3, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. when more than 50 brightly lit boats cruise along one mile of the Potomac River shoreline. Boat parade dockside festivities will entertain parade-goers from 2 to 8 p.m. The boat parade is part of a weekend of festivities including the 51st annual Alexandria Scottish Christmas Walk Parade. Head to Waterfront Park at the foot of King Street, near the official parade start line at the Alexandria City Marina, for festivities from 2 to 8 p.m. including a pop-up beer garden from Alexandria's award-winning Port City Brewing Company, hot chocolate from Dolci Gelati, gourmet popcorn from America's Favorite Gourmet Popcorn and holiday music from 97.1 WASH-FM.

## SATURDAY/DEC. 3

2022 Alternative Gift Market & Craft Fair. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. At 1625 Wiehle Ave., Reston. Shop online Nov. 25-Dec. 4. After two years, Unitarian Universalist Reston's Alternative Gift Market and Craft Fair is back in person this year. With the holiday shopping season upon us, enjoy socially conscious gift-giving. Visit [UUReston.org/agm](http://UUReston.org/agm)

SEE HOLIDAY CALENDAR, PAGE 16

lights. Wagon rides, indoor activities, food, animal interactions and campfires. One-hour entry in 15-minute slots starting at 5:30 p.m. For times and to register, visit [www.fairfax-county.gov/parks/parktakes](http://www.fairfax-county.gov/parks/parktakes)

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**CALENDAR**

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**Let us know about an upcoming event**

connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar

**Legals**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**

Notice of Realty Action: Proposed exchange of Federally owned land and interests in land located in the City of Alexandria (CoA), Virginia, for non-Federal land located in Prince William County, Virginia.

I. The following described Federally owned land and interests in land, which are administered by the National Park Service, have been determined to be suitable for disposal by exchange. The authority for this exchange is 54 U.S.C. § 102901(b), which authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to acquire property within a unit of the National Park System in exchange for Federally owned property under the Secretary's jurisdiction that the Secretary determines is suitable for disposal and that is in the same State as the non-Federal property to be acquired.

The selected Federal land and interests in land are currently managed by the George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP). The property to be conveyed is required for the construction of the Potomac Yard Metro Station and is no longer required for inclusion in the GWMP. The land has been surveyed for cultural resources, endangered species, and threatened species. A Statement of Findings document was also prepared to comply with NPS wetlands protection and floodplain management procedures and Executive Orders 11988, 11990, and 13690.

The Federal interests to be conveyed to the CoA are fee title to GWMP Tract 108-014A, consisting of 0.33 acres, more or less, and a scenic easement in GWMP Tract 108-028A, consisting of 2.19 acres, more or less. Tract 108-014A is a portion of those same lands which were transferred from the Administrator of Civil Aeronautics, Department of Commerce to the Department of the Interior, National Park Service by Executive Order 9851 dated May 13, 1947. Tract 108-028A is a portion of the scenic easement conveyed to the United States from Commonwealth Atlantic Properties, Inc. et al. by that certain deed dated March 24, 2000, and recorded on March 30, 2000, among the land records of the City of Alexandria, VA, in Deed Book 5341 on Page 24. The United States of America will convey title by quitclaim deed.

II. In exchange for the lands identified in Paragraph I, the United States of America will acquire title to two tracts located in Prince William Forest Park (PRWI). The non-Federal tracts to be conveyed are PRWI Tracts 02-102 and 02-103, which contain 7.96 and 7.13 acres, more or less, respectively. These parcels are not located within a floodplain. The United States will acquire fee simple title to these lands, subject only to encumbrances of record.

The value of the properties to be exchanged has been determined by fair market value appraisals. The value of the land or interests in land to be conveyed by the CoA to the United States is less than the value of the land or interests in land to be conveyed by the United States to the CoA. To equalize value, the CoA will include a cash equalization payment with its land to be exchanged. The CoA will convey title by quitclaim deed.

Detailed information about this exchange, including precise legal descriptions, survey plats, the Record of Decision, and other documentation concerning the NPS's compliance with applicable Federal laws, is available online at: <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/PotomacYardLandExchange>.

Comments may be submitted at: <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/PotomacYardLandExchange> or by email to [gwmp\\_superintendent@nps.gov](mailto:gwmp_superintendent@nps.gov) or by mail to Realty Officer, Land Resources Program Center, National Capital Region, National Park Service, 1100 Ohio Drive SW, Washington D.C. 20242. Comments must be postmarked or submitted online within 45 calendar days of the date of publication of this notice to receive consideration. The NPS will evaluate all timely comments and may modify or vacate the realty action in response to them. In the absence of any action to modify or vacate, this realty action will become the final determination of the Department of Interior.

10/26/22

Date

LISA MENDELSON-IELMINI  
Digitally signed by LISA MENDELSON-IELMINI  
Date: 2022.10.26 21:10:24 -0400

For Kym A. Hall  
Regional Director  
National Capital Region  
National Park Service

**Legals**

**ABC LICENSE**

Artisans & Vines, LLC trading as Artisans & Vines LLC, 4700 Eisenhower Drive, Alexandria, VA, 22304.4806. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for In-State Wine Wholesaler license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Terence Shiple, Managing Partner. Date notice posted at establishment 1/23/2022. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or (800) 552-3200.

**Legals**

# HOLIDAY CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 16

**SATURDAY/DEC. 3**

Christmastide at Gunston Hall. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. At Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Lorton. Discover Christmases of the past through activities from the 1920s and the 1780s. See how Christmas has changed over time. Help visitors feed their curiosity by thinking about life for different people—enslaved, indentured, wealthy, and poor—at 18th-century Gunston Hall during the holiday season. This family-oriented event includes crafts, games, and live music. Visit the website: <https://gunstonhall.org/events/christmastide-at-gunston-hall/>

**SATURDAY/DEC. 3**

Cookies with Santa. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Join Reston Association when Santa makes his first stop in Reston. Join the holiday countdown with a cookie jar full of fun and see Santa Claus before he embarks on his annual journey around the world. With a craft, cookies & cocoa and activities to jumpstart your holiday season and a letter to and from Santa will sure be a highlight. Don't forget your camera! Registration and fee is only for the child, but parents must stay at the event. Contact [Ashleigh@reston.org](mailto:Ashleigh@reston.org) or 703-435-6577.

**SATURDAY/DEC. 3**

Claus & Paws. 2-4 p.m. Dress up your pet, bring your camera and take a photo with Santa to share with family and friends this holiday season. Santa will also have a gift for your four-legged family member. This event will be held outdoors at the Lake House, Reston Contact [Ashleigh@reston.org](mailto:Ashleigh@reston.org) or 703-435-6577.

**SATURDAY/DEC. 3**

Historic Clifton Holiday Homes Tour. 4-7 p.m. In the Town of Clifton. Kick off the holiday season at the Clifton Holiday Homes Tour. This year's tour will feature four historic houses, an open caboose, arts and crafts show in the Town Hall, and a gospel ensemble in the Clifton Primitive Baptist Church. Tickets: Prior to Tour \$20 adults, \$5 child; Day of Tour: \$25/adults, \$5 child. Tickets are available for purchase in town shops/restaurants. Visit <http://cliftonva.gov>.

**SATURDAY/DEC. 3**

Herndon Homes Tour. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tour Herndon homes decorated for the holidays. Tickets \$15 through Nov. 26; \$20 Nov. 27-Dec. 3. Buy in person at Arts Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon; (credit, cash or check) and Herndon Florist, 1675 Reston Parkway Suite G, Reston; (cash or check) or online through Dec. 2 at [holidayhomeshernndon.eventbrite.com](http://holidayhomeshernndon.eventbrite.com). More information at [holidayhomestourofherndon.org](http://holidayhomestourofherndon.org)

**SATURDAY/DEC. 3**

Gifts from the Heart Exhibit & Shopping Event. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Reston Community Center at Lake Anne, Reston. People can enjoy the artists' creations on display in the Jo Ann Rose Gallery through January 9, 2023; 3D Gallery exhibit items will remain on display through February 18, 2023. Artist entry fees and 10 percent of all sales will be donated to Cornerstones. The exhibit showcases original works of



art in a variety of media—including oil, acrylic, watercolor, collage, stained glass, ceramic, sculpture and mixed media—with a wide range of sizes and prices. The December 3 sales event will offer the community a chance to purchase artwork and get into the holiday spirit. RCC will also offer a virtual artists' directory, which will connect visitors with the dozens of artists displaying their wares at Gifts from the HeART. Interested shoppers can shop directly from the artists' links. Find the directory online at [www.restoncommunitycenter.com](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com) beginning December 3.

**SATURDAY/DEC. 3**

Holiday Model Train Show. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. At W&OD Caboose Open House, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. At Arts Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Contact [herndonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:herndonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com)

**SATURDAY/DEC. 3**

Holiday Tree Lighting & Sing-Along. 5-6 p.m. Carols, tree lighting and a visit from Santa. At Town Hall Square, 730 Elden Street, Herndon. Visit [dulleschamber.org](http://dulleschamber.org) or call 571-323-5300.

**HOLIDAYS AT THE GRANGE**

Dec. 3-4. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Great Falls Studios Artfest. Saturday/Dec. 10. 3 p.m. Holiday Afternoon Tea. Sunday/Dec. 11. 4:30 p.m. Amadeus Presents Sounds of the Season. Visit the website: [www.gfgrange.org](http://www.gfgrange.org).

**DEC. 3-4**

"The Nutcracker." At Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, 4915 E. Campus Drive, Alexandria. Presented by Metropolitan School of the Arts. Sat., Dec. 3 and Sun., Dec. 4 at 12 p.m. and 5 p.m. on both days. This year, MSA is replacing the Russian musical suite with Ukrainian folk dance in support of the Ukrainian crisis, and invited Colleen Prince, a dancer/choreographer from Carpathia Folk Dance Ensemble of Washington, D.C. to help choreograph the MSA Nutcracker. Tickets range from \$30 to \$32 per person. Go to [www.metropolitanarts.org](http://www.metropolitanarts.org) for more information, and purchase tickets at <https://ci.ovationtix.com/35491/production/1140336>.

**SUNDAY/DEC. 4**

Great Falls Tree Lighting. At Great Falls Village Center Field, Great Falls. Join in on Sunday, December 4 for the annual tree lighting at the Great Falls Village Field. There will be pony rides, a petting zoo, school choir performances, Live Nativity, and a special visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus.

**SUNDAY/DEC. 4**

Herndon Holiday Arts & Crafts Show. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. More than 70 arts and craft vendors offer unique gifts, decorations and handmade items. Free admission and parking. At Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Ave., Herndon. Visit [herndon-va.gov/events](http://herndon-va.gov/events). Call 703-787-7300.

**SATURDAY/DEC. 10**

Wintermarkt. 12-7 p.m. Bringing the Old World charm of Christmas in Europe to Herndon. Family-focused events, entertainment, and items for all members of the household. Downtown Herndon, 777 Lynn Street, Herndon. Visit [Herndon-wintermarkt.com](http://Herndon-wintermarkt.com) or call 571-323-5300.

**SATURDAY/DEC. 10**

Christmas Around the World. 4-8 p.m. At Parkwood Baptist Church, 8726 Braddock Road, Annandale. "Christmas Around the World," celebrating Jesus' birth features concerts, costumed reenactors, live animals, biblical stories. Tickets at [www.parkwood.org/registration](http://www.parkwood.org/registration) beginning Nov. 28. Free parking. Visit the website: [www.parkwood.org](http://www.parkwood.org)

**SATURDAY/DEC. 10**

Holiday Cheer. 7:30 p.m. at Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, 4444 Arlington Blvd., Arlington. Presented by the National Chamber Ensemble. This program brings the finest classical masterpieces and traditional holiday favorites together for a fun and memorable evening for the entire family. Festivities begin with a "Sleigh Ride"—Leroy Anderson's classic and "Chanukkah Festival". Soprano Nancy Peery Marriott (soprano), a long-time NCE favorite, will perform seasonal favorites and lead a Carol Sing-along that will have the entire audience joining in the spirit of the holidays. Tickets: <https://www.nationalchamberensemble.org/tickets.htm>

**SATURDAY/DEC. 10**

Christmas Carol Sing-Along. 3-5 p.m. Historic Pleasant Grove is holding its annual Christmas Carol Sing, followed by cookies and hot cider, at our quaint historic site. Free community event at 8641 Lewinsville Road, McLean. Visit [www.HistoricPleasantGrove.org](http://www.HistoricPleasantGrove.org)

**SATURDAY/DEC. 10**

Christmas Calamity Improv. 7-9:30 p.m. Come ring the bells! Improv with a seasonal twist! At Arts Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Visit [artsherndon.org](http://artsherndon.org). Tickets \$15. Call 703-956-6590.



## Outdoor Decorating Contest

After a two year hiatus due to the pandemic, the annual holiday outdoor decorating contest returns, sponsored by the Old Town Walled Garden Club. Founded in 1959, this will be the 53d year the Old Town Walled Garden Club has sponsored this contest.

From traditional greens to more contemporary designs, Alexandria's decorations make Old Town a holiday destination. The contest recognizes the most striking holiday exterior decorations in the Historic District.

In keeping with Old Town's historic provenance, contest rules require that except for festive bows and ribbons the decorations should feature only natural materials. For the residential contest, the decorations must all be made by the homeowners themselves.

For the commercial contest, decorations can be professionally created, however decorations should only feature natural materials.

Judging criteria include originality of design, scale, color, contrast, and attractiveness from the street.

The first, second, and third place winners for the residential contest will receive gift certificates from local area restaurants or businesses.

Judges will consist of Old Town Walled Garden Club members and judging will take place sometime the week of Saturday, Dec. 10 to Friday Dec. 16.

The contest is free to enter. If you're interested in participating in the contest, send an email to OTWG-Club@gmail.com and provide your name, address, email address and telephone contact, and judges will come by to check out your décor.

For additional information regarding the contest, contact the Old Town Walled Garden Club at OTWGClub@gmail.com

## Kids' First Years Launches Monthly Connect & Play Sessions

Would you like to connect with other parents of infants and toddlers in Alexandria and help your child learn to play with others? Here's an open invitation from Kids' First Years: Join us from 10-11 a.m. on the second Tuesday of every month for our new "Connect & Play" sessions at the William Ramsay Recreation Center, 5650 Sanger Ave.

Bring your children and learn about fun activities tied to The Basics that you can do at home to help your little ones learn and grow. Every participant will leave with a bag filled with play things for your children. So come and have a cup of coffee, make connections with other moms and dads, and enjoy some quality playtime with your children.

Upcoming dates are Tues., Dec. 13 and Tues., Jan. 10. There's no cost to sign up, but pre-registration is requested for planning purposes. Register at <https://bit.ly/KFYconnectandplay> or email [info@kidsfirst-years.org](mailto:info@kidsfirst-years.org).

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### Obituary

### Obituary

#### Kerrie Sanders McHugh

On November 15, 2022, beloved wife, mother, sister, aunt, cousin, and friend passed away peacefully after complications from an illness in Alexandria VA. Born on August 22, 1936 in Washington DC, Kerrie grew up in Alexandria VA (Old Town and Belle Haven), Montevideo Uruguay, Santiago Chile, Virginia Beach VA, Oahu Hawaii, San Diego and Monterey California. She graduated from Santiago College (Chile) in 1955 and nearly graduated from Goucher College (Maryland) in 1959. She lived in the Mount Vernon area for 50 years. Kerrie was preceded in death by husband W. Michael McHugh (2015) and brother Barry Sanders (1990). She is survived by children Heather S McHugh (Alexandria VA) and William Bruce McHugh (Burlington NC); four grandchildren Katherine Elizabeth Allison, William Bruce McHugh, Jr., Madeleine Mae McHugh, and Lily Julieanna McHugh, and four great grandchildren Jackson Paul Smith McHugh, Aubrey Nevaeh Allison, Sutton Elizabeth Allison, and William Bristol McHugh. Kerrie is also survived by her brother Jonathan Scully Sanders (Bethesda MD) and family.



Kerrie loved people – she found kinship with everyone – and enjoyed spirited conversations, discussions, and even good-natured arguments. She was passionate about opera, classical music, and the songs of Chile and Mexico. Kerrie would sing the Chilean national anthem at the drop of a hat. She loved to read, consuming books at a prodigious rate. Kerrie was known for throwing parties, where the food, music, and wine flowed generously. For years she managed Granny's Place (a children's shop) in Alexandria VA. Kerrie volunteered at Navy Marine Corps Relief Society, various hotlines for mental health, and was a Cub Scout den mother. She was a member of St. Luke's Episcopal Church and served on the board of the Bryant Committee which supports, enhances, inspires, and sustains the arts for the midshipmen at the U.S. Naval Academy.

Her funeral will be held on Saturday, December 3, at 11 a.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Alexandria VA. Interment will be held at a future date at Elmwood Cemetery in Shepherdstown WV. Contributions may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project, the PBS Foundation, or to the Bryant Foundation at the US Naval Academy ([www.usna.com](http://www.usna.com) "Donate Now" or checks made out to the US Naval Academy Foundation, 247 King George St., Annapolis, MD 21402 – memo "Bryant Fund").

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## Lucky Me – Or Not



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As a diagnosed-with-lung-cancer-at-age-54-and-half adult, I haven't felt particularly lucky. Nevertheless, I rarely if ever, woe is me. I take the bad with good, and vice versa. I'm never too high and hopefully, never too low. I've always felt, since being diagnosed with cancer in late February 2009 that the cancer/diagnosis was bad enough on its own, so I didn't need to make it any worse by dwelling on it and/or considering how unlucky I was; considering that I was lifelong non-smoker and second son of a family with no "immediate" cancer history. Let alone to then be diagnosed with non-small cell lung cancer stage IV and given a "terminal"/13 month to two-year prognosis by my oncologist – at age 54 and a half. A prognosis which, on the face of it, offered very little hope. And to invoke a M\*A\*S\*H comment by Lt. Col. Henry Blake, my oncologist wasn't "blowing any sunshine up my skirt."

Yet somehow, I didn't die. Possibly due to a misdiagnosis, and/or possibly affected by my never-woe-is-me attitude and equally never-say-die approach, literally-ish. I always figured that receiving bad news from my oncologist, whenever it arrived would be disheartening enough so that I didn't need to put the cart before the horse, so to speak and write any epitaphs (sort of like Orson Welles advertising that Paul Masson would "not sell any wine before its time"). Rather, I would let the treatment, side effects, scans, and all, good, bad, or indifferent, happen in due course and not react too much in advance of anything actually happening (as in getting sick/being hospitalized). I decided to look before I leaped, and not jump to any conclusions. I would try to take it all stride and not cart any horses.

And sure, there were highs and lows, growth/progression, delays in treatment due to low white blood cell counts, high and low potassium, high creatinine (still to this day), and as it turned out, many post-scan characterizations of "stable disease;" words to live by, you might say (I certainly have – for years). As you might imagine, I've lived very happily with "stable." Certainly "shrinkage" was preferred/the hope, but it occurred less and less while "stable" I heard more and more. I soon realized – and embraced "stable." As I often say, "stable" is hardly the problem. I can live with 'stable.' 'Stable' is unlikely to kill me." Granted, it's not a cure, but neither is it a dreaded complication regarding the underlying problem: cancer and tumor growth.

"Stable" is a way of life for me. "Stable," as I'm extremely fond of saying, has become "my new favorite word." The goal, as much of one as one could have when you're diagnosed with a "terminal" disease, was/is to somehow turn cancer into a "chronic" disease (like diabetes) where you can live a relatively normal life while treatment/monitoring of your disease continues until monitoring is no longer required, if you know what I mean?. Unfortunately, you'll still have doctor's appointments and multiple scans, but you'll be alive and living – with cancer. You'll likely never be cancer-free or have peace of mind, (concerning your cancer), but you'll still have the life expectancy you were anticipating; not one cut short by this dreaded disease. And as an originally-diagnosed-as-"terminal" cancer patient, "chronic" is my brand new/real-time favorite word. And I couldn't think of ever getting here without having previously been "stable." Moreover, it sure beats the alternative, and as the old saying says: "Living is its own reward."

Realistically speaking, I don't need to be cured (of course I dream of that), but it's not front and center, anymore; it's more my subconscious. I'm thrilled to be "chronic." And since (in my mind), "chronic" is the new "stable," ("stable" all grown up, you might say), "chronic" is hardly the problem. I can live with "chronic." Heck, considering that I thought I'd be dead 12 years ago, "chronic" is no more of a problem – for me, than "stable" has been.

Granted, it's not a cure, but it's a living, one I'm incredibly lucky to still have. For a cancer patient who was given a two-percent change to survive beyond two years, to still be living nearly 14 years later (late Feb. 2023) is a miracle. I was happy to be called "stable." Now, if my life continues as I hope, and I am considered "chronic," I will be just as grateful, every minute of every day, to be called "chronic Ken."

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

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## HOLIDAYS



Alexandria Symphony Orchestra

# Alexandria Symphony, Home for the Holidays

The Alexandria Symphony Orchestra will present a holiday program, "Jingle!" Saturday, Dec. 17, 2022 (7:30 p.m.) at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center and Sunday, Dec. 18, 2022 (3 p.m.) at the George Washington Masonic Memorial.

On Dec. 17, ASO welcomes back dancers from BalletNOVA to the Schlesinger stage where they will perform excerpts from Tchaikovsky's The Nutcracker. Both Saturday and Sunday concerts will also include selections from Duke Ellington's The Nutcracker Suite. Soprano Helena Colindres will sing traditional and popular holiday favorites: a Swedish carol, a selection from Handel's Messiah and Mariah Carey's All I Want for Christmas is You. Leroy Anderson's A Christmas Festival, popular film scores, and an audience sing-along will add cheer to the season. The concerts are family-friendly, interactive and presented with no intermission. Parking is free at both of ASO's conveniently-located venues.

Helena Colindres is a nonbinary versatile vocalist, educator, and activist of Nawata-ketza ancestry. As a rising opera vocalist, they have performed roles such as die Königin from Mozart's Die Zauberflöte, the Governess in Britten's Turn of the Screw, and Despina in Mozart's Così fan tutte. Helena is passionate about fighting for marginalized people and feels blessed that they get to build community through their art, teaching, and organizing every day.

BalletNova Center for Dance, now with over 1,300 students, is based on elements from the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) and American Ballet Theatre National Training Curriculum syllabus across all levels of children's pre-professional classical ballet curriculum.

"Beloved Lester Green will be our narrator for The Night Before Christmas in a new mashup with a theme from Harry Potter," said ASO Music Director James Ross.



Music Director James Ross



Helena Colindres, Soprano

Adult prices for single tickets start at \$20, and all tickets for youth are priced at \$5, making ASO concerts affordable for families. Military, senior and group discounts are also available in select sections. Seating is very limited at the George Washington Masonic Memorial and is almost sold out, so book your tickets early. Visit [www.alexsym.org](http://www.alexsym.org) or call (703) 548-0885

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### Beverley Hills | \$1,649,000

5-bedroom, 5-bath beauty! Home boasts updated gourmet kitchen, 3 fireplaces, and main level bedroom and bathroom. Upstairs primary bedroom has a gas fireplace and walk-in closet. Manicured, fully fenced yard with stone patio. 814 Chalfonte Drive  
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### Alexandria | \$949,000

Tucked away on a quaint neighborhood street, this 3-bedroom, 2.5-bathroom home in Beverley Hills is ready for a new owner! Newly renovated kitchen, remodeled basement and a large, fully fenced-in backyard with deck. 412 Tennessee Avenue  
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Meticulously maintained 3-level townhouse with 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, hardwood floors, updated kitchen & baths, separate dining room, living room with wood-burning fireplace, finished lower level, deck, patio, & deeded off-street parking. 2303 Commonwealth Ave  
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