

IMAGE COURTESY STUDIO COOKE JOHN

Image of the new waterfront art installation "Two Boxes of Oranges and Admonia Jackson."

'Two Boxes of Oranges And Admonia Jackson'

Waterfront public art installation to open March 25.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria's newest public art installation, an abstract of a ship's hull representing the city's significance as a port during the 18th and 19th centuries, is slated to officially open March 25 in Waterfront Park.

Created by New York architect and artist Nina Cooke John of Cooke John Studio, "Two Boxes of Oranges and Admonia Jackson" is the fifth in the "Site See: New Views in Old Town" annual public art series. It follows R&R Studio's "I Love You" installation and will be on display through November.

"Through the 'Site See' series, we continue to bring engaging, contemporary art to Alexandria's unique waterfront," said Diane Ruggiero, director of Alexandria's Office of the Arts and deputy director for the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities in a press release. "The public has truly embraced this series and each of the unique installations and we look forward to sharing Nina's work with Alexandria's residents and visitors."

Cooke John's installation forms an abstracted ship's hull with steel vertical elements that rise and bend, referencing the curve of the hull's frame. The vertical elements



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

New York architect and artist Nina Cooke John created the new public art installation "Two Boxes of Oranges and Admonia Jackson" coming to Waterfront Park March 25.

spread across the site to form the rough outline of a ship. Visitors will be able to stand within the space and imagine the time when ships traveling to Alexandria carried not only cargo like tobacco, molasses, rum, and limes, but also enslaved people who were traded as part of the transatlantic and domestic slave trades.

Cooke John researched the recent archaeological digs that took place along the waterfront, using those findings as inspiration for

her design. Text on the vertical elements and the ground reveals fragments of information taken from the manifests of ships that arrived to the Port of Alexandria in the 18th century. Lists of cargo such as "herring," "coconuts" and "gin" are painted on the ground and embedded in the vertical elements alongside names found in the manifests, such as "Jane Tailor, female, 5'-2." Also listed are "two boxes of oranges" and "Admonia Jackson."

A native of Jamaica, Cooke John is the founding principal of Studio Cooke John Architecture and Design. Her work has been featured in numerous publications and she is also the artist behind the new Harriet Tubman Monument in Newark, N.J. Cooke John was selected to create the site-specific artwork by a community task force with approval from the Alexandria Commission for the Arts.

An opening reception celebration will be held March 25 from 2-5 p.m. in Waterfront Park. The reception is free and open to the public.

Visitors can see "Two Boxes of Oranges and Admonia Jackson" at Waterfront Park from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily beginning March 25. The artwork will remain on view until November 2023.

To learn more about public art in Alexandria, visit alexandriava.gov/PublicArt.

Leaping Leprechauns

Irish Hooley raises
\$9,000 for Christ House.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

A sell-out crowd of more than 400, many clad in green attire, attended the March 12 Saint Patrick's Day Irish Hooley at the Basilica

School of St. Mary gymnasium to celebrate all things Irish and raise a record \$9,000 for local charity Christ House.

Organized by the Alexandria Ancient Order of Hibernians, the event was a fundraiser for SEE IRISH HOOLEY, PAGE 3



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

AOH officers, from left: Sentinel Chris Robertson; Vice President Ken Wolfe; Recording Secretary Chris Bissex; President Keith Kettell; Marshall John O'Donnell; and Financial Secretary Dan McCormick at the March 12 Irish Hooley.



Bishop Michael Burbidge, right, talks with attendees of the March 12 Irish Hooley at the Basilica of St. Mary School.

Spring is a Thing

Belle Haven on the Green

OPEN SAT 3/18, 12-2 & SUN 3/19, 2-4



1825 Duffield Lane

Offered at \$785,000

NEW TO MARKET! Great floor plan with GARAGE in this Bristol unit – with surprisingly large rooms on three finished levels. Backing to trees and the Belle Haven neighborhood this property offers ample room to spread out, and a large private rear patio. With two primary suites on the upper level there is also immense storage throughout. There is a lower level with recreation room, bonus guest suite with full bath, and separate laundry. Move right in condition! This luxury townhome community has very low HOA fees and is two red lights to Old Town Alexandria, within one mile of the Metro, seven miles to DCA and twelve minutes to Fort Belvoir's back gate!

Old Town Waterfront



704 Fords Landing Way

Offered at \$3,175,000

Improved Price and AWE-INSPIRING VISTA, CHOICE WATERFRONT RESIDENCE! It is infrequent to find this location and quality – a classic Colonial with open, light-filled floor plan for your 2023 lifestyle! With four large bedrooms this home's interior has been restored and curated with absolute premium fit and finish throughout. High ceilings, hand-cut crown molding, gleaming hardwood floors throughout, gas fireplaces, and solid hard wood doors begin the list of upgrades implemented in this exceptional transformation. The oversized kitchen has enormous storage capability and glass cabinets. Walk out access to the brick patio – all elevated for front row seat perspective of waterfront activity whether it's sunrise crewing or sunset sailing. The phenomenal water views from all levels and private setting are distinctive features in this opulent locality!

Coming Very Soon – TWO Detached Homes in Belle Haven! Call for details.

Celebrating 28 Years of service to my clients and my community!



janet price
HOMES

BEST
WASHINGTONIAN
2022

Janet Caterson Price

Alexandria Real Estate Specialist | NVAR Lifetime Top Producer
703.622.5984 | janet@janetpricehomes.com | janetpricehomes.com
109 S Pitt Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 | Equal Housing Opportunity



NEWS

Irish Hooley Raises \$9,000 for Christ House

FROM PAGE 1

Christ House, a program of diocesan Catholic Charities that provides food to the hungry, shelter to the homeless and clothing to those in need. A \$9,000 check — the most ever raised by the Hooley — was presented to Sister Aniliza Juan, Christ House's volunteer coordinator, on behalf of the Basilica and the Hibernians.

The afternoon featured performances by local Irish musician Pat Garvey, the Boyle School of Irish Dance, the O'Neill James School of Irish Dance and the City of Alexandria Pipes and Drums. Catering was provided by Murphy's Grand Irish Pub and featured traditional Irish fare, including shepherd's pie, fish and chips, and corned beef and cabbage.

Father Edward Hathaway, who greeted the sold-out crowd with a prayer, and Bishop Michael Burbidge were on hand for the festivities which included a silent auction and raffle.

www.cdda.net



Local Irish entertainer Pat Garvey performs at the Irish Hooley fundraiser March 12 at the Basilica of St. Mary School.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



Bishop Michael Burbidge, Fr. Edward Hathaway, Rector of the Basilica of Saint Mary, and the Alexandria Ancient Order of Hibernians present a check to Sr. Aniliza Juan of Christ House symbolizing the \$9,000 raised for the charity at the March 12 Irish Hooley.



Members of the City of Alexandria Pipes and Drums perform at the Irish Hooley March 12 at the Basilica of St. Mary School.

'We Didn't Know Any Different' Ann Samuel looks back over 100 years.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Less than a month after the 1920 ratification of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote, Ann Samuel came into the world in Charleston, S.C. Hers was a world of fragile women's rights, Prohibition and segregation. Now 102 years old, the longtime Alexandria resident reflected on her journey across the decades.

"I was the second of 12 children in my family," Samuel said from her new home at Sunrise of Old Town. "Because the family was so big, I was sent to live with my aunt in Charlottesville when I was about 5. I came to Alexandria when I was about 18 for a job and have been here ever since."

Born Sept. 15, 1920, Samuel attended segregated schools in Charlottesville before coming to Alexandria around 1938 to take a job caring for a white family.

"I didn't think much of segregation at the time," Samule said. "That's just the way it was. We didn't know any different."

It wasn't until Samuel arrived in Alexandria that she began interacting with white people.

www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

"The family I worked for had just had a baby so I was caring for the infant," Samuel. "I was very happy with that job."

Samuel eventually married and went to work for the Marriott Corporation, where she stayed for 45 years. She retired as assistant manager in the restaurant in the Tysons Corner Marriott.

"Marriott was a wonderful company to work for," Samuel said. "While segregation was part of the times, Marriott always treated everyone with respect. That's why I stayed as long as I did."

From her arrival in the 1930s through the next few decades, Samuel said that she and her friends went to parties or had friends over for dinner.

"We did so many fun things, like playing cards," Samuel added. "There were so many places we couldn't go so you made your own fun with your friends and family. We couldn't go swimming, couldn't go bowling, couldn't go to regular places so what were you going to do? You made your own fun."

Her husband was a civilian employee at Fort Belvoir and together they saved to purchase their own home, where Samuel lived until her recent move to Sunrise of Old



Ann Samuel, a 102-year-old resident of Alexandria, right, with friend Cookie Balcha Feb. 10 at Sunrise of Old Town.

PHOTO BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

Town in January.

"Since we were both working and had no children, we did not qualify for help with housing," Samuel recalled. "So we rented some rooms in a home until we saved enough money to buy our own. It needed a lot of work but it was all we could afford. We were able to fix it up and I lived there for over 50 years."

As social changes came to Alexandria, Samuel and her husband adjusted to the new norms for both

Black people and women.

"It's all you knew at the time," Samuel said. "It was just the way of life at the time. You live in the moment and went with the times. Whatever was going on at the time, that is what we did. What were you going to do? Stay behind? It was what it was."

Samuel joined the Ebenezer Baptist Church on Queen Street in 1951 and is still a member to this day. Her husband of more than 60 years died in 2006. She is still ad-

justing to her move to Sunrise.

"The people here are really wonderful," Samuel said. "But this was not an easy experience to wake up one morning and have somebody tell me that I had to leave my home. But when people found out I was 102 and living by myself, they told me it is time."

Four of Samuel's siblings are still alive ranging in age from 85 to 95.

"They feel better knowing that I am here," she said.

Samuel shows no anger or resentment of the times that she was raised.

"I'm sensible enough to know that some things happen that you don't understand but they were destined to happen," she said. "It was God's way of doing things in your life over which you have no control. Our heavenly Father is the Father of us all -- our lives have already been destined for us from the day we were conceived in our mother's womb. We don't have a choice. It is God's will for us in our life and we have to accept that. We can't change God's mind."

Her advice to others: "Live each day as if it's your last because it may be your last. Tomorrow is not a promise so enjoy today. That's what today is for."

ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE PACKET ♦ MARCH 16-22, 2023 ♦ 3



The protestors out front demanded inclusion. "Asian, Black, Brown, LGBTQ+, Indigenous voices," says this sign.



Mitch Chan was at the megaphone alongside Emily Yen from the Virginia Education Association. "#Teach the Truth."

Education Advocates Gather at Mount Vernon

Rally precedes hearing on Youngkin administration's proposed revised 2023 History and Social Science Standards of Learning.

BY MIKE SALMON
THE GAZETTE PACKET

Before the speakers took to the stage, the rally out front near the parkway was alive with messages and a megaphone: "Whose education? Our education," was the rally chant as the group marched toward a gathering spot at the foot of the hill leading up to the gate of the Mount Vernon Estate.

"Our Asian American communities deserve better," said Mitch Chan, addressing the crowd with a megaphone.

Virginia Board of Education held public hearings on the Proposed Revised 2023 History and Social Science Standards of Learning. The Standards of Learning identi-



Representatives from the Hamkae Center, based in Annandale that organizes Asian Americans in Virginia for social, racial, and economic justice.

fy the essential content, processes, and skills for grade levels and subject courses to be used in Virginia public schools. On Tuesday, March 14, the public hearing was held at: George Washington's Mount Vernon: Rubenstein Leadership Hall at the Library.

Mount Vernon school board representative Karen Corbett Sanders stood at the gate waiting for the Mount Vernon officials to open it. She urged another version be drafted.

"The proposed standards are not appropriate and will have to undergo changes," she said, standing at the gate.

Rachna Sizemore Heizer, chair of the Fairfax County School Board, tweeted: "Proud to speak on behalf of the school board against the proposed changes to Virginia's social studies standards, changes that minimize the history of people of color, women, LGBTQIA. Studying the good and the bad of history means we can learn from our mistakes, not repeat them."

Lack of Snow Leaves Some Hanging

Warm February leaves plows idle, salt domes full across county.

BY MIKE SALMON
THE GAZETTE PACKET

It was the headline on the NOAA page that really summed up the weather over the last few months in Northern Virginia: "A warm February wrapped up a warm winter for U.S." it read. The average temperature last month across the country was 2.7 degrees above the 20th century average which is the third warmest February of the 129-year climate record. Virginia had its warmest February

on record, and 0.4 inches of snow.

Although this part of the east coast isn't heavily dependent on snowfall, it is an economic factor for some. Pat Burns is a plow driver who counted on a few days plowing with the Virginia Department of Transportation every season and looked at this winter as "the worst season ever," he said. He started plowing in 1998 and had some other drivers working with him during the snow season. Some of them are trying to sell their plows. "I have considered getting out of it," he said.

VDOT's statewide budget for snow is \$220

million this year. The fate of the unused money has not been decided, said Ellen Kamilakis, the Assistant District Administrator for Communications. The plow trucks are used for other duties and the salt can sit indefinitely, she said.

Students haven't had a snow day either. There was one day in December where classes started two hours late, but no total snow days even though the school system has built in a few snow days into the yearly schedule. "We have not needed to use any of our built-in snow days so far this school year. We are fortunate this has allowed us to

focus on in-person instruction for our students," said Helen Lloyd, from the Fairfax County Public School office of Communications & Community Relations

There are a few ski areas within a couple of hours drive from Fairfax County but the weather hasn't been favorable for them either. Ski Liberty website message "OPERATIONS UPDATE: LIBERTY MOUNTAIN RESORT IS NOW CLOSED FOR THE SEASON." At Seven Springs a little further north, there were a lot of zeros on their conditions report. Zero snow in the last 24 and 48 hours, zero in the last seven days and a forecast of sunny and 36 degrees – not cold enough for snow.



PHOTO BY HOWARD SOROOS

Elizabeth Replogle, Madeline Byrd, and Mic Townsend perform in the Aldersgate Church Community Theater production of *Silent Sky*, playing March 17 through April 2. www.acctonline.org

‘Silent Sky’

ACCT celebrates pioneering Henrietta Leavitt.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
THE GAZETTE

At the turn of the 20th century, years before women had the right to vote, Henrietta Leavitt was determined to reach for the stars through her passion for astronomy.

Known as “the woman who measured the universe,” Leavitt was one of a small number of pioneering women astronomers working at Harvard Observatory in the early 1900s. She transcended the odds and took on the establishment of her time, making discoveries that forever changed the field of astronomy.

Her true story is told in the play “*Silent Sky*,” playing now through April 2 at Aldersgate Church Community Theater.

Written by Lauren Gunderson, *Silent Sky* is produced by Charles Dragonette and Marg Soroos and under the direction of Marzanne Claiborne. The play chronicles Leavitt’s work as a human computer, mapping the stars but receiving no scientific credit. She is denied the opportunity to use Harvard’s telescope — the Great Refractor — and will only be allowed to log stars photographed by the men of the department.

Not to be dissuaded, Leavitt begins the process of recording the changes in Cepheid stars, a scientific discovery now known as “Leavitt’s Law.”

Leavitt and her colleagues Annie Cannon and Williamina Fleming would become trailblazers in the male-dominated field of astronomy.

“Henrietta was one of the many female ‘computers’ who worked at the Harvard College Observatory,” said Madeline Byrd, who portrays Leavitt in the ACCT production. “I hope audiences are struck by the immense scientific impact that these women brought forth. The characters in this play and the real life ‘computers’ of the Harvard Observatory may be lesser known than Hubble or

Newton or Kepler, but they are no less important.”

Kate Ives plays Annie Cannon, the Head of Stellar Photometry at Harvard Observatory who developed the organizational system by which stars are classified.

“I hope the audience will come to appreciate these amazing women whose curiosity and determination literally changed our universe,” Ives said.

Rounding out the trio of true-life trailblazers is Williamina Fleming, a Scottish immigrant who was abandoned by her husband right after they arrived in Boston.

“This play shines a light on the impact of women scientists long before they received the recognition they deserve,” said Elizabeth Replogle, who portrays Fleming. “I hope it will make people appreciate how far we have come in society in terms of gender equality but also realize that we have much work yet to do.”

Added Soroos, “This is a compelling story of one woman’s fight to get recognition for her tireless effort in science, an area where women were truly discriminated against in prior times.”

Through Gunderson’s humorous writing, “*Silent Sky*” aptly portrays Leavitt’s contributions to astronomy, despite the restrictions of her time, and how her work continues to empower scientists today.

“This is a great play to see during Women’s History month,” said Melissa Dunlap, who plays Henrietta’s sister Margaret. “There is much to be admired in these women who made major contributions to astronomy at a time when there were many barriers to them studying and working in this field.”

Silent Sky opens March 17 and runs through April 2 at Wesley Hall of Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 1301 Collingwood Road in Alexandria. Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. For tickets or more information visit www.acctonline.org.



SPRING 2023

**MARCH
1-31
(EXCEPT TUES)**

60TH Anniversary
Woodlawn Needlework Show

**MARCH 18
APRIL 22
MAY 20**

Discovering Alexandria Architecture
Walking Tour with Carlyle House

**DAILY STARTING:
MARCH 18**

Water Taxi to the Wharf:
Cherry Blossom Festival Service

**APRIL
2**

Del Ray Dog Fest

**APRIL
14**

Cherry Blossom Jubilee at
Torpedo Factory Art Center

**APRIL
15**

Historic Homes & Gardens Tour

**APRIL
23**

PNC Parkway Classic
10 Miler, 5K and Kid’s Dash

**MAY
19-21**

Spring Wine Festival & Sunset Tour
at George Washington’s Mount Vernon

**MAY
20-21**

3RD Annual Alexandria Old Town Springtime
Art Festival at John Carlyle Square

**MAY
21**

Old Town Festival of Speed & Style



FOR MORE SPRING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES, CHECK OUT:

VisitAlexandria.com/Spring

alexandria

#visitALX





37th ANNUAL GALA & AUCTION

SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2023 SIX O'CLOCK TO MIDNIGHT HILTON ALEXANDRIA MARK CENTER

Our gratitude to our expanding team of 2023 Gala sponsors. Will you help send a local Alexandria City High School Titan to college? Become a sponsor today. Purchase a ticket at sfagala.givesmart.com to attend this special evening

THE HONOR ROLL OF GIVING

Validictorian

Alexandria Toyota
Amazon
Anonymous*

Salutatorian

Hon. Cindy Lyons Anderson*
Molly & Hunt Burke
Priscilla* & Michael* Goodwin
Debra Raggio

Summa Cum Laude

Dawson* & Associates
Page Elliott
Harry Braswell Inc.
Maureen McNulty & Mark Tonsetic
Emily & Mike* Porterfield
Lorraine Reilly* & Brock Ramirez
Pamela Smith & John Nakahata
United Bank
Virginia Tech
Karen & Thomas White

Magna Cum Laude

Anna Jaeger Photography
Building Momentum
Joy Cameron & Robert Berlett
Caudron Megary Blackburn
Wealth Management Group
of Wells Fargo Advisors
Kathy & Jamie Conrad
donna lewis
Mia & Patrick Jones
Catherine & James Kelley
Hon. Christopher Lewis
Kitty Porterfield
Debi* & Eric* Schilling
Jennifer & Henri van Goethem

As of March 13, 2023

*ACPS alumni +ACPS Hall of Fame

Cocktail Sponsor

Daniel O'Connell's Irish Bar and Restaurant

Paddle Sponsor

Burke & Herbert Bank

Photo Booth Sponsor

Transurban 95/395/495 Express Lanes

Cum Laude

Donna & Mango Mike Anderson
Janet Anderson & Tom Willkomm
Dr. Lois Berlin & Lawrence Stuebing
Megan & Hon. Don Beyer
Laura* & Ed Cassidy
christopher consultants now IMEG
Alex Crawford-Batt* & Hon. Justin Wilson
Albie & Tim Dickson
Nancy Drane & Dana Colarulli
Krys & Paul Filios
Marcia & Tom Fulham
Radha & Mido* Hajaji
HGA
HudsonLake
Inova Alexandria Hospital
Hon. Amy Jackson*
JBG SMITH
Pam & Dan Jones
Elizabeth & Ben Klein
Melissa & Chris Logan
Sue & Len Lynch
Melanie Hogg Group
Vivian & Dr. Robert Miller
Jasmine* & Stephen Milone
Joan Hartman Moore
Dorene & Jim Pickup
Joan & John Renner Foundation
Simpson Development Company, Inc.*
Walsh Colucci Lubeley & Walsh PC
Shannon L. Watson*
Terese & Jim Wilson

Dean's List

Deborah & Laurence Altenburg
Stacie & David Andersen
Anne & Russell Bailey
Hon. Elizabeth Bennett-Parker
& Stephen Parker
Andrea Bridgeman* & Steve Parker
Colony Brown & Derick Naef
Julie Carey & Michael Tackett
Tanisha Carino & Jalyn Henton
Darlene & Dr. Michael*+ Casey
Harlene & Bill Clayton
Linda & Dean Copeland
Linda & Tim Critchfield
Rebecca Davies
Jennifer Deibert & David Damond
Krista* & Philippe Depeyrot
Kristin & Clarence Dillon
Chris Farris* & Philip Schwada
Katie Finn & Hon. Justin Keating
Ella & John Fitzgerald
Dr. Molly Fitzgerald*
Angela & Tim Gannon
Emily & Andrew* Garrahan
Kristen Gentile & Jim Krustapentus
Michelle & Michael Gleeson
Sue & Marty Goodhart
Dr. Merkeza* & Dr. Colin Grant
Patrice R. Green*
June Hajjar
Karen Helbrecht & Gordon Johnston
Jessica & Jon Hixson
Cheryl & Dr. Gregory* C. Hutchings, Jr.
Lisa Jacobs & Paul Brinkman
Sheryl & Kevin Jahns
Clare & Ed Jayne

Ressa & Christopher Jones
Jean Kelleher
Kristi Komai & Alex Murguia
Brooksie Koopman & Hon. Mark Eaton
Stephanie & Kyle Lynch
Laurie MacNamara & William Hendrickson
Maria* & Diller* Matthews
Debra & Matthew McCormack
Richard Merritt
Ginny & Robb Mulberger
Gwen & John Mullen
Hon. Veronica Nolan & Kareem El-Alaily
Elizabeth Norton & Andrew Orzel
Emily & Jesse O'Connell
Ann O'Hanlon & John Harris
Lillian Pace & Ty Matsdorf
Sarah Pray & James Plunkett
M. Catharine Puskar*
Elizabeth & Ryan Reyna
Hon. Michelle Rief & David Carpio
Elizabeth & Joe Schilling
Hon. Ashley Simpson Baird & Andrew Baird
Kellie & Michael Souza
Meredith Haines Spacie & Warren Haines
Daniela Spigai*
Sophia & Hon. Chris Suarez
Ajashu Thomas & Hon. Canek Aguirre
Lucy Thomson & Hon. Arthur Peabody
Erin & Bobby White
Rosie & Mark Wiedemer
Nancy & Hon. Marc Williams
Cori & Chris Woods
Louise & Donald Wyatt
Julie* & Matthew Zahn
Sarah Zapolsky & David Williams

sfagala.givesmart.com



Scholarships change lives forever.

IMAGE CREDIT: NASA/CXC/JPL-CALTECH/STSCI

BULLETIN

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 encouraged 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

Alexandria Families for Safer Streets - Executive Assistant to AFSS Board of Directors. The agency is seeking an executive assistant to help coordinate a diverse group of tasks necessary to keep us on track and moving forward. Someone with office manager skills would be the ideal candidate. www.volunteeral-alexandria.org

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

Assistance League of Northern Virginia is an all-volunteer non-profit organization that feeds, clothes and provides reading assistance and books to children in need. Assistance League's programs touch the lives of hundreds of children in Fairfax and Prince William Counties and the City of Alexandria. There are many volunteer opportunities for community members to contribute to helping those in need. To learn more, email info@alnv.org, or visit www.alnv.org.

Join Friends' Board. Those who care about mental health, the Alexandria community, and collaborating with fellow residents to make sure the City's most vulnerable residents have a chance to thrive, then consider joining the Board of Friends of the Alexandria Mental Health Center. The Friends Board is an all-volunteer group of residents that oversees the administration of one of Alexandria's top mental health charities. Friends has no paid staff, so Board members, working on average 10 hours per month, share the day-to-day work needed to accomplish its goals. Interested candidates should email FriendsofAMHC@gmail.com.

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.

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 11

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Alexandria Gazette Packet

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 Mogle

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
michaelpope@gmail.com
@michaelpope

ADVERTISING:

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

Debbie Funk

Display Advertising/National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

David Griffin

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

Classified & Employment
Advertising
703-778-9431

Publisher

Jerry Vernon
703-549-0004
jvernion@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.

Virginia
PRESS
Association
Award Winning
Newspaper



CITY OF ALEXANDRIA BOARD OF EQUALIZATION HEARINGS

Pursuant to Section 58.1-3378 of the Code of Virginia, the Board of Equalization and Assessment Review for the City of Alexandria will convene on the following days to hear complaints of inequalities wherein the property owners allege a lack of equity or uniformity in assessment, errors in fact in such real estate assessments, or that the real property assessment is not assessed at fair market value. Upon hearing such complaints, the Board is legally authorized to INCREASE, DECREASE OR AFFIRM such real estate assessments.

Participants can attend via Zoom Webinar or in person in room 3008, City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria, VA. Notification of any meeting cancellations will be posted at alexandriava.gov/Calendar.

The 2023 hearing dates currently scheduled are:

April 4th - 9am.

The deadline for filing an appeal was June 1, 2022, however, this appeal deadline is not applicable to appeals of assessments for real estate that was newly constructed pursuant to Virginia Code 59.1-3292.

Dockets for each hearing may be obtained by contacting the Office of Real Estate Assessments, 301 King Street, City Hall Room 2600, Alexandria VA 22313, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, via e-mail realestate@alexandriava.gov or by calling 703.746.4646.

Sign up for FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION to all of our papers



www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe



Public Notice

Updated weight limits on Virginia bridges and culverts

In accord with state and federal law, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has imposed new or changed existing weight restrictions and installed new signage indicating the updated weight restrictions on the following bridges and culverts (structures) in Virginia within the last 30 days.

Jurisdiction	Fed Struc Id	Route #	Route Name	Crossing	Posted Date
FAIRFAX	6767	645	CLIFTON RD	SANDY RUN	2/23/2023
GILES	8436	635	BIG STONY CK RD/RTE 635	LAUREL BRANCH	2/22/2023
ROANOKE (M)	21702	118	RTE 0118	BRANCH	2/22/2023
LOUISA	11554	714	HORSESHOE FARM RD	SMALL BRANCH	2/21/2023
ROANOKE (M)	21611	0	RTE 0000	MUDLICK CREEK	2/21/2023
ROANOKE (M)	21731	221	RTE 0221	BRAMBLTN AV O MURRAY RUN	2/21/2023
CULPEPER	5642	628	HAZEL RIVER RD	STREAM	2/16/2023
WYTHE	19508	0F044	EAST LEE HWY	LITTLE PINE RUN	2/14/2023
PATRICK	13283	631	DOE RUN RD/RTE 631	ARARAT RIVER	2/14/2023
BLAND	2980	61	WOLF CREEK HWY	SPRING BRANCH	2/13/2023
BLAND	2982	61	WOLF CREEK HWY	SPRING BRANCH	2/13/2023
WYTHE	19774	701	OGLESBY RD	STREAM	2/10/2023
ROANOKE	15011	620	MILLER COVE RD/RTE 620	TROUT CREEK	2/10/2023
WYTHE	19710	649	ATKINS MILL RD	SPILLER BRANCH	2/9/2023
MONTGOMERY	12235	629	BRADSHAW RD/ RTE 629	BRADSHAW CREEK	2/7/2023
BEDFORD	2798	680	MURRELLS GAP RD	SHEEP CREEK	1/31/2023

The list above is not a comprehensive list of all structures with weight restrictions in the Commonwealth, but shows only structures that have new or changed weight restrictions within the last 30 days. The list contains only basic structure identification and location information and the date the new or changed weight restriction and signage became effective.

For a full listing of all bridge and culvert weight restrictions with detailed information about specific structures, including location data and actual weight limits, visit <https://www.virginiadot.org> and navigate to Info Center/Trucking Resources. This page references a posted structures report and a GIS map tool that contain detailed information about restricted structures in Virginia. To receive email notifications regarding new or updated weight restrictions for structures statewide, complete the sign-up form on the web page.

Notices regarding bridges and culverts with new or updated weight restrictions are published monthly by VDOT. For additional information or questions, please contact haulingpermits@vdot.virginia.gov.

The Virginia Department of Transportation is committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any of its programs or activities on the basis of race, color, or national origin, as protected by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need further information on VDOT's Title VI Program or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, please contact the Virginia Department of Transportation's Title VI Program Specialist at 804-786-2730.


**REGISTER NOW FOR
THE CHAMBER ALX'S 2023**

*Women's
Leadership Forum*

PRESENTED BY THE GOODHART GROUP

FRIDAY, MARCH 24TH | 7:45-10:30AM
AT THE WESTIN OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THECHAMBERALX.COM



ENTERTAINMENT

Mamma Mia!

BY AL BELL
GAINESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

Three Dads, two days, and one big wedding. The cast and crew of St. Stephen's and St. Agnes transported the audience to the enchanting world of Kalokairi, Greece, in their production of "Mamma Mia!"

"Mamma Mia!" opened on the West End in 1999 and landed on Broadway in 2001 before being adapted into a popular movie franchise in 2008. Written by Catherine Johnson, "Mamma Mia!" features the music of ABBA and a score by Benny Andersson and Bjorn Ulvaeus. The show follows 20-year-old Sophie Sheridan on the day before her wedding. Determined to have her father walk her down the aisle, she sends letters to three possible men. Once her mother finds out, the plan goes downhill, and the question of whether Sophie will walk down the aisle remains.

Max Gehlhoff (Sam Carmichael) fully embodied his character through his statuesque posture, fast-paced dialogue, and headstrong walk. Gehlhoff displayed a stunning tableau (Mamma Mia) as the entire cast moved around him, not moving an inch. When Amber Dunton (Donna Sheridan) came on stage, Gehlhoff physically jumped at the sight of her, foreshadowing their rocky reunion. The audience was roped into Sam's story and saw his love for Donna through Gehlhoff's performance.

The roles of the very unhelpful bar staff of the taverna were beautifully portrayed by Angus Argetsinger (Ed-

die) and August Moon (Pepper). Argetsinger and Moon were great as the duo, lazing around the bar, hitting on women instead of tending to customers, and aiding in the shenanigans of the bachelors. During the bachelor party (Lay All Your Love on Me), the duo danced in flip-flops along with the rest of the bachelor party, kicking in a line and tapping on the beat. Argetsinger and Moon displayed a bond with Tyler Troy (Sky) by saying goodbye in unique ways; Moon fist bumped Troy as Sky and Sophie were saying their goodbyes, and Argetsinger patted Troy on the back.

The vocal trio showed skill and versatility in their singing and acting, being in the background of almost every scene. They were the cherry on top in every scene, giving "Honey, Honey" its signature doo-op, adding a bite to "Money, Money, Money," and contributing comedy to "Mamma Mia!"

The dance numbers choreographed by Emma Lacy, Gabriella Miller Milow, and Emmie Vajda were electric. The choice to have simpler choreography for "Super Trouper" perfectly highlighted that the Dynamos hadn't performed together in years while still showing that the women knew each other well. "Honey, Honey," on the other hand, was fast-paced and dynamic, having Sophie and the girls run around the stage giddy and excited. The choreography was put together and was well-informed.

Elona Michael, Cate Nickson, and other members of the crew produced some amazing costume designs. While there were no complete builds, the alterations

CAPPIES

SEE CAPPIES, PAGE 9

**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

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](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com)**

ENTERTAINMENT

CAPPIES

MARCH 1-31

60th Anniversary Woodlawn Needlework Show. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. every day, expect Tuesdays. At Woodlawn & Pope-Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Hwy, Alexandria. In 2023, Woodlawn celebrates 60 years of the Annual Needlework Show with the timeless theme of comfort and joy. Sixty years ago, Adelaide Bolte and Emma "Pinky" Matheson, co-founders of the Nelly's Needlers, started the needlework show exhibiting work of their own. Since that time, the show has grown exponentially to become the largest judged show of needle arts in the nation, displaying thousands of embroidery pieces by artists from all over the world. Returning this year will be in-house seating in Nelly's Café and needlework demonstrations. Special exhibits and online events are returning with new embroidery subjects and needlework displays.

NOW THRU MARCH 19

Nicole Santiago Exhibition. At the Athenaeum, Alexandria. Poetry Workshop on Feb. 25 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Nicole Santiago's work consists of semi-autobiographical narrative paintings and drawings that depict scenes of love, loss, and duty, thinly veiled in the mundane debris of everyday life. While the impetus for Nicole's work is highly personal, she intends to construct something more universal that stretches beyond the limits of her own experiences, expanding into broader familiar theme.

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. Reception will be held from 1 - 3 p.m. on March 12. Many of the paintings were created onsite at River Farm, and all are available to purchase. Reception free and open to the public.

NOW THRU APRIL 1

The "Fun With One" exhibit. At Del Ray Artisans features monochromatic artwork by members. Come see the variety that can be accomplished using just one color. The artist awards are juried by Robin Croft. View at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria VA. Opening Reception: Friday, March 3 from 7-9pm. Gallery hours: Thursdays 12-6 p.m., Fridays 12-9 p.m., Saturdays & Sundays 12-6 p.m. (closed on April 2). Details: DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits

THURSDAY/MARCH 16

Nepenthe Gallery's One-Year Anniversary. 6-7:30 p.m. At Nepenthe Gallery's Thursday ART + WINE + CHEESE event, Nepenthe Gallery is celebrating it's one-year Anniversary with happy cheer and love, along with a collection of original works by the world-renowned Brazilian artist, Romero Britto. The exhibit that evening will also feature works from several artists who have partnered with us this inaugural year.

BEGINNING SATURDAY/MARCH 18

Cherry Blossom Water Taxi to The
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Wharf. Departures beginning at 1:30 p.m. Departs from the Alexandria Marina, 1 Cameron St., Alexandria. Cruise from Old Town Alexandria to Washington, D.C., to enjoy the famous cherry blossoms. City Cruises Potomac Water Taxi offers a 25-minute direct water taxi from Old Town to The Wharf development in D.C. From the dock at The Wharf, it is a 10-minute walk to the cherry blossoms at the Tidal Basin. The water taxi docks at the Transit Pier, 950 Wharf St. SW, near the Tidal Basin, the National Mall, Hains Point and a Capital Bikeshare station. Visit citycruises.com

SATURDAY/MARCH 18

Discovering Alexandria Architecture Walking Tour. 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. At Carlyle House, 121 N Fairfax Street, Alexandria. Alexandria has grown from a small town in the 18th century to a bustling small city in the 21st century. Join for a tour of Alexandria and explore the various architectural styles that adorn the city streets. Reservations are required as space is limited. Please wear comfortable shoes for this 1.5-hour guided tour. Tours are held rain or shine unless there is severe weather.

SATURDAY/MARCH 18

Watercolor Workshop - Color with Sargent. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (16-Adult) John Singer Sargent was a master of color. His blacks were textured, his whites were complex, and his side-by-side use of warm and cool



PHOTO BY JAMESON BLOOM

From left: Allison O'Connor, Reed Presby, Charlotte Nichols, Amber Dunton, Tyler Troy, Emma Lacy, and Bailey Edwards in the performance of "Mamma Mia!" at St. Stephen's and St. Agnes on Friday, March 10, 2023.

Mamma Mia!

FROM PAGE 8

were great, and all the ensemble costumes were very fitting. Sophie's wedding dress was reminiscent of the 1990s and fit the actress perfectly. Eddie and Pepper were never matching, but it fit their characters. Eddie wore a black polo, and Pepper wore a brightly colored Hawaiian shirt, showing how disorganized

they both were. The Dynamos were given colors and themes to match their personalities. Rosie wore red, symbolizing her excitable nature, Tanya wore purple, signifying her elegance, and Donna wore blue, showing her calmness under pressure.

In the mission to find the pearls of Helen of Troy, the cast and crew of "Mamma Mia!" managed to find a diamond of a show. Bravo!



Nepenthe Gallery will celebrate its One-Year Anniversary on Thursday, March 16, 2023.

colors gave his work vibrancy. Artist and instructor Dawn Flores presents a history of Sargent's life and work, then shows you how to copy Sargent's techniques and create your own compelling piece inspired by his use of color. A supply list will be emailed before class. Bring a lunch. \$102 per person. Register online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes>

or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173. Code WQ7.384R.

SATURDAY/MARCH 18

Growing Plants in a Bag. 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. (Adults) Don't have space or the required light to grow vegetables? Try a grow bag! Learn how

easy it is to grow beautiful vegetables and flowers using grow bags. Extension Master Gardeners will teach you care requirements and benefits of grow bags, such as they are easy to move, provide better soil drainage, and build stronger roots for plants. Grow bags, soil medium and seeds will be provided.

ed. \$23 per person. Register online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes> or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173. Code X65.TZ3L.

STARTING MONDAY, MARCH 20

Yoga for Gardeners I. 9:30-10:25 a.m. (Adults) This class features a gentle introduction to the Vinyasa method which helps participants increase the strength, flexibility and endurance necessary for gardening. Class held indoors. \$137 per person for 11 lessons. Register online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes> or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173. Code 6E6.UDKY.

MARCH 21-27

Spring Book Sale - The Friends of the Beatley Central Library will hold their Spring Book Sale from Tuesday, March 21 through Monday, March 27. Members' Preview on Tuesday, March 21, 3:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. (\$15 memberships available at the door); Wednesday, March 22, 10:00 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; Thursday, March 23, 10:00 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; Friday, March 24, 10:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Saturday, March 25, 10:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sunday, March 26, Half Price Day, 1:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.; Monday, March 27, \$10 Bag Sale, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. \$4 or less, unless specifically marked: hardbacks, paperbacks, children's books, and media. All genres. Charles E. Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA; info: 703-746-1702; www.beatleyfriends.org.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 10

ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE PACKET ♦ MARCH 16-22, 2023 ♦ 9

**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.

**Call today and receive a
FREE SHOWER
PACKAGE
PLUS \$1600 OFF**

**SAFE STEP
WALK-IN TUB**

1-877-591-9950

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445

EASE OF USE CERTIFIED **MADE IN TENNESSEE** **BBB** **LIFETIME LIMITED WARRANTY**

FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH APPROVED CREDIT

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.

CLASSIFIED
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM
TO ADVERTISE IN THIS PAPER, CALL BY MONDAY 11:00 AM 703-778-9411

**Upgrade Your Home with a
NEW METAL ROOF**
Guaranteed to Last a Lifetime!

**60% off
YOUR INSTALLATION
+
TAKE AN ADDITIONAL
10% off**
Install for Military, Health Workers and First Responders

ERIE Metal Roofs

Call today to schedule your
FREE ESTIMATE
1-844-902-4611

New orders only. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required. Other restrictions may apply. This is an advertisement placed on behalf of Erie Construction Mid-West, Inc. ("Erie"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not be available in your area. Offer expires March 31, 2023. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, SMS text message, email, pre-recorded messages by Erie or its affiliates and service providers using automated technologies notwithstanding if you are on a DO NOT CALL list or register. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use on homeservicescompliance.com. All rights reserved. VA License Number: 2705029944

Prepare for Power Outages & Save Money

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!

**ACT NOW TO RECEIVE
A \$300 SPECIAL OFFER!***
| (833) 688-1378

*Offer value when purchased at retail. Solar panels sold separately.

GENERAC PWRCELL
SOLAR + BATTERY STORAGE SYSTEM

LeafFilter
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-11pm, 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. 27th 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 Plainville, Michigan and processed at LMT Mercer Group in Ohio. See Representative for full warranty details. Registration# 0360920322 CSBA# 1035795 Registration# HIC 0548905 License# CBC056678 License# RCE-S11604 Registration# C127230 License# 550544 Suffolk HIC License# 52229-H License# 2102212986 License# 26200022 License# 262000403 License# 2100212346 License# VMHC111225 Registration# 176447 License# 423730 Registration# 8871804 License# 50145 License# 408093 Registration# 13VH0995300 Registration# H-13114 License# 218294 Registration# PA069383 License# 41354 License# 7056 DOP1 #10783658-5501 License# 423930 License# 2705169445 License# LEAFNNW8222 License# WV056912

**Past issues of
THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS**

**back to 2008
are available at**

http://connectionarchives.com/PDF

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 9

SATURDAY/MARCH 25
Finding Military Family, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. At Hollin Hall Senior Center and Zoom, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Don't miss this opportunity to hear nationally renowned genealogists discuss how to track down records of your military family members and those who supported them. Speakers will share their thoughts on how this research contributes to a deeper understanding of our ancestors and a richer social history of our nation. Registration is just \$40 for this LIVE event. Go to <https://mvgenealogy.org/cpage.php?pt=86>. Find out more about the Mount Vernon Genealogical Society at <https://mvgenealogy.org/>.

THURSDAY/MARCH 30
Book Talk with Lilianne Milgrom, 7 p.m. At the Athenaeum, Alexandria L'Origine: The secret life of the world's most erotic masterpiece. She will be speaking about her serendipitous encounter in Paris with a notoriously controversial 19th century painting that changed the course of her life. Topics open for discussion include the relevance of art then and now, what makes a work of art timeless and how becoming an author has shaped her studio practice as an artist. A short reading from L'Origine will be included in the program.

APRIL 14-15
Spring Garden Market, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The American Horticultural Society presents the ultimate two-day shopping experience, the Spring Garden Market, on Friday, April 14 and Saturday, April 15, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at River Farm in Alexandria. Join 2,000 fellow gardening enthusiasts, 30+ vendors, food trucks, and the ever-popular alpacas for family-friendly festivities on the beautiful 25-acre historic property along the Potomac. This year, the AHS celebrates 50 years at River Farm. www.ahsgardening.org/sgm

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.

MARCH
Wed. 15: Aoife O'Donovan Plays Nebraska, w/ Hawktaill \$39.50
Thu. 16: Al Stewart with The Empty Pockets \$49.50
Fri. 17: The Smithereens with Marshall Crenshaw \$39.50
Sat. 18: Tom Rush & Jonathan Edwards \$55.00
Sun. 19: WATCH Awards Ceremony -7pm- \$20.00 SOLD OUT!
Mon. 20: The English Beat \$45.00 SOLD OUT!
Thu. 23: Gerald Albright \$49.50
Fri. 24: The High Kings \$55.00
Sat. 25: The High Kings \$55.00 SOLD OUT!
Sun. 26: Larry Carlton "Farewell Tour - Through The Decades" \$65.00
Wed. 29: Stanley Clarke N 4Ever \$59.50
Thu. 30: An Evening with Drew & Ellie Holcomb "The Residency Tour" \$49.50
Fri. 31: An Evening with Drew & Ellie Holcomb "The Residency Tour" \$49.50

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

VOLLEYBALL

Head of the Class

Pigskin Club honors Rex, Thorne.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria City High School girls volleyball coach Danielle Thorne was honored as the 2022 Girls Volleyball Coach of the Year and ACHS player Milan Rex named the 2022 girls volleyball Player of the Year at the Pigskin Club of Washington's annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet Feb. 24 at the Pryzbyla Center on the campus of Catholic University of America.

Thorne, in her first year as head varsity coach, amassed a 32-2 record and is the first female head coach in ACHS history to win a state championship. She was previously named Virginia Class 6 State Coach of the Year.

A 2013 graduate of St. Mary's College, Thorne played varsity volleyball for three years at what was then TC Williams High School then played four years of collegiate volleyball at St. Mary's College of Maryland.

Rex, a 5-foot-11 senior outside hitter, led the Titans in its 32-2 record and the Class 6 state championship this past season. She amassed 636 kills, 334 digs, 62 service



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Alexandria City High School volleyball player Milan Rex was honored by the Pigskin Club of Washington as the 2022 Girls Volleyball Player of the Year.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Alexandria City High School's Danielle Thorne was honored by the Pigskin Club of Washington as the 2022 Girls Volleyball Coach of the Year.

aces and 37 assists, posting a .510 kill percentage and a .372 hitting percentage on the attack.

Among her other honors, Rex was the Class 6 Player of the Year and an American Volleyball Coaches Association Second Team All-American selection. She concluded her career with 1,346 kills.

In the classroom, Rex has maintained a weighted 4.46 GPA. She has signed a Na-

tional Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at the University of California, Santa Barbara this fall.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 7

ALIVE! offers numerous programs that aid low-income families in Alexandria that rely on volunteers: monthly food distributions, furniture, houseware and emergency food deliveries, and community food drives. Individuals, families and groups are encouraged to participate. Students can earn community service hours by participating. Visit www.alive-inc.org/volunteer.htm or contact the Volunteer Coordinator at volunteers@alive-inc.org. **Volunteer Drivers Needed.** Drivers needed by the American Cancer Society to take cancer patients to treatment in Northern Virginia. To volunteer, call 1-800-227-2345 or go to cancer.org/drive.

RSVP, a volunteer network for seniors seeking service opportunities in and around Fairfax County, Arlington County and the City of Alexandria, offers a wide array of opportunities for volunteers 55 and older. RSVP volunteers enjoy flexible schedules, free accident and liability insurance while

serving, optional mileage and meal reimbursement and are invited to volunteer group projects and social gatherings. To sign up for an upcoming orientation, email Carly Hubicki at chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org or call RSVP at 703-403-5360. To learn more about RSVP, visit www.rsvpnova.org.

Mentors Wanted. Two creative programs that help transform the lives of Alexandria's preteens are seeking volunteer mentors. SOHO, which stands for "Space of Her Own," and "Space of His Own," serves vulnerable fifth graders in Alexandria. The programs pair men and women with youth in need of positive adult role models, to help support and guide youth in making healthy choices and succeeding in school and in life. Visit www.spaceofherown.org and www.spaceofhisown.org. For more information on how to become a SOHO mentor, contact Sarah Maroney at sarah.maroney@alexandriava.gov or phone at 703-746-4687.

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
Potomac Almanac
Mount Vernon Gazette
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 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 Con-

nection 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.

The pandemic has been a bear, financially and otherwise. Revenue plummeted at the beginning in 2020. Some beloved advertisers have stayed the course supporting us throughout, and many more have done what they can. In the fall of 2021 we saw the return of some advertising for events and Grand Openings, but now ominous clouds the horizon in so many ways. Revenue still remains short of expenses despite our greatly curtailed costs.

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

Joie De Vivre



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I guess it's time. Ever since my brother Richard's semi unexpected death on Dec. 3rd, to re-work an old B.B. King standard, the thrill has been gone. The joie has been missing from my vivre. For those of you unfamiliar with this French phrase, it means the joy of living, or more generally, "the joy of anything one might do." It's not exactly one's reason for living (raison d'être), it's more about the intangible element that puts a proverbial bounce in your step and enables you to see the world (and your place in it) as full of possibilities. It's reminiscent of Maverick's (Tom Cruise) inability to "engage," the storyline throughout "Top Gun" after the accidental death of his "radar intercept" officer, "Goose," as played by Anthony Anderson. Maverick felt responsible for the accident and for much of the film was unable to pull the trigger, literally. Eventually, he got sorted, as the Brits say, and the result was "Top Gun: Maverick." Not so much a do-over. More like a do-it-again. As for me, here in the real world, I am not at all responsible for my brother's death, but because of it, I have been unable to engage (live with any joie and take an interest in my vivre).

Unfortunately, in this example anyway, Hollywood and where I live: Burtonsville, don't have much in common. And in so far as my brother's death is concerned, it wasn't make-believe. My inability to engage however, is real. Quite simply it's about loss. The loss of the person with whom I shared my life with for 68 years, who looked out for his younger brother (me), who I respected and looked up to and who often guided (if asked, sometimes without being asked) me on more occasions that I could possibly count.

I had no other siblings, so I didn't have to share. Though we were both married, the dynamic between us never really changed. And with both of us living in the Washington DC Area (having migrated from Newton Centre, Ma. to attend college locally), our worlds intersected regularly which enabled our relationship to evolve, even mature.

Now, due to his passing, the party is over, so to speak. Many of the expectations I took for granted, concerning my brother always being there, especially after getting a "terminal" diagnosis in 2009, haven't taken a turn – for the worse. After I was given that "13 month to two years" prognosis, I figured, even though Richard was five years older than me, I'd predecease him. And these last 14 years have had done nothing to change my thinking. But he has died and I'm now living a life I never anticipated.

My brother's oldest friend spoke at Richard's memorial service on Dec. 10. He was shocked when Vanessa, Richard's wife, called him to tell him that Richard had died. Though he lived in Boston, he was in regular contact with both Richard and Vanessa during my brother's hospitalization and his at-home recovery as well. He had spoken to Richard and thought he was doing better (which he was). Norman said he never expected to receive that call from Vanessa. He expected, given my health situation, that the call he'd receive would be from Richard telling him that I had died.

Richard was my best friend. He was also the Best Man at my wedding. For the past few years, he's been my employer as well. Not only have I now lost one of the two most important people remaining in my life, but I have also lost my main source of income. A trifecta: brother, best friend, employer. Try recovering from that during a cancer diagnosis. Speaking of which, Richard was diagnosed with colorectal cancer in June. Now adding to all that we shared, laughed, and cried about, you can now add cancer to our mix. It was odd; him asking me all sorts of questions about what to expect with treatment, side effects, scans, et cetera; my area of expertise, you might say. We grew even closer because he was more than a brother or a friend or even a co-worker, he was now a fellow cancer patient. An unfortunately ever-increasing group, but because of his diagnosis, I was more invested in him – and his outcome, than ever. As I've written before, Vanessa and I visited him every day for nearly two months. Our relationship, as difficult as the circumstances made it, didn't suffer at all. On the contrary, it was better and stronger than ever, and we were all looking forward. Now I'm forced to look backward and think what could have been and what will never be again.

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 SUN 3/19, 12-1:30PM

Del Ray | \$1,750,000

Fall in love with the extraordinary charm of this 5-bedroom, 5-bath home, built in 2019. Step inside & be transported to a world of classic design & modern convenience with high-end finishes & state-of-the-art amenities. Detached garage. 412 E Bellefonte Ave. **Colleen Coopersmith 703.338.2930**
Lauren Bishop 202.361.5079



OPEN SAT 3/18 & SUN 3/19, 1-3PM

Del Ray | \$1,399,000

Beautifully updated and spacious 3-bedroom, 2.5-bath home in incredible location! Renovated kitchen with white quartz island. Tall ceilings, wood floors throughout, a large backyard and off-street parking. Steps to the Avenue! 106 E Oxford Avenue **Jen Walker 703.675.1566**
www.JenWalker.com



OPEN SAT 3/18 & SUN 3/19, 1-3PM

Braddock Heights | \$860,000

Charming 3-bedroom, 2-bath, center-hall colonial! Great sun porch off the back that overlooks a large yard. Traditional layout with plenty of opportunity to expand and add your finishing touches. Off-street parking. Minutes to Old Town & Del Ray. 2412 Davis Ave **Jen Walker 703.675.1566**
www.JenWalker.com



OPEN SUN 3/19, 2-4PM

Alexandria House | \$789,000

Fantastic NW corner location with expansive views of Alexandria, the DC skyline, & the river from floor-ceiling-windows & a wrap-around balcony. 2-bedroom, 2-bath unit with 1 parking space. Windows & sliding doors replaced (2018). 24-hr concierge. 400 Madison St #1404 **Sally Z. Harper 703.517.2849**
www.sallyzharper.com



We are proud to be a sponsor for the Senior Services of Alexandria Annual Gala

Saturday, March 25, 2023 | Westin Alexandria

This exciting evening in support of SSA's vital work also honors individuals who have dedicated themselves to the Alexandria community. Please join us for dinner, a live raffle, and silent auction.

Information & tickets: seniorservicesalex.org



OPEN SAT 3/18 & SUN 3/19, 2-4PM

Del Ray | \$799,900

Light-filled 3 bedroom, 2 full bath, end-unit townhome. Beautifully renovated kitchen with upgraded countertops & custom cabinetry. Fenced in backyard and off-street parking. Walking distance to the Metro and all the fun on The Avenue! 430 E Nelson Avenue **Jen Walker 703.675.1566**
www.JenWalker.com



OPEN SUN 3/19, 2-4PM

Old Town

\$1,795,000

Prime location! Sophisticated 3-bedroom, 4.5-bath townhouse features elegant rooms for entertaining, 2 gas fireplaces, second level family room, generous primary suite. Extra room for office or 4th bedroom w/bath & walk-in closet. Private patio and 2-car garage. 108 Franklin St

Babs Beckwith 703.627.5421
www.BabsBeckwith.com



Waterford

\$1,325,000

In the highly desirable SE Quadrant, this 4-level home one block from the Potomac features 3 bedrooms, each with an en-suite bathroom; 3 wood-burning fireplaces; a private walled patio and garden; updated kitchen; and hardwood floors throughout. 106 Duke Street

Suzanne Morrison 703.863.3110
www.SuzanneMorrison.com



OPEN SUN 3/19, 2-4PM

Arlington

\$749,900

Beautifully renovated and meticulously maintained luxury garage townhome. Located in a quiet enclave but within a short distance to Clarendon, this 3-level, 2-bedroom, 2.5-bath home with a fenced garden is ready for you to move right in. 82 S Wise Street

Wendy Santantonio 703.625.8802
www.WendySantantonio.com

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

