

Alexandria Gazette Packet

SERVING ALEXANDRIA FOR OVER 200 YEARS • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

25 CENTS

FEBRUARY 9, 2023

Always and Forever

Couples share secrets to lasting love.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

There is no shortage of advice for young couples walking down the aisle today. But in the honeymoon stages of a marriage,

any advice for a long and enduring relationship is seldom taken with any urgency. Yet as the divorce rate for couples over 50 continues to rise, there are many who make that vow “till death do us part” look effortless.

Some local couples who have

made their unions last for decades share their secrets, from small gestures that keep the romance alive to tips on overcoming the challenges most couples face. These are the keys to marital success from those who have endured for more than half a century.

Inez: “We have been married almost 63 years and for me it’s been wonderful. I am blessed and just so thankful that the Lord actually brought us together. We were young and living behind each other when we met. My advice to young couples is to always speak good of each other. Wake up in the morning with a smile, say loving things to each other and treat your husband the way you want your husband to treat you.”

Louis: “It is nothing but the goodness of the Lord that brought us together. I thank the Lord for my wife. She’s been a beautiful, beautiful wife to me. She was my senior prom date in 1957 at Parker-Gray High School and we married in 1960. My advice to young married couples is to always put the Lord first and let Him work it out for you.”

Pastor Louis Daniel Elliott and Inez Elliott (holding her wedding portrait) – married 62 years

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET



Dick and Maria Evans – married 54 years,

Dick: “I was serving as an operations supervisor in the Air Force and Maria was a secretary in a building next to mine. Something on her desk had been knocked into the trash that she needed to get back. When I heard that Maria and the cleaning lady were going to try to get it from the dumpster, I offered to help knowing neither of those two ladies would be able to get in that dumpster. I was able to get what she lost and that was what started it for us. Several things come to my mind about the secret to making a relationship work. For us we always had a very open conversation about how we’re going to use our funds. We always worked together and made a plan. Oh, and it helps to know when to duck.”

Maria: “It’s important in a marriage to keep talking. Always talk, no matter what. When you stop talking and communicating then that’s the beginning of the end.”

SEE ALWAYS AND, PAGE 7



Rhoda and Jack Berson – married 62 years.

Rhoda: “I was 16 and Jack was 17 when we met. We both went to a frat party that neither of us wanted to go to. It was a terrible night but we went to please our friends and we just started talking. We were so young. I was pinned at the age of 17 and engaged at 18. We got married in Brooklyn, N.Y., when I turned 20 and Jack was 21 and have been happily together ever since.”

Jack: “There really isn’t a secret to a lasting marriage. Listen to one another, communicate, and try not to go to bed angry. I can’t think of anything else. I just love her. It’s as simple as that.”



Lynne and Don Sandler – married 62 years.

Lynne: “We met at our office. We didn’t really know each other but my boss told me that I should go out with Don Sandler and she told him that he should go out with me. His office was opposite mine and when I needed to pick up some papers, I went in and we talked. Two days later he called me and asked me to go with him to the ballet at Carter Barron amphitheater and the rest is history. I think one of our secrets is every morning and every evening we say to each other ‘I love you.’ It’s important to try to never go to bed angry. I would say 99 percent of the time that worked for us. We’ve been walking together for years and we always hold hands. People see and stop us to say we are very lucky. And that’s what we think -- we’re lucky to have each other.”



Here We Grow Again!

We are proud to bring the best and brightest
to McEneaney Associates.

These fine Associates joined our Alexandria office in 2022. To learn more about the McEneaney Difference and connect with us, visit **WeAreAlexandria.com**.



Chandler Carr



Chris Carrigan



Katie Crouch



Emily Ihde



Jack Kilby



Alex Makris



Jenna Morgan



Rachel O

Serving the Washington, DC Metro Area since 1980.
703.549.9292 | 109 S. Pitt Street | Alexandria, VA 22314 | McEneaney.com
Equal Housing Opportunity

Rolling the Dice on Casinos

Lawmakers to consider location of fifth and final casino.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE

The MGM casino that dominates the skyline across the river from Old Town Alexandria could be a sign of things to come in Virginia. When Democrats seized control of the General Assembly in 2019, one of their legislative priorities was the Virginia Casino Act, which allows for five casinos in Virginia. Four of them have already opened or will open soon.

But where will the fifth and final casino be located? That's a million-dollar question at the Capitol, where Petersburg and Richmond are fighting with each other to persuade lawmakers to allow them to hold a referendum.

"It's likely to be a brawl," said state Sen. Janet Howell (D-32). "It's likely to have every lobbyist in Richmond involved." Howell, from Fairfax County is chairwoman of the Senate Finance Committee.

Lobbyists of every stripe packed the committee room for the initial discussion this year, when lawmakers are poised to make a decision about which city should be allowed to hold a referendum. Voters in Richmond have already rejected a casino once, giving Petersburg a strong argument to lawmakers that they deserve a shot for voters to weigh in. Some have argued that lawmakers could choose to allow a casino in both places, although state Sen. Joe Morrissey (D-16) says the problem with two casinos is that neither will strike it rich.

"No fancy hotel, no music venue. There won't be a show for Springsteen to come to or any oth-



PHOTO BY MICHAEL LEE POPE/GAZETTE

The MGM casino that dominates the skyline across the Potomac River may be a sign of things to come in Virginia, which already has four casinos and is currently debating the location for a fifth.

er artist," said Morrissey. "It'll be a pedestrian vanilla casino both in Richmond and in Petersburg."

Last week, the Senate Finance Committee rejected Morrissey's bill as some senators expressed a preference for Richmond to have a second referendum before Petersburg can hold a first referendum. Over in the House of Delegates, thought, Del. Tim Taylor (R-63) passed the House and is now under consideration in the Senate.

"This bill is not about partisanship," said Del. Kim Taylor (R-63). "This bill is about our collective ability to put politics aside and support a project that will uplift a community that has been overlooked and struggling for decades."

Because senators have already rejected a version of Taylor's bill, several potential outcomes are possible. They could change the bill to allow Richmond to have a

second referendum or they could allow a casino for both Richmond and Petersburg. In the meantime, lobbyists on both sides are invoicing for overtime.

"A thing I don't like in this bill is that there is a restriction on Richmond going forward until Petersburg gets to go first. I don't like that, and I wish that wasn't in the bill," said Del. Mark Sickles (D-43). "The other body has defeated this bill, so its passage over there is highly questionable. And so therefore my vote in favor of this today is to keep this process going to find a way to serve both cities."

MANY PEOPLE view casinos with suspicion, describing the industry as a predatory threat to low-income people who don't understand that the house usually wins. One of the people who testified against allowing Petersburg to hold a referendum was Belinda Baugh, a

pastor in Petersburg who worries that gambling harms vulnerable people. She says it's obvious any time you see people at one of the machines in gas stations or horse tracks.

"They take their last \$25 trying to turn it into \$500 and then they are knocking on the church's doors or they are knocking on the doors of the nonprofit organizations and asking us to help them," said Baugh. "I'm asking you to please reconsider and rethink."

Del. Paul Krizek (D-44) has introduced a bill that would set up a Problem Gambling Treatment and Support Advisory Committee at the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services. Krizek says the idea is to reduce the adverse effects of problem gambling.

"In just the last few years, we have considerably expanded gambling in the commonwealth with the

recent opening of temporary casinos, sports betting, historical horse racing machines, online Lottery and much more," said Krizek. "As more gaming opportunities are legalized and expanded in Virginia, we must prioritize protecting Virginians from gambling addiction, especially young people."

He wants to see one in Petersburg now that voters in Richmond have rejected a casino in a referendum. But Richmond City Councilwoman Kristen Nye says that's not the end of the story.

"Legislation regarding Petersburg having a referendum I think should be delayed until Richmond has an opportunity to have a second referendum."

Lawmakers will be placing their bets when the General Assembly gavel into session later this month.

In recent years, Virginia has slowly allowed more and more legal gambling. Now the state may be about to move into uncharted territory with as many as four casinos that could be up and running by 2025.

This week, lawmakers received a new report detailing how multiple casinos might eat into each other's profits, especially if they are close. Sen. Lionel Spruill is a Democrat from Chesapeake who asked Tracey Smith at the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission about what would happen to a Petersburg casino if another casino were to open in Richmond.

"Without Richmond, Petersburg would be on a larger scale. So I'm trying to figure out why we would want to downscale the Petersburg market?"

"Senator, that is probably a policy call. Both Richmond and Petersburg would have smaller casinos in the combination scenario than if they were to have their own casino and not another one in that market."

Lawmakers are going to need to strike a balance between casino interests that want to make money and local governments that are eager for the new tax revenue.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

FOSTER PARENTS NEEDED

Interested in becoming a foster parent? There is always a need for caring foster parents

looking to open their homes to foster youth. Get in touch to learn more. Visit fcsvanow@gmail.com or www.FCSVA.org. Or call 703-817-9890.

LOOKING FOR SOFTBALL PLAYERS

The Golden Girls of Northern Virginia, a senior women's softball league, is looking for players. Any woman over the age of 40 is en-

couraged to join. All skill levels are welcome. They play most Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings in Vienna from May-July and September-October. For more information, visit the web site www.goldengirls.org.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

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, 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 donaledge@aol.com.

Because My Dad Secured His Gun ...

Turning advocacy into action celebrating 10-Years of Moms Demand Action

BY KATIE FOX
MOMS DEMAND ACTION VOLUNTEER

Communities in Virginia and across the country are reeling from a devastating start to the year with the recent back-to-back mass shootings in California, and earlier in the month learning that a six-year-old obtained access to a gun, shot, and seriously wounded his teacher. We are devastated and exhausted from hearing time and time again about another shooting. I know the power that common sense gun safety laws have in protecting our communities — and I know first-hand that securely storing a firearm can be the difference between a bad day and a deadly one.

When I was struggling with depression, there were moments where I was in crisis. Thankfully, my father paid attention to securely storing his gun, and a hard moment for me never turned into a deadly one. I was fortunate enough to get help, and eventually created a future for myself. Now I am an advocate who can educate parents and lawmakers on the importance of securing firearms. But, tragically, my dear friend from high school, Sam, did not have the same experience that I did — he had access to a gun and he died by

firearm suicide in 2006.

We grew up in a community where guns are a part of our culture, but the importance of securing them was never a subject of conversation — and I knew that needed to change. Each year, as Virginia mourns the people taken from us at Virginia Tech, I also revisit the trauma of losing my friend and wonder if he would still be alive today if the gun he accessed was properly secured.

Moms Demand Action and the Everytown Survivor Network have given me a space to grapple with my trauma from gun violence, to stand shoulder to shoulder with people across the nation fighting for secure storage and other life saving gun safety laws and to build awareness among community members about common-sense solutions that can prevent the tragedies that happened with my friend and the shooting in Newport News. I have found a collective power in this movement, and am honored to share in the celebration of 10 years of life-saving work by Moms Demand Action this year. I am inspired by how far we have come but I am also reminded of my own experiences being raised by responsible gun owners and am compelled to acknowledge the work that we must continue to do to keep our communities safe.

Since 2020, our volunteers in Virginia have secured major wins for gun safety including background checks on all gun sales and prohibiting guns in sensitive locations like Capitol Square and polling places. Our volunteers have also worked to give local governments the power to decide if they want to prohibit guns in government buildings and at permitted events. As of now, 17 localities covering 2.8 million Virginians have enacted such ordinances — ordinances which could have helped to prevent the armed extremist attack in Charlottesville in 2017. Our volunteers have also worked with schools across Virginia to ensure students and their families are educated about the importance of secure storage — I don't want any family to have to experience what my friend's family went through. Knowing firearms are properly secured has the power to remove the "what ifs" that so many, including myself, ask ourselves every day.

As legislators gather for this session, Moms Demand Action volunteers are ready to work with lawmakers to pass and implement life-saving gun safety laws, such as expanding the scope of our existing secure storage laws to prevent children from accessing firearms.

Last month we held our annual Advocacy Day. More than

250 Moms Demand Action and Students Demand Action volunteers from as far away as Franklin County joined Shannon Watts, the founder of Moms Demand Action, at the state capital in Richmond to encourage lawmakers to pass gun safety laws that will protect our communities and save lives.

We've spent a decade building political power from within, serving as a boot camp for the next generation of gun sense candidates. Advocacy Day was just a glimpse of the strength of our movement, and I am proud that because my dad knew how to properly secure his gun, I am able to be a part of a national organization that is committed to working hand in hand with leaders at all levels to ensure that families come home safely at night. Our work is not done — but we have the conviction and courage to press on because we believe that we can live in a world without gun violence.

If you or someone you know is in crisis, please call or text 988, or visit 988lifeline.org/chat to chat with a counselor from the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline, previously known as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline provides 24/7, free, and confidential support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress anywhere in the U.S.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Don't Erase History — Leave Street Names Alone

To the Editor:

I am writing to comment on Mayor Wilson's misguided plan to change the names of many streets here in my hometown. I am firmly opposed to changing the names of any streets. This is erasing our history. This is political correctness run amok. We don't need to waste time, energy, and money changing street names. That would cause too much confusion, inconvenience and resentment. The vast majority of the population don't know who these streets are named after and they don't care. What offends people is why only Confederate names? What about streets named after British royalty like King, Queen, Royal, Prince, Duke, etc.. Didn't

we fight the Revolutionary War to break away from the British crown? This is all nonsense. Please leave our historic street names alone!

Greg Paspatis
Alexandria

Known by the Friends we Keep

Growing up we were told "we are known by the friends we keep." We are especially proud of the friends that influenced our lives, molding our character, making us better persons. In studying history, we are impressed with the women and men who stand out and have made our country and community a sanctuary for human progress.

William Quantrill, Nathan Bedford Forrest, and Roger Taney do not fit that bill. Their racist views and the violence they unleashed are dark chapters in American history.

Naming the streets after southern belligerents reflects the reaction of City leaders in the 1950s to upend racial segregation and forever honor those who betrayed our country.

I support the City Council's "scheme" to rename certain streets. The mayor's efforts has started a conversation raising an important issue for our community and future generations. We should only name streets after people who most of us can be proud of, not terrorists, insurrectionists or a Supreme Court Justice who rejected human rights and decency.

David Cavanaugh
Alexandria

Creating a Contentious Imbroglio Where None Existed

I blame our current mayor for

intentionally creating a contentious imbroglio where none existed. His divisive tactic is to smear certain surnames. He's doing this because he contends these names are shared by long deceased Confederates and, therefore, are modern day emblems of racial oppression.

His solution is to expunge these names beginning with street signs. No matter the cost or considerable inconvenience to those residing on one of these streets, or that some of these surnames are shared by ancestors of enslaved citizens or by distinguished Alexandrians — women and men — or by combat veterans.

Make no mistake: our current mayor is intent on rubbing salt into a wound. He wants to remind us not what we've become but what we were. He's doing this by vilifying surnames oblivious that his own surname, Wilson, is shared by arguably the most racist US presi-

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 11

www.AlexandriaGazette.com

Twitter @AlexGazette

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to
connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

NEWS DEPARTMENT:
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
@MaryKimm

Jeanne Theismann
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
@TheismannMedia

Janet Barnett, John Bordner,
Mark Mogile
Contributing Photographers
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Shirley Ruhe
Contributing Photographer and Writer
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Eden Brown, Bridgette Adu-Wadier,
Glenda Booth
Contributing Writers
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Hope Nelson
Food Writer
hope@kitchenrecessionista.com
@kitchenrecess

Michael Pope
Senior Reporter
michaelleepope@gmail.com
@michaelleepope

ADVERTISING:
For advertising information
sales@connectionnewspapers.com
703-778-9431

Debbie Funk
Display Advertising/National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunc@connectionnewspapers.com

David Griffin
Marketing Assistant
703-778-9431
dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

Classified & Employment
Advertising
703-778-9431

Publisher
Jerry Vernon
703-549-0004
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Art/Design:
Laurence Foong
Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

Editor Emeritus:
Mary Anne Weber

CIRCULATION
Circulation Manager:
Ann Oliver
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

A Connection Newspaper

The Alexandria Gazette Packet is distributed weekly to selected homes in the City of Alexandria. Any owners or occupants of premises that do not wish to receive the paper can notify the publisher by telephone at 703-778-9426 or by email to circulation@connectionnewspapers.com, and the distributor will be notified to discontinue service.



ASC to Host Bram Weinstein

Broadcaster to present student awards Feb. 15.

Bram Weinstein, the play-by-play broadcaster of the Washington Commanders and former ESPN Sports Center host, will be the featured speaker at the Feb. 15 meeting of the Alexandria Sportsman's Club.

The Silver Spring native has a long history in Washington sports, beginning as a sports radio personality and lead beat reporter for the Washington Redskins on Triple X ESPN Radio. He was the sideline reporter during radio game broadcasts, co-hosted Redskins Lunch and Redskins Radio and hosted The Bram Weinstein Show. Weinstein previously worked for CNN's Washington Bureau, KHAS-TV in Hastings, Neb., and WTEM in Washington, D.C.

In 2020, Weinstein joined the Washington



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Sports broadcaster Bram Weinstein, voice of the Washington Commanders, will be the featured speaker at the Feb. 15 meeting of the Alexandria Sportsman's Club at the Old Dominion Boat Club. The meeting is free and open to the public.

Football Team to become their play-by-play radio broadcaster, serving alongside analyst DeAngelo Hall and host Julie Donaldson.

Weinstein will discuss his experiences covering the local sports teams -- Redskins, Nationals, Capitals and Wizards - with a perspective

earned through his national broadcasting career.

Weinstein graduated from Springbrook High School in Silver Spring, continuing his education at The American University in Washington, D.C.

After eight years at ESPN headquarters in Bristol, Conn., Weinstein returned home to raise his two children in his native Washington. In addition to broadcasting, Weinstein teaches sports journalism at The American University's School of Communication.

Weinstein will be on hand to present the Athletes of the Month awards to students from Alexandria City High School and the Alexandria Recreation Department.

The meeting will be held Feb. 15 at the Old Dominion Boat Club, 200 Strand Street, with complimentary dinner and drinks beginning at 6:30 p.m. The meeting is free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.alexandriavasports.org.

— JEANNE THEISMANN

VARIETY STORE

Est. 1958



Experience the Nostalgia of an old-time Five & Dime Store

"If we don't have it, you don't need it."

**Hollin Hall Shopping Center
7902 Fort Hunt Rd.,
Alexandria, VA 22308**

703-765-4110

Black History Month Events in City of Alexandria 2023

Throughout February 2023:

Visit Freedom House Museum (1315 Duke St.) honors the lives and experiences of the enslaved and free Black people who lived in and were trafficked through Alexandria. Purchase timed entries in advance. <https://shop.alexandriava.gov/SelectEvent.aspx?eventid=6000324>

Martin Luther King, Jr. Poster Exhibition at Vola Lawson Lobby in Alexandria City Hall, 301 King St.

Saturday, Feb. 11

11 a.m. – 12 p.m. Story Time for Young Historians at Charles E. Beatley Jr. Central Library (5005 Duke St.) Learn about African American history and icons with stories and activities to inspire young, curious minds. Appropriate for ages 5-8. Masks are required. More information here. <https://alexlibraryva.org/event/7696855>

11 a.m. – 12 p.m. History of African Americans at Arlington National Cemetery at Kate Waller Barrett Branch Library, Second Floor, 717 Queen St. Learn about the connection of African Americans to Arlington National Cemetery from National Park Service Supervisory Ranger Kenya Finley-Jean, of the Civil War Defenses of Washington Division. Register here. <https://alexlibraryva.org/event/7987103>

Monday, Feb. 13

7 p.m. Lecture: Exposing the Alexandria Slave Pen at Freedom House Museum, 1315 Duke St. Join City of Alexandria Archaeologist Dr. Benjamin Skolnik, as he explores the visual history of 1315 Duke Street. Register here. <https://shop.alexandriava.gov/EventPurchase.aspx?dateselected=2/13/2023>

Thursday, Feb. 16

7 – 8 p.m. Lecture and Short Film - The African American History of Fort Reno Park at Alexandria's History Museum at The Lyceum (201 S Washington St.) At Fort Reno Park, near Tenleytown, an important chapter in the history of Washington's D.C.'s Black community is barely visible to the modern-day visitor. Fort Reno was a bustling neighborhood in which men, women, and children lived, died, loved, worked, worshipped, and played. Register here <https://shop.alexandriava.gov/EventPurchase.aspx?dateselected=2/16/2023>

Saturday, Feb. 18

2 p.m. Concert: Washington Revels Jubilee Voices 2023 at Alexandria's History Museum at The Lyceum (201 S Washington St.) The Washington Revels Jubilee Voices ensemble is committed to the preservation of African American history and traditions – presenting



Black History Live with Culture Queen at Charles E. Beatley Jr. Central Library Feb. 26.

songs and stories of struggle and perseverance, trials, and triumphs, as expressed through a cappella music, drama, and dance. Register here. <https://shop.alexandriava.gov/EventPurchase.aspx?dateselected=2/18/2023>

Tuesday, Feb. 21

1 – 2 p.m. Virtual Event: African Americans and Clara Barton. Join Kevin Patti from National Park Service to learn about Clara Barton's work with African Americans during the Civil War and with the American Red Cross. Register here. <https://alexlibraryva.org/event/7873345#branch>

Wednesday, Feb. 22

4:30 – 5:30 p.m. Black History Month Buttons at Charles E. Beatley Jr. Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Celebrate Black History Month by making a button with one of our designs or create your own! Program open to teens and adults. More information here. <https://alexlibraryva.org/event/7929511>

Thursday, Feb. 23

5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Black History Cooking Demonstration at Charles E. Beatley Jr. Central Library, 5005 Duke St. The Creator and Chef of Black Folk Food will prepare a handful of dishes, teach us a brief history to show us what makes the cuisine so amazing! Yum! More information here. <https://alexlibraryva.org/event/7440584>

Sunday, Feb. 26

2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Black History Live with Culture Queen at Charles E. Beatley Jr. Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Original and interactive music, movement, and storytelling to show your royal children how to celebrate the Kings and Queens of African American History. More information here. <https://alexlibraryva.org/event/7862774>

Be a part of our:

Wellbeing pages, the first week of every month.

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

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

Senior Living, fourth week of every month.

Questions?

E-mail sales@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9431

THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS



Departmental Progressive Club president Christopher Lewis, left, poses with city officials and elected leaders Jan. 13 at DPC headquarters. With Lewis are (back): Canek Aguirre, Kirk McPike, John Chapman and Merrick Malone. Front: Aliya Gaskins, Charniele Herring, James Parajon and Leonard J. Polk Jr., Grand Exalted Ruler of the Improved Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the World.



Leonard J. Polk Jr., Grand Exalted Ruler of the Improved Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the World, left, stands with new officers of the Departmental Progressive Club Jan. 13. Front row, left to right: Merrick T. Malone, Vice President; Christopher J. Lewis, President; Elijah W. Griffin Sr., Financial Secretary; Scott A. Price, Treasurer; Back row, left to right: Daniel Selby, Board Member; L'Allegro Smith, Assistant Financial Secretary; Donal Goff, Board Member; William E. Chesley, Recording Secretary; William E. Campbell, House Committee Chair; Lawrence P. Robinson, Board Member; Not pictured, Vaughn Ambrose, Sergeant at Arms.

‘On the Shoulders of Others’

DPC installs new officers.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

The Departmental Progressive Club, a cornerstone of Alexandria’s African American history, installed its newest officers Jan. 13 at the organization’s facility on Gibbon Street.

Former School Board member Christopher Lewis was sworn in as president, with Merrick Malone as vice president, Elijah W. Griffin Sr. as financial secretary, L’Allegro Smith as assistant financial secretary and Scott A. Price as treasurer.

Lewis took the presidential reins from former School Board member William Campbell, who moves to the position of Chair of the House Committee which oversees the club’s physical plant.

Leonard J. Polk Jr., Grand Exalted Ruler of the Improved Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the World, administered the oath of office. Polk is the leader of the Elks world-

wide with lodges in the United States, Bahamas, Panama and Puerto Rico.

Also present to support the club was Harold S. Hughes, Exalted Ruler of Alexandria Lodge #48, and several of his members.

Del. Charniele Herring (D-46) attended the event along with City Manager James Parajon. Alexandria City Councilman Canek Aguirre spoke on behalf of the city. Other Council members in attendance included John Chapman, Aliya Gaskins and Kirk McPike. In addition to Lewis and Campbell, other officers include William E. Chesley, Recording Secretary, and Vaughn Ambrose as Sergeant at Arms. Daniel Selby, Lawrence P. Robinson and Donal Goff are board members.

Following the swearing in, DPC members gathered on stage to sing the club song, “In the Garden.”

Longtime member Robinson presented a historical slide show of over 200 photos featuring past members including Lawrence D. Day, A. Melvin Miller, Ferdinand T. Day, and Horace Burton.

Lewis, who presented a plaque to Campbell from the members expressing appreciation for his service as President, closed the



Guests enjoy the reception following the installation of new officers Jan. 13 at the Departmental Progressive Club.

program with remarks about his vision to begin plans for the DPC’s 100th Anniversary celebration. He vowed to “maintain where appropriate and improve where possible the financial, physical, and operational status of the club.”

Referring to DPC members and community leaders of the past such as Day, Miller and Greene, Lewis said, “We stand on the shoulders of others.”

A reception followed the benediction by DPC chaplain Rev. Elliott Waters.



Del. Charniele Herring (D-46), left, talks with Leonard J. Polk Jr., Grand Exalted Ruler of the Improved Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the World, Jan. 13 at the Departmental Progressive Club.



Leonard J. Polk Jr., Grand Exalted Ruler of the Improved Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the World, speaks prior to administering the oath of office Jan. 13 at the Departmental Progressive Club.



Departmental Progressive Club past president William Campbell with incoming president Christopher Lewis.

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

Always And Forever

FROM PAGE 1

Rosa: “People change as we age. After 61 years of marriage, Jack and I have to be practically brand new people. Right now, we are unsure if it’s because of changes or in spite of changes, but we thank God we still love each other.”

Jack: “Remember, happy wife, happy life.”

Jack and Rosa Byrd – married 61 years.



Lester and Joan Edelman – married 64 years.

Joan: “Nearly 65 years is a long time and requires a lot of patience. When we first got married we moved away from our families so we only had each other to depend upon. It would have been wonderful to be closer to family but this way it was just us and we made our own traditions. On our 4th wedding anniversary we moved back east and ended up in the Washington area and have been here ever since. It’s our home and we love it.”

Lester: “I was in the missile program for the government and traveled a lot. Joan was left alone with a baby and worrying where I was. That’s when things can get difficult for people but we handled it and it was an important part of our life regarding how to handle things in a relationship. One bit of advice that’s very helpful in a marriage is to know when to end a conversation. Don’t always try to have the last word. Know when to swallow hard and walk away.”



Montsie: “We are so different and come from such different backgrounds. He is Jewish, I am Catholic. He is Germanic, I’m Latin but maybe that mixture is why we became friends very quickly when we first met 60 years ago in Libya. I appreciated his respect for me as a woman. We were living on an Air Force base and he didn’t try to fool around like most of the other soldiers and officers. We met when I had traveled to Spain and the airline lost my luggage. My only shoes were sandals made of wood and I was making a lot of noise when I walked. Then along comes this person that I had never met before saying, ‘If you were working in the United States they would have fired you right away.’ I thought that was nerdy but then somebody explained that New Yorkers are like that. He invited me to dinner and little by little we got to know each other.”

Ernie: “Montsie said it best — we’re friends, we’re really good friends and we compromise. I think the basis for a long-lasting relationship is how you deal with conflict. We work it out. But we also believe in doing good, helping everybody and making the world a better place, which in turns helps us.”

Ernie and Montsie Lehmann– married 60 years.



John and Khacki Berry – married 60 years.

John: “We met totally by accident. Khacki had a blind date with a roommate of mine at West Point. But I knew he had another girlfriend so I felt I could move in and introduce myself. I don’t remember anything she said, I don’t remember anything she did. I just remember she made me feel good. But we discovered we have so many things in common that we didn’t know about. I just fell in love, that was all it took and then this discovery begins as the years rolled by. That could have been the end of it because this was totally by accident but it led to a marriage two years later.”

Khacki: “We were married in Elizabethtown, KY, in my parents’ hometown in a military ceremony. It will be 61 years in June. The Peter, Paul and Mary song ‘Leaving on a Jet Plane’ came out in the ‘60s with the line ‘don’t know when I’ll be back again.’ For us it was ‘don’t know if I’ll be back again’ because of John’s service. Something like that bonds people together. But he did come home. We were the lucky ones.”

Stabbing Investigation

The Alexandria Police Department is investigating a stabbing that occurred on Saturday.

At approximately 5:59 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 4, 2023, APD responded to what was reported as a shots fired incident in the 300 block of South Reynolds.

Upon arrival, Alexandria officers discovered a male victim, 29, with a stab wound to his midsection. The victim was transported to a local hospital.

The suspect, Akkeim Edwards, 45, a non-city resident was arrested without incident and charged with felonious assault.

The investigation is ongoing. The Alexandria Police Department is asking that any witnesses with information regarding this incident to please contact Detective Edmund Dougherty by phone at 703-746-6697, email: Edmund.Dougherty@alexandriava.gov or call our non-emergency number at 703-746-4444.

Pedestrian Struck, Serious Injuries

The Alexandria Police Department is investigating a serious pedestrian crash that occurred Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2023, at the intersection of East Monroe Avenue and Mount Vernon Avenue.

At approximately 9:37 a.m., police responded to the scene and discovered a driver had struck a pedestrian. The preliminary investigation suggests that the pedestrian was walking southbound in the crosswalk on Mount Vernon Avenue through the intersection when she was struck by the driver. A vehicle driven by a 57-year-old female, was making a left turn onto Monroe Avenue when they struck the pedestrian. The driver of the vehicle remained on the scene.

The victim, a 58-year-old female, was transported to an area hospital with serious injuries.

Alexandria Police Crash Reconstruction Team is investigating the crash. The Alexandria Police Department is asking that any witnesses with information regarding this incident to contact the investigator of this incident, Officer Lisa Kolodzinski by phone at 703.859.4447, by email Lisa.Kolodzinski@alexandriava.gov, or call our non-emergency number at 703.746.4444.

Washington’s Birthday Parade

The City of Alexandria, adopted hometown of George Washington, celebrates his birthday each year with events throughout February.

The highlight will be on Feb. 20, 2023, when Alexandria residents and visitors will line the streets of Old Town Alexandria to cheer on the oldest and largest George Washington Birthday parade in the country.

The parade features drum corps, color guards, bands, community and fraternal organizations, youth groups, local merchants, city dignitaries, and, of course, General Washington and Martha Washington. This year, the theme is George Washington: The Man, The Mason, The Cornerstone of Our Republic. The Grand Marshal will be George D. Seghers, Executive Director of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, in honor of the 100th Anniversary of the laying of the Memorial’s cornerstone. For more information, including parking, maps, route, and status, visit www.washingtonbirthday.com

Provide Back for Safety Audit

Community feedback on mobility, safety and access issues at the intersections of Duke Street & South Patrick Street, and Duke Street & South Henry Street is part of a safety audit in progress.

Provide your feedback by Feb. 28. <https://www.research.net/r/AlexandriaVA-DukeRoute1>

This feedback is being collected as part of the Duke Street & Route 1 High Crash Intersection Audits Project. The purpose of this project is to evaluate existing safety issues or risks and develop conceptual designs for future improvements.

There have been more than 70 crashes at these two intersections since 2014. Of those, four resulted in severe injury and more than 20 resulted in non-life-threatening injuries. Both intersections are ranked among the City’s high-crash intersections and are on the City’s high-injury network.

70% of all fatal or severe crashes from 2016 to 2020 occurred on roughly 10% of the City’s street network. <https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/2022-11/HIN%20Map%20For%20Web.pdf>

The City’s adopted Vision Zero goal is to eliminate fatal and severe crashes. <https://www.alexandriava.gov/VisionZero>

The adopted Alexandria Mobility Plan also calls for prioritizing high-crash intersections and corridors for safety improvements. <https://www.alexandriava.gov/MobilityPlan>

This project is supported by a technical assistance grant through the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOC) Regional Roadway Safety Program.

Visit alexandriava.gov/go/4157 for more information about the Duke Street & Route 1 High Crash Intersection Audits Project.

CALLING ALL **HIGH SCHOOL & UNDERGRAD** STUDENTS!
MEET US AT..

CAREER
CON THE CHAMBER ALX

PRESENTED BY VIRGINIA TECH INNOVATION CAMPUS

ONE STUDENT WILL WIN A \$2,000 SCHOLARSHIP

This new program for high school & undergrad students serves as a masterclass post-graduation. Meet pros working in a variety of in demand career fields and gain skills skipped in class



MON, 13TH MARCH 2023

ACPS TEACHER WORK DAY!



8:30AM to 12PM



NOVA COMMUNITY COLLEGE ALEXANDRIA CAMPUS
FINE ARTS BUILDING



FREE FOR STUDENTS & PARENTS

REGISTRATION REQUIRED AT
THECHAMBERALX.COM

ENTERTAINMENT

3 Eateries to Tempt Your Valentine

BY HOPE NELSON
GAZETTE PACKET

Ah, Valentine's Day, the celebration of love and romance that can often be fraught with indecision. Where to go? What to do? What gift to buy? And – perhaps most importantly – where to eat? We can't help you with the gift-giving, but we can point you in the direction of some restaurants that are sure to warm your heart.

Sisters Thai, 503 Montgomery St.

When it comes to ambiance, Sisters ticks all the boxes – it's fun and festive with plenty of eye candy. But stick around for the food and you'll see there is also plenty of form underneath all that fashion. If you're in the spirit, order up a cocktail from Sisters' extensive list of fun offerings and then dig into the food menu. From garden rolls to chive dumplings to curry puffs and bikini shrimp, it would be easy to make a feast of just the appetizers, but persevere and don't overdo it – you don't want to miss the main event! Pad Thai, drunken noodles, a plethora of curries – all your favorites are there. As are some soon-to-be mainstays in your life, including kana moo grob (Chinese broccoli with crispy pork belly), crispy duck Kaprow and spicy eggplant in a chili black bean

sauce. Don't skip out on dessert, even if you're stuffed full: The Thai toasts, crepes and cakes from the Magnolia Dessert Bar are well worth your time (and your calories).

Trattoria da Franco, 305 S. Washington St.

A longtime staple for romantic meals year-round, the original Trattoria da Franco is back in fine form in its original location. Come for the classic Italian food from the trattoria's original menu (don't see what you want? The kitchen is happy to help concoct what you're looking for), stay for the opera nights and traditional ambiance. And speaking of opera, the entertainment doesn't stop there: Flamenco nights, cabaret nights and weekend pianists are also on the docket. Finish up your date night with a house-made dessert, wash it all down with a full glass of Italian wine, and toast to the future.

Jeni's Splendid Ice Creams, 102 S. Patrick St.

After a perfectly romantic date, why not sweeten things up even further with a scoop (or more) from Jeni's Splendid Ice Creams? Pile your cone high with the likes of salty caramel, Texas sheet cake, maple-soaked

SEE VALENTINE, PAGE 11

THE CONNECTION Newspapers & Online
Alexandria Gazette Packet
Mount Vernon Gazette
Potomac ALMANAC

ATTRACT NEW CUSTOMERS IN 2023

Turn to the Connection Newspapers digital and print advertising options to reach customers in your community!

- Email Blasts
- Digital Billboards
- Front Page Shoutout
- Social Media
- Sponsored Content
- SEO Enhancements

For Advertising: Call 703.778.9431 or
Email sales@connectionnewspapers.com

**Same Company, Same Employees,
Same Great Value - Now Celebrating 20 Years!**

TWO POOR TEACHERS

Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling



- Electrical (ELE)
- Gas Fitting (GFC)
- Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVA)
- Plumbing (PLB)
- Residential Building (RBC)

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed
Since 1999



10% down
nothing until the job
is complete for the
past 17 years

Free Estimates 703-999-2929

Check if your contractor is licensed at the state level
<http://www.DPOR.virginia.gov>

Visit our website: www.twopoorteachers.com

ENTERTAINMENT

NOW THRU FEB. 26

Heartfelt Art Exhibition. At Van Landingham Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union Street, Alexandria. The Torpedo Factory Artists' Association's (TFAA) Van Landingham Gallery presents Heartfelt, a juried membership show featuring artworks that embody emotions such as love, empathy, and endearment. The following artists are participating: Diana Papazian, Samantha Shelton, Guido Zanni, Veronica Barker-Barzel, Laura Fall, Hernan Murno, Abol Bahadori, Karine Sapondjian, Pauline Siple, and Jon Kandel. Artworks include original hand pulled prints, original paintings, multimedia works, photography, ceramics, and sculpture. Additionally, the gallery offers small gifts, art cards, block-printed totes and tee shirts, and jewelry and unframed works by Jennifer Brewer Stone, Rebecca Mcneely, and Tara Barr.

NOW THRU APRIL 3

NOVA Plein Air Art Exhibit. At River Farm, 7931 East Blvd. Drive, Alexandria. Nova Plein Air Artists (NPPA) will be presenting "Celebrations of the Land, Inspired by River Farm," an art exhibit of over 50 paintings inspired by nature. Opening reception on Sunday, Jan. 22 at 1 – 3 p.m. Additional receptions will be held from 1 – 3 p.m. on February 12 and March 12. Many of the paintings were created onsite at River Farm, and all are available to purchase. Receptions are free and open to the public.

NOW THRU MARCH 15

"Mount Vernon" At Nepenthe Gallery. Hollin Hall Shopping Center, 7918 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Nepenthe Gallery, in partnership with Mount Vernon estate and Woodlawn mansion, presents a special "Mount Vernon" exhibit from February 1st through March 15th. This exhibit has been organized in conjunction with Mount Vernon's national birthday celebration of George Washington and Woodlawn's 60th Annual Needlepoint Show. Woodlawn was once part of George Washington's original extensive Mount Vernon estate. This "Mount Vernon" exhibit will showcase an important work by Thomas Sully – his 19th century "Athenaeum Portrait of George Washington." Other original works by Pamela Patrick White, Bryant White, Gwen Bragg, Debbie Dartez and Renée C. Gage will be included and for sale, as well as several original works by Pamela and Bryant White that will be on loan by local collectors for display in the exhibit. There will also be giclée prints available for sale of important works from the Mount Vernon estate collection.

Nepenthe will host six Thursday night "ART + WINE + CHEESE" events related to this exhibit:

February 9th: Important Paintings from Mount Vernon. Adam Erby, Curator at Mount Vernon, and Patty Owens, Nepenthe Curator, will present a lecture on selected significant paintings from Mount Vernon.

February 16th: White Historic Art. Painters and Historians, Pamela Patrick White and Bryant White, of White Historic Art will discuss several of their original, historical American 18th century-based paintings and the stories and



The Heartfelt Art Exhibition opens at the Van Landingham Gallery at the Torpedo Factory in Alexandria.

context behind them. Their presentation will include several of their original works on loan for this exhibit by private collectors Janice and Dick Crosby, and Neysa and Dan Chandler.

February 23rd: Interesting facts about Mt. Vernon and Whiskey Tasting. Steve Bashore, Distiller, Miller and Historian, will lead guests through a Whiskey Tasting and describe the process that still takes place today at Mt. Vernon. Jim Woods, historical interpreter at Mount Vernon, will share stories and information about George Washington's home and property.

March 2nd: Scenes from Mount Vernon. Alexandria based watercolorist and juried artist, Gwendolyn ("Gwen") Bragg, is an art instructor at both the Art League School in Alexandria and the Workhouse Art Center in Lorton. Gwen will display and discuss many of her watercolor paintings from Mount Vernon.

March 9th: Nelly's Needlers Needlework Group. Established in 1975 to help preserve Woodlawn, the group was named after Martha Washington's granddaughter, Eleanor ("Nelly") Parke Custis, who was raised at Mount Vernon, later lived at Woodlawn, and learned her needlework skills from her cherished grandmother. Nelly's Needlers will be at Nepenthe Gallery to display works from their 60th Annual Needlepoint Show and discuss their organization and needlepointing as an art form.

NOW THRU FEB. 25

"The Unseen" Exhibit. At Del Ray Artisans gallery in the Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. "The Unseen" exhibit reveals what we typically cannot see: what is hidden, microscopic, imagined, or dreamed. Join the artists for the opening reception:

Friday, Feb 3, 2023 from 7-9 p.m. Gallery hours are Thursdays 12-6 p.m., Fridays 12-9 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays 12-6 p.m. The gallery is closed the last Sunday of the month (February 26, 2023). Visit <https://delrayartisans.org/exhibits/#event=unseen>

OUR FACES IN FILM SERIES

All month long for Black History Month, Charles Beatley Central Library will show films featuring African American lead characters. Join for great films and snacks. At the Charles E. Beatley, Jr., Central Library, 5005 Duke Street, Alexandria.

February 10, 2023, from 2 to 4:30 p.m.: "The Wiz"
February 14, 2023, from 6 to 7:45 p.m.: "Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella"
February 17, 2023, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.: "Soul"
February 24, 2023, from 2 to 4:30 p.m.: "Harriet"
Admission: Free. Call 703-746-1702. Visit alexlibraryva.org

SATURDAY/FEB. 11

Creative Book Club. 10 a.m. to noon. At Del Ray Artisans gallery in the Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. The Creative Book Club discusses readings to help you stay inspired and motivated for your creative practice. The first book for 2023 is "The Secret Lives of Color" by Kassia St. Clair. Visit <https://delrayartisans.org/programs/book-club/>

SATURDAY/FEB. 11

Salon at the Statehouse. 6:30-10 p.m. At 415 Prince Street Alexandria. Enjoy a warm evening of conversation and festivities on a cold winter's night at the historic home of NVFAA board member Ashley

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 10

CLASSIFIED

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS PAPER, CALL BY MONDAY 11:00 AM 703-778-9411

Announcements

Giant Annual Book Sale

Beth El Hebrew Congregation
3830 Seminary Road, Alexandria

Presidents' Day Weekend
Sunday, Feb 19 9-5, Monday Feb- 20 9-3

Thousands of books,
all sorted by categories
Also CDs, DVDs, audio books,
LPs, games, and puzzles
\$1.00 and up, BIG bargains
after noon on Monday!
Special room of collectible/antique
books and LPs

We have something for everyone!

Legals

ABC LICENSE

Fast Casual III LLC trading as Hot Lola's, 6544 Little River Turnpike, Unit 100, Alexandria Fairfax County, VA 22312-1419. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Beer & Wine and Mixed Beverage Restaurant license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Kevin Tien, Member. Date notice posted at establishment: 1 31 2023. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or (800) 552-3200.

Legals

Legals



Mt. Vernon Trail at East Abingdon Drive Project
VDOT UPC #100422
DPI PROJECT #1503003
Willingness to Host a Public Hearing

The City of Alexandria seeks input from community stakeholders regarding the Mount Vernon Trail at East Abingdon Drive Project.

The City plans to widen the existing trail adjacent to East Abingdon Drive north of Slaters Lane to create more space for people walking and biking along East Abingdon Drive and reduce potential conflicts between trail users.

The trail widening begins at the intersection of Slaters Lane and East Abingdon Drive and runs north along East Abingdon Drive for about 200 feet, which is adjacent to 615 and 625 Slaters Lane. The trail will be widened from approximately 4.5 feet to 10 feet, which is consistent with the rest of the City's trail network and will allow trail users to pass side-by-side more comfortably. The width of the trail at the bus stop will be approximately 13 feet.

The draft design plans are available for review on the project website: <https://alexandriava.gov/go/4189>. This information is also available for review in-person at City Hall, 301 King Street, Suite 3600, Alexandria, VA. In response to COVID-19, all visitors must have an appointment scheduled with a City staff member to access to City Hall offices. To arrange for a time to review the project documents and plans, please call 703.746.4408 or email alexandria.carroll@alexandriava.gov.

Comments and questions may be submitted by email to alexandria.carroll@alexandriava.gov or over the phone by calling 703.746.4408, no later than February 17.

This project is funded by a grant from the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). Pursuant to the grant requirements, the City is willing to hold a public hearing if requested. To request a public hearing, send a written request postmarked by February 17, 2023, to:

Alexandria Carroll
City of Alexandria
Department of Project Implementation
301 King Street, Suite 3200
Alexandria, VA 22314

If a request for a public hearing is received, the City will post an announcement (including the date, time and location of the hearing) at a later date. Please note, a public hearing is not required to submit comments or questions.

The City of Alexandria ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. To request more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact the City of Alexandria Office of Human Rights at 703.746.3140, 311 or TTY/TDD 311.

**Find us on Facebook
and become a fan!**

**[www.Facebook.com/
connectionnewspapers](http://www.Facebook.com/connectionnewspapers)**

THE CONNECTION
Newspapers & Online
The Connection to Your Community
www.connectionnewspapers.com

STORIES YOU'LL WANT TO

**READ SHARE
REPEAT**

Virginia News Reader delivers the best local news from around the state to your inbox. And it's always free. Scan the QR code to subscribe.



virgianewsreader.com

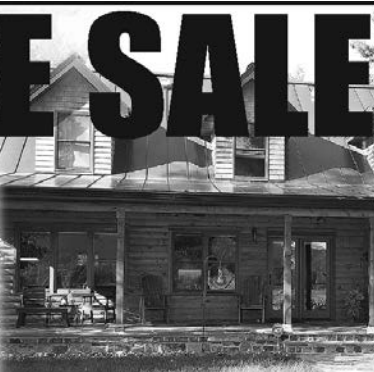
ESTATE SALE LOG HOMES

PAY ONLY THE BALANCE OWED!

JUST RELEASED: AMERICAN

LOG HOMES is assisting estate &

account settlement on houses



LOG HOME KITS

selling for BALANCE OWED with FREE DELIVERY

Model #101, Carolina, \$40,840

BALANCE OWED \$17,000

Model #203, Georgia, \$49,500

BALANCE OWED \$19,950

Model #305, Biloxi, \$36,825

BALANCE OWED \$14,500

Model #403, Augusta, \$42,450

BALANCE OWED \$16,500

NEW HOMES: Serious Inquiries only **Call: 704 368-4528**

- Never been manufactured
- **NO TIME LIMIT FOR DELIVERY**
- Comes with complete building blueprints and Construction Manual

* Windows, Doors and Roofing not included



Before Calling View House Plans at
www.americanloghomesandcabins.com

Leaf Filter
GUTTER PROTECTION

**BACKED BY A
YEAR-ROUND
CLOG-FREE
GUARANTEE**



EXCLUSIVE LIMITED TIME OFFER!

20% OFF + 10% OFF

YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE*

SENIORS & MILITARY!

FINANCING THAT FITS YOUR BUDGET!



*Subject to credit approval. Call for details.

Promo Code: 285

FREE GUTTER ALIGNMENT + FREE GUTTER CLEANING*



**CALL US TODAY FOR
A FREE ESTIMATE**

1-877-614-6667

Mon-Thurs: 8am-1pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: 2pm-8pm EST



*For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. **Offer valid at time of estimate only. 21The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2010 and recognized LeafFilter as the "1" rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America." Manufactured in Plainfield, Michigan and processed at LMT Mercer Group in Ohio. See Representative for full warranty details. Registration# 0366920922 CSLB# 1035795 Registration# HK-0549705 License# CBC056678 License# RCE-51604 Registration# C127230 License# 559544 Suffolk HIC License# 52229-H License# 2103212956 License# 262000022 License# 262000453 License# 2106212946 License# NHIC111225 Registration# 176447 License# 423330 Registration# W751604 License# 50145 License# 408693 Registration# 13VH09959000 Registration# H-19114 License# 219294 Registration# PA06393 License# 41354 License# 7655 DCP. #10783658-5501 License# 423330 License# 2705169445 License# LEAFFINWS22J2 License# WV056912

CLASSIFIED

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS PAPER, CALL BY MONDAY 11:00 AM 703-778-9411

THE COUNTS
Realty & Auction Group



LIQUIDATION

Auction

VAAFP93

Surplus Tools, Equipment & Supplies of

Englander Wood Stoves

**Online Only Bidding
NOW THROUGH 2/22 @ 12PM**

countsauuction.com 434-525-2991

**The Bath or Shower You've Always Wanted
IN AS LITTLE AS A DAY**



\$1000 OFF*

AND

**No Payments & No Interest
For 18 Months****

OFFER EXPIRES 3.30.2023

BCI BATH & SHOWER
CALL NOW (844) 945-1631

*Includes product and labor; bathtub, shower or walk-in tub and wall surround. This promotion cannot be combined with any other offer. Other restrictions may apply. This offer expires 3/30/23. Each dealership is independently owned and operated. **Third party financing is available for those customers who qualify. See your dealer for details. ©2023 BCI Acrylic, Inc.

GENERAC

**Prepare
for power
outages
today**

WITH A HOME
STANDBY GENERATOR

\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS

Contact a Generac dealer for full terms and conditions

**REQUEST A
FREE QUOTE**

CALL NOW BEFORE THE
NEXT POWER OUTAGE

(844) 947-1479

FREE 7-Year Extended Warranty*
— A \$695 Value!

*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.



Past issues of

**THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS**

**back to 2008
are available at**

http://connectionarchives.com/PDF

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 9

Wilson and her husband George.

Enjoy drinks, dinner, and a talk by John H. Sprinkle, Jr. Ph.D., Adjunct Associate Professor, Maryland School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation who will discuss Restoration and Reconstruction: Virginians lay the Foundation for a Post-Slavery Commonwealth.

SATURDAY/FEB. 11

Transport Yourself to the Tropics.

1-2:30 p.m. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Take part in a Garden Terrarium Workshop. Begonia enthusiast Johanna Zinn provides information on this versatile genus and teaches you techniques for creating the perfect terrarium. A terrarium, plants, soil and care instructions are provided. This workshop is appropriate for those 16 and older; the cost is \$40 per person and \$30 for supplies.

SATURDAY/FEB. 11

Tea with Martha Washington. At George Washington's Mount Vernon. Join the nation's first First Lady for tea and colonial period refreshments as she shares memories of her life with General Washington as a young married couple, the Revolutionary War and presidency, and her time at Mount Vernon. Afterward, guests are invited to take a self-guided tour of the estate.

SATURDAY/FEB. 11

Manumission Tour Company Black History Bus Tour. 10 to 11:30 a.m. and 12 to 1:30 p.m. Tour meets at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe Street, Alexandria. Ride with Manumission Tour Company on a 90-minute guided bus tour to visit various African American historic sites in Alexandria. You will hear stories of both enslaved and free African Americans prior to the Civil War as well as understand the stories behind some of Alexandria's most well-known African American historic sites. Sites will include the Alexandria National Cemetery, Alfred Street Baptist Church, Shiloh Baptist Church, Church Alley, the African American Heritage Park, the Contrabands and Freedmen Cemetery, Barrett Library and more. Visit manumissiontours.com

SATURDAY/FEB. 11

Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic. 3 p.m. at George Washington Masonic National Memorial Glen Cortese, conductor | Miranda Cuckson, violin Brahms: Tragic Overture, Op. 81 John Corigliano: The Red Violin: Chaconne for Violin and Orchestra Ravel: Tzigane Stravinsky: Suite from The Firebird. Visit wmpamusic.org.

SATURDAY/FEB. 11

Story Time for Young Historians. 11 a.m. At Charles E. Beatley, Jr., Central Library, 5005 Duke Street, Alexandria. History is around every corner in Alexandria. Learn about African American history and icons with stories and activities to inspire young, curious minds. Story Time with Young Historians is a monthly program, historically held at the Alexandria Black History Museum. During the pandemic, the ABHM partnered with the Alexandria Library to present the programs vir

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

ENTERTAINMENT



3 Eateries to Tempt Your Valentine

FROM PAGE 8

pancake or banana cream pudding and let the decadence carry the day. Whether you've selected a standard flavor or a dairy-free variety, the richness of the ice cream will be the perfect after-dinner treat.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

tually. Now back in person, the Black History Month session will be held at Alexandria's Beatley Library. Appropriate for children ages 5 to 8; masks are required.

SATURDAY/FEB. 11

History of African Americans at Arlington National Cemetery. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. At Kate Waller Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen Street, Alexandria. African Americans have been connected to Arlington National Cemetery since its origins as a plantation through the Freedman's Village to the trailblazers of the Civil Rights Movement. Learn about the connection of African Americans to Arlington National Cemetery from National Park Service Supervisory Ranger Kenya Finley-Jean, of the Civil War Defenses of Washington Division. Registration is preferred.

SUNDAY/FEB. 12

DelRay Urban Sketchers. 1-3 p.m. At St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, 2300 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Del Ray Urban Sketchers operates on a drop-in basis and meets at St. Elmo's Coffee Pub in Del Ray. Bring your supplies and join them outside at the cafe. Visit <https://delray-artisans.org/programs/sketchbooking/>

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 4

dent in American history.

As proof that our current mayor is succeeding in untying the bonds that bind us is an opinion published last week in the Gazette newspaper. Its author, Albert Leeds, vigorously supported Mayor Wilson by asserting it's unconscionable for any street in Alexandria to bear the name of a disgraced person.

A better mayor would calm that letter-writer and others who are offended by certain names of certain street signs, not by removing their names, but by rechristening them.

To find laudable individuals with the iden-

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

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

MONDAY/FEB. 13

Lecture: Exposing the Alexandria Slave Pen. 7 p.m. At Alexandria's History Museum at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington Street, Alexandria. Join City of Alexandria Archaeologist Dr. Benjamin Skolnik as he explores the visual history of 1315 Duke Street in Alexandria, Virginia. Now the Freedom House Museum, the site was once the location where several 19th century dealers trafficked enslaved men, women and children to the Deep South. Dr. Skolnik will look at period photographs and illustrations of the building and share what they tell us about the building and the businesses which operated from 1315 Duke Street.

SATURDAY/FEB. 18

Starting from Scratch with Seeds. 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. (16-Adult) Grow flowers, vegetables and herbs from seed and expand your garden. Be inspired by Green Spring staff members as they discuss potting mixes, containers, seed treatments, lighting, fertilization, watering, seed sources and timing. Then take home a few seeds to start your own collection. \$23 per person. Register online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes> or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173. Code J1VT698.

tical surname possessed by the long-gone heretofore forgotten Confederates, a better mayor would reach out to the community – churches, schools, fraternal groups, civic associations, etc -- for nominations of citizens, whether current, former or deceased, who have made Alexandria a better place to live and to work.

Rechristening the streets so they are named after these distinguished individuals would be simple, costless and cathartic. What our current mayor is doing now is the opposite

Jimm Roberts
Alexandria

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CALL 703-549-0004

FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION

ELECTRICAL

ELECTRICAL

K & D ELECTRIC

COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE
Family Owned & Operated

Recessed Lighting
Ceiling Fans
Phone/CATV
Computer Network Cabling
Service Upgrades
Hot Tubs, etc...

Licensed/Bonded/Insured

Office 703-335-0654

Mobile 703-499-0522

lektrkman28@gmail.com

LANDSCAPING

LANDSCAPING

Landscape Drainage

Landscape Drainage

ProDrainage
A JES Services, Inc Company
Eco-Friendly Landscape Drainage Experts
Drainage, Erosion, Landscaping, Hardscaping, Patios, Retaining Walls & More
Your Neighborhood Company since 1987
703-772-0500 www.ProDrainage.com
VA. Licensed Class A Contractor

Sign up for
FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION
to any or all of our 15 papers
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE

We Need Your Help Again

We are sincerely grateful and thankful to you for helping in 2021 to save one of America's oldest newspapers, the Alexandria Gazette Packet, publishing continuously since 1784

Alexandria Gazette Packet
Publishing Since 1784
And affiliated newspapers
THE CONNECTION Newspapers & Online
Mount Vernon Gazette
POTOMAC ALMANAC
CENTRE VIEW

Thank you to the hundreds of supporters who helped to keep all your Connection Newspapers alive throughout Alexandria, Fairfax County, Arlington County and Potomac, Md. along with affiliated websites and digital media. Now we need help again in 2022.

Each local newspaper's mission aspires to provide greater community service, and we do know that our communities are better off if we continue to publish. Last year's financial support from readers and supporters like you bridged the shortfall before Federal PPP funding arrived, and both made our survival possible. We now await a decision for a grant from Rebuild Virginia in early February that we hope will help us in 2022 and beyond. But we need help to survive the first quarter, always a brutal time for cash flow in weekly newspapers. Thank you.

Please, help save these historical papers. All gifts will be used to fund our printed newspapers and websites and to meet obligations to our loyal and patient employees, writers, contractors and suppliers.

The ongoing pandemic continues to crush many newspapers across the country, and our newspapers continue to be at risk. The Northern Virginia area's best read and most trusted source for community news includes the Alexandria Gazette Packet, Mount Vernon Gazette and all Connection Newspapers in the metropolitan region.

The pandemic has hit small businesses hard, which in turn has reduced advertising revenue that keeps these local newspapers alive to provide hyper local news to residents. It feels like no small miracle to be looking forward into 2022.

Connection Newspapers has been offering these local newspapers to residents for over 200 years. Countless residents have grown up with these papers covering significant moments in the lives of family and children, news, community events, school activities, and even pictures of your dogs and cats. Internet news and large national newspapers cannot provide the local connection or historical connection that local papers like Connection Newspapers and the Alexandria Gazette Packet provide. If your child, dog, mother, father, neighborhood, school has been featured, you understand the value of local community newspapers.

Visit connectionnewspapers.com or <https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-keep-your-newspaper-printing>

Connection Newspapers... Alexandria Gazette Packet, Mount Vernon Gazette, Centre View, Potomac Almanac

1606 King Street • Alexandria, VA • 703-778-9431

Handing Me All The Way Down



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I am almost exactly five years younger than my recently deceased brother, Richard. In addition, we are of similar height and weight, mostly, with similar shape and size. As such, I have been the recipient of hand-me-down clothes from my older brother my entire life, especially blue jeans. Richard bought clothes regularly (as became clear after Vanessa asked me to look through his closets and bureaus and to take whatever I wanted), but I had no idea as to its cumulative content. Now I do.

About a month or so after my brother's death on Dec. 3rd, Vanessa asked if I could come over to look through Richard's clothes (and shoes, sneakers, and the like) as she was trying to reorganize her life – and space at home, to begin the excruciating process of living forward while still mourning my brother's somewhat expected passing. She wasn't insistent at all that I visit for this purpose, it was more about her wanting to do something for me and then donating what was left to charity, especially the seasonal stuff, to make something positive from Richard's death. Living alone now in the house they bought together at the beginning of their marriage, 29 years ago, has caused Vanessa to have many sleepless nights ever since. (Not to mention the fact that when she saw Richard on the floor that early morning on Dec. 3rd in front of his bed (where he had been sleeping since he came home from the rehab facility (to not disturb Vanessa too much), she called 911 and with the operator's instruction, performed CPR on my brother. Can you imagine? And oh, by the way, it was in this room, Richard's room, where I spent that Sunday trying on his clothes.

A few Sundays ago, Dina and I went over to Richard and Vanessa's house with the expressed purpose of younger brother "KB" sorting through his older brother Richard's clothes and taking home anything, I wanted – which we did. Not without mixed ('mixed' only begins to describe the range of emotions I experienced trying on Richard's clothes) feelings. The finality of my brother's death being chief among them. Surrounded by his stuff, sitting in his dressing room, sifting through his bureaus, opening his closets, and of course trying on his things, was as joyless as you can imagine. Talk about benefiting from someone's misfortune: not good or the least bit rewarding.

It took me approximately two hours to sort through multiple closets and bureaus, cabinets in his bedroom suite, clothes and shoe racks, tie, and belt racks, to complete the task at hand (and this task wasn't entirely completed as I didn't even go through his spring and summer stuff). I came home with four trash-bags full: sport coats, dress slacks, and blue jeans – in multiple colors, corduroy pants, sneakers and casual and dress shoes, sweatpants, belts, a few casual shirts, two leather jackets, a cashmere overcoat, and three pairs of winter gloves. It was a haul of epic proportions. The only problem? The reason for this haul: my brother's premature death.

I've worn my brother's hand-me-downs my whole life – and I'm 68. However, Richard had been alive for all those 68 years. The hand-me-downs I will be wearing now, I will be doing so because my brother is dead. A little different.

It took me a week before I wore anything that I had taken home that Sunday: a pair of black jeans and some New Balance sneakers. To say I was hesitant to step into his shoes – literally, would be an understatement. I was extremely uncomfortable and nervous, sort of like I was walking over his grave. I couldn't wait to get home and take off his clothes and put my own clothes back on.

Certainly, I'm grateful for the significant upgrade to my wardrobe (Dina is particularly pleased). My wardrobe has been the bane of our marriage). But the cost, not in dollars, but what makes sense, is way too much. I don't need the clothes. I need my brother. Sooner or later, I'll have to buck up and start making more of an effort to wear some of his clothes. Perhaps, after enough time since his death has passed, I'll draw some comfort from walking in his shoes, cinching one of his belts, or relaxing in one of the three pairs of sweatpants I took, as but a few examples. For the moment however, "There's no joy in Mudville," only sadness.

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

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

#WeAreAlexandria



OPEN SAT 2/11, 12-2

Del Ray | \$1,275,000

1927 Sears kit home – expanded Craftsman style! 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths, first-floor primary bedroom suite, updated kitchen & baths. Heart pine floors in the original part of the house. Off-street parking for 2 cars tandem. 2 porches, deck & hot tub. 19 W Wyatt Ave
Cindy Clemmer 703.966.0403
www.ClemmerAndSchuckHomes.com



OPEN SAT 2/11, 12-2 & SUN 2/12, 1-3

Braddock Heights | \$929,900

This beauty features 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, a pool & pool house! Impeccably well-kept with an updated kitchen and family area. Wood-burning fireplace in the living room. Fully fenced backyard with mature plantings. Welcome Home! 2802 Cameron Mills Road
Jen Walker 703.675.1566
www.JenWalker.com



Old Town | \$764,500

Perfect place in North Old Town – Presenting this Nethergate all-brick townhouse beauty with 4 levels, 3 fireplaces, 3 full baths, 2 bedrooms, and a large rec room. 2 off-street parking stickers and amazing convenience. 1105 Michigan Court
Ann Duff 703.965.8700
www.AnnDuff.com



OPEN SUN 2/12, 1-3

Washington, DC | \$675,000

Charming 3-bedroom, 2.5-bath home, located on a corner lot in the Woodridge neighborhood of DC, with over 2,000 SF of finished living space. The open floor plan presents an easy flow on the main floor. Finished basement with rec room & storage. 3038 Monroe St SE
Michael Makris 703.402.0629
www.TheMakrisGroup.com



Rosemont Park | \$599,000

This wonderful end unit is just blocks to the Braddock Metro and the restaurants & shops on Mt Vernon Ave. The home offers 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, hardwoods on 2 levels, a paneled lower level rec room, screened porch, fenced garden, & off-street parking. 315 E Oak St
Sissy Zimmerman 703.989.9779
www.BBZgroup.com



OPEN SAT 2/11 & SUN 2/12, 12-2

Park Place | \$135,000

Located right off I-395 and King Street, 2500 N Van Dorn Street #1217 is a beautiful studio unit in a coveted location! This unit makes the most of its cozy space with built-ins and lots of cabinet space. LVT floors, kitchen appliances, and vanity all new in 2023.
Jillian Keck Hogan 703.951.7655
www.JillianKeckHogan.com



OPEN SAT 2/11 & SUN 2/12, 1-3

Del Ray \$799,900

3 bedroom, 2 full bath, semi-detached home! Renovated kitchen boasts white shaker style cabinetry & neutral countertops. Gleaming hardwood floors. Lower level reconstructed in 2017 easily doubles as a guest room or in-law suite. Fully fenced-in yard and driveway. 1 E Alexandria Ave

Jen Walker 703.675.1566
www.JenWalker.com



OPEN SAT 2/11, 12-2

Cameron Station \$650,000

The main level of this 3-bedroom, 2.5-bath townhome boasts a light-soaked sunken living room, separate dining room, breakfast nook, modern kitchen, a double-sided gas fireplace, and long balcony. 1-car garage + assigned parking space. 489 Cameron Station Boulevard

Peter Crouch 703.244.4024
Katie Crouch 703.447.1345



Find Your Home with McEneaney Associates

Whether you have purchased a home before or are considering owning your first home, the information in our Buyer's Guide will help you navigate the process of finding, negotiating, and settling on your next home.

Request your digital copy of the Exclusive McEneaney Buyer's Guide today! McEneaney.com/buyers

Serving the Washington, DC Metro Area since 1980.
703.549.9292 | 109 S. Pitt Street | Alexandria, VA 22314 | McEneaney.com

