

Alexandria Gazette Packet



25 CENTS

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JULY 18, 2024

Cheers to Another Year City celebrates 275th birthday.

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

By JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

The City of Alexandria marked its milestone 275th birthday July 13 with a celebration that culminated in a fireworks display over the Potomac River following a day of festivities at Oronoco Bay Park.

Revelers were undeterred by soaring daytime temperatures that

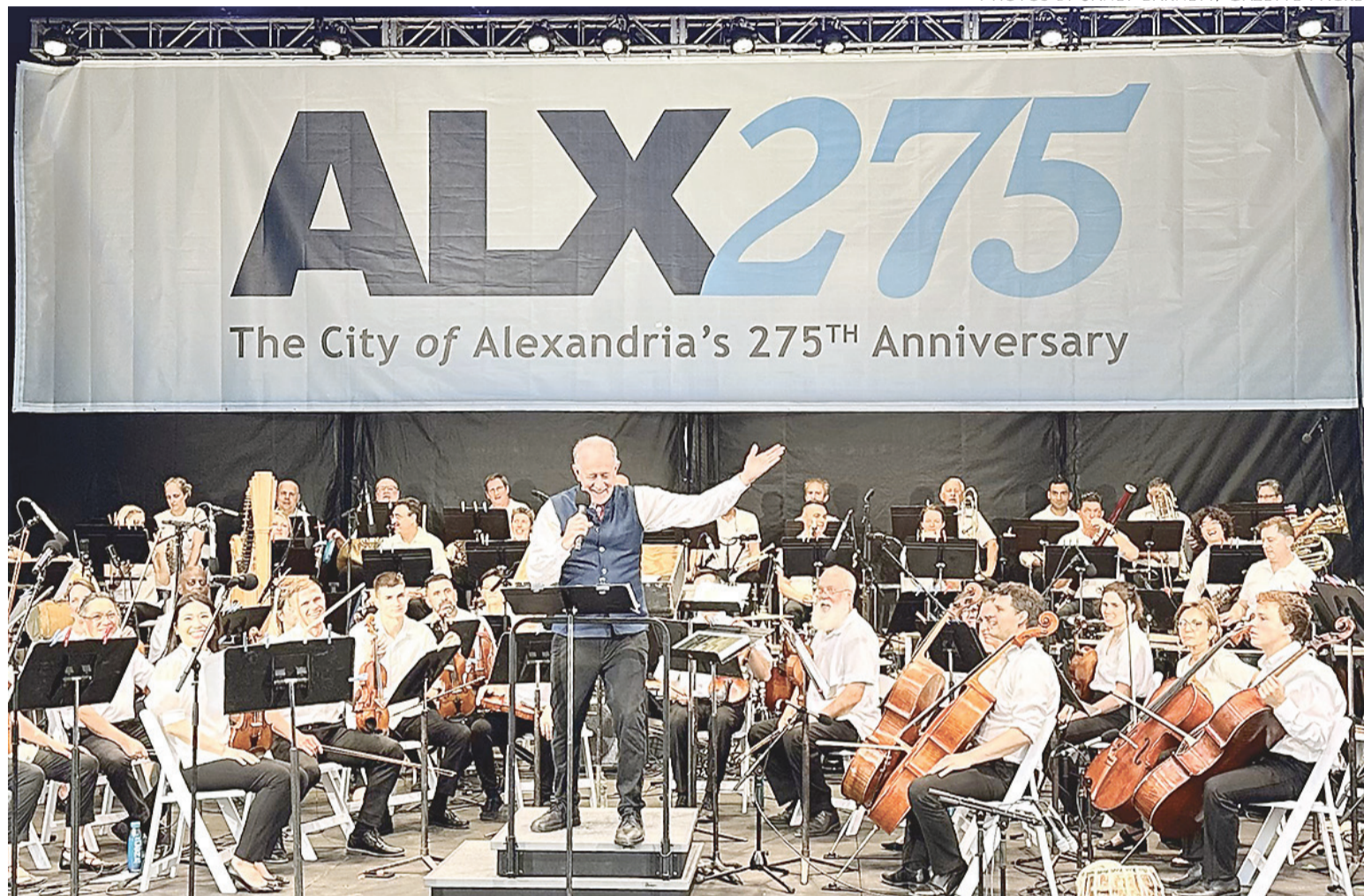
“This is a yearly tradition for us.”

— Angelique Gomez

cooled as Alexandria’s Town Crier, Ben Fiore-Walker, welcomed attendees to the festivities. The celebration included a performance by Munit Mesfin, a poetry reading by Alexandria Poet Laureate Zeina Azzam and distribution of birthday cupcakes by Mayor Justin Wilson, city officials and members of City Council.

“This is a yearly tradition for us,” said Angelique Gomez, who enjoyed the festivities with her hus-

SEE CITY CELEBRATES, PAGE 4



Maestro James Ross leads the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra during the 275th birthday celebration July 13 at Oronoco Bay Park.



Alexandria friends and neighbors celebrate July 13 at Oronoco Bay Park.



Fireworks light up the sky over the Potomac River as part of the City of Alexandria’s 275th birthday celebration July 13 at Oronoco Bay Park.



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10 A.M.–4 P.M.
- AUGUST 8
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LIVING LEGEND OF ALEXANDRIA



PHOTO BY STEVEN HALPERSON/TISARA STUDIOS

Del Pepper, a 2023 Living Legend of Alexandria, has the distinction of serving the longest tenure on City Council.

Redella 'Del' Pepper

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
GAZETTE PACKET

It seems inevitable that Redella S. “Del” Pepper would end up as the longest serving member of the Alexandria City Council after her early beginning as a 10-year-old campaigning door to door to urge Omaha residents to vote for her dad for City Council. Pepper remembers he didn’t win “but what he taught me is he hurt easy but he healed quick. He told me if I ran I would have to learn that.”

Then when she was in high school, she used to take the bus to join her dad who was having lunch with the other council members. “I sat and got to listen to what they talked about, and I guess it just sunk in.” Later after graduation from college she ran the Democratic headquarters. “My parents were Republicans but at that time Nebraska was a state where you could register Independent.”

Pepper met her husband, Dr. Franklin “F.J.” Pepper, when she was in college working in the Omaha library in the summer.

“In walks this guy with all these children, and I thought they were his. Then I found out he had made a bargain with his brother that he would take his nieces and nephews to the library in exchange for borrowing the

car for a date that night.”

They later met again through mutual friends when she was in graduate school. “I kind of liked him,” and the rest is history.

They moved to Alexandria in 1968, and Del Pepper was first elected to City Council in 1985. She served as vice mayor from 1996 to 1997, from 2003-2006 and from 2007 to 2009. Pepper announced her retirement in January 2022 and at 36 years on the Council she was the oldest and longest serving member of the body. Mayor Justin Wilson said, “There is nobody who has given more of herself to our City.”

In June she was honored for 35 years on Alexandria City Council at the virtual Council meeting. Wilson took a moment to remember that 1985 was the year that “Back to the Future came out in theaters, Ronald Reagan was sworn into his second Presidential term and Pepper was elected for the first time to the Alexandria City Council.” Wilson explained, “You are there whether it is a new business, a Scout troop or an award for someone from Alexandria. If a garage door opens in Alexandria, some might say you are there.”

U.S. Senator Mark Warner said, “Del started as a tireless voice for the West End and

“Del started as a tireless voice for the West End and has left her mark on virtually everything in Alexandria.”

— Sen. Mark Warner on Del Pepper

SEE LIVING LEGENDS, PAGE 5

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Alexandria Resident Named as VP Nominee

J.D. Vance and family are Del Ray residents.

By JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

J.D. Vance, the junior senator from Ohio and a resident of Alexandria's Del Ray neighborhood, has been selected as the vice-presidential running mate to Republican nominee and former President Donald Trump.

Vance and his wife, Usha, purchased their home shortly after Vance was sworn into office in January of 2023. According to property records, the \$1.5 million property was purchased through an LLC.

A veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps who served in the Iraq War, Vance graduated from The Ohio State University and Yale Law School. A one-time venture capitalist, he wrote the bestselling book, "Hillbilly Elegy," which was turned into a Netflix movie. Vance and his wife have been married



J.D. Vance, a resident of Del Ray, has been named by former President Donald Trump as the Republican nominee for vice president.

since 2014 and have three children: Ewan, Vivek and Mirabel. Usha Vance is the daughter of Indian immigrants and grew up in the San Francisco area. The couple met at Yale Law School, which both attended.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

J.D. Vance and his family have been residents of Del Ray since 2023.

Shortly after moving into the neighborhood last year, a longtime resident and local artist who chose to remain anonymous yarn bombed the home to protest Vance's conservative politics. Security outside the Del Ray residence as

well as Vance's home in Cincinnati have been increased in the wake of his being tapped as the vice presidential candidate by Trump, who survived an assassination attempt at a political rally July 13 in Butler, Pa.

O'Leary to Lead Visit Alexandria

Tourism exec named new CEO of city's destination marketing.

By JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Todd O'Leary, a 27-year veteran of the travel and tourism industry, has been named the president and CEO of Visit Alexandria. O'Leary officially took the reins of the city's destination marketing organization July 8, succeeding Patricia Washington who served in that capacity for over a decade.

"We are delighted to welcome Todd as the next president and CEO of Visit Alexandria," said Visit Alexandria Board of Governors Chair and General Manager at Hotel Indigo Kate Ellis in making the announcement. "Todd's ample experience across the travel and tourism industry matched with his personable demeanor and vision for the future of Visit Alexandria will be critical as the organization prepares for its next phase of growth."

O'Leary has experience across three destination marketing organizations, including Sonoma County Tourism, San Francisco Travel Association and VISIT Milwaukee. His leadership has been recognized by various travel industry associations, and he was most recently honored as one of the 2022 Hospitality, Sales and Marketing Association In-

ternational (HSMIA) Top 25 Extraordinary Minds in the hospitality industry.

O'Leary will oversee all operations for Visit Alexandria, including the organization's strategic plan, community stakeholder communications and efforts to strengthen Alexandria's generation of revenue in the industry.

O'Leary began his career in the tourism industry in 1997 when he interned at Walt Disney World and completed Disney's College Training Program. In 1998, he interned at VISIT Milwaukee, and over the next 13 years, worked his way up to director of marketing. In 2013, O'Leary was hired to become the vice president of global partnerships and strategic alliances for San Francisco Travel. He joined Sonoma County Tourism in 2018 where he served as the vice president of marketing and communications, overseeing all marketing and public relations activities.

O'Leary is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater where he received his Bachelor of Science degree in Urban Planning and Marketing. He and his husband Mark enjoy gardening, entertaining, food and wine, and traveling the world. They have two cats: Bella and Lola.

"I am deeply honored and excited to be appointed president and CEO of Visit Alexandria," O'Leary said in a statement. "Alexandria is an incredible destination with a



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Todd O'Leary has been appointed president and CEO of Visit Alexandria.

solid reputation that I've long admired. I'm excited to work with the members, board, staff and community at large to further the positive impacts of Alexandria's tourism industry."

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.

WANT TO BE A CHANGE-MAKER?
A shout-out to young people who are aspirational change-makers is wanted in a new youth-led initiative to help address high rates of illiteracy within the community. The Youth Ambassador role in Alexandria provides a young person with a platform to advocate and talk about the falling rates of reading skills and create increased community education and awareness about the vital importance of foundational literacy skills for lifelong benefits. Registration for the Youth Ambassador Program is now available. The 4-month youth leadership development initiative will provide training and support, plus connection to 600 other young people around the world. Email: Ambassador@worldliteracy-foundation.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.volunteerallexandria.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.volunteerallexandria.org/ALIVE>

City Celebrates 275th Birthday



The Habibzada family, recent refugees from Afghanistan, enjoy their first Alexandria birthday celebration July 13 in Oronoco Bay Park.



Fire Chief Felipe Hernandez Jr. hands out cupcakes to attendees at the 275th birthday celebration July 13 at Oronoco Bay Park.



'Come and get it' from Police Chief Raul Pedroso.



Cool treats help beat the heat at Oronoco Bay Park.



Angelique and Michael Gomez enjoy the 275th birthday celebration July 13 at Oronoco Bay Park.



Councilwoman Alyia Gaskins, right, hands out cupcakes during the July 13 birthday celebration in Oronoco Bay Park.

FROM PAGE 1

band Michael. "We have attended every year without fail for over 20 years."

The Alexandria Symphony Orchestra took to the stage to perform a selection of patriotic music culminating with a performance of Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture. Cannons by the U.S. Army Presidential Salute Battery completed the performance as a fireworks finale lit up the sky.

Alexandria dates its founding to July 13, 1749, with the start of an auction selling the first lots to the public. Earlier that year, a young George Washington acted as a surveyor in laying out the town into 84 lots along 10 streets around



Sheriff Sean Casey hands out birthday cupcakes at Oronoco Bay Park.



Friends enjoy the July 13 birthday celebration.

SEE CITY CELEBRATES, PAGE 6

LIVING LEGEND OF ALEXANDRIA

Redella 'Del' Pepper

FROM PAGE 2

has left her mark on virtually everything in Alexandria.

She says "I did go to the opening of all of the restaurants and businesses. I got to meet people and each one changed the city an itty bit." She continues, "I identify with the pain of people. I like to hear what they have to say. I like people in general. I identify with their joys and hopes." Pepper thinks it all goes back to when she worked as a social worker in Chicago for five years before moving to Alexandria.

Pepper reflects that her dedication to a diverse city with livable and safe neighborhoods where children are well educated and elderly are well served came from her years as a social worker in Chicago. "I had the feeling of identifying with people. As a City Council member I got to know all kinds of people."

Pepper has been active on a number of commissions including the Commission on Aging, Commission on Information Technology, Facilities Naming Committee and the Council of Governments Air Quality Committee and Board of Directors. She co-chairs the Beauregard Street Corridor Task Force, the Alexandria-Arlington Task Force on the Waste-To-Energy Plant and the Welfare Reform Committee.

She serves on the boards of the YMCA, the Alexandria City High School PTSA, the Alexandria Arts Forum, Bienvenidos and the Retired Senior Volunteer Program. She is the former first vice president of the local NAACP and former board member of the City's Community Services Board. Each one of these organizations where she serves gave her an additional perspective on the City.

Pepper says, "One thing I'm most proud of that most people don't identify with me is I brought the City to early recognition about the need for computers. In 1994 I outlined that I wanted computers at every desk where it was appropriate. I wanted people to be able to access what was on the docket when it was a weekend and everything was closed and businesses to be able to get access to the rules — there is a rule for everything — without going to the courthouse." She says, "The City Manager told me not to pursue it because it would cost millions but I said that is the future of business. It caught on and it gave me satisfaction that other jurisdictions wanted to know how we did it."

She says when she decided to retire there was no reason in particular. "I just reached a point when I had a feeling it was time." Now it's ok. She has another life. She has spent the last few months getting a new bathroom and kitchen. "I have shown everyone who comes; it's gorgeous." She says when this all settles down she has to update their genealogy. "I'm the genealogist for the family. Our son is interested, too."

Pepper says the last day she went to City Hall she assumed it was for a regular Council meeting. Then she heard a loud clatter and it was the town crier in his costume basically reading a goodbye on his scroll. The mayor announced H.J. Res 632 commending Redella S. Pepper, and it passed unanimously. The mayor ended by announcing the new City building would be named after Del Pepper. "I was just stunned. There is no other word for it."

But she says, "It sounds so corny but every day I served there was something I could be helpful with."

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City Celebrates 275th Birthday

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

FROM PAGE 4
a central market square. Washington would go on to recruit his first soldiers in Market Square for his first initial campaign of the French and Indian War and in 1763 he was chosen as a town trustee.

First time attendees included the Habibzada family, refugees from Afghanistan who arrived in Alexandria in January.

"We love Alexandria," said Lativa Habibzada. "We are very excited to be here."

Henry Joslyn, 3, enjoys the festivities celebrating Alexandria's 275th birthday July 13 at Oronoco Bay Park



Cannons by the U.S. Army Presidential Salute Battery stand ready for the finale salute July 13 at Oronoco Bay Park.



Friends Jeanelle Ayoma, Alexis Bwann and Julia Oyuga enjoy the birthday celebration.



Members of City Council and local officials celebrate the 275th birthday of the City of Alexandria July 13 at Oronoco Bay Park.



Revelers enjoy a game of volleyball July 13 at Oronoco Bay Park.



A family enjoys birthday cupcakes at Oronoco Bay Park.



David and Sanai Ulloa enjoy cupcakes July 13 at Oronoco Bay Park.

SPORTS

Alexandria Little League Wins State Championship

Intermediate All-Stars advance to regional tournament.

By JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria's Intermediate baseball team remained undefeated in the Little League All-Stars Tournament as they won the Virginia State Championship with a victory over the Broadway Community Little League 10-0 in the championship game July 10 at Eugene Simpson Park.

With the victory, the team advances to the 2024 Southeast Region Tournament in Kernersville, N.C., from July 19-22. This is only the second time that an Alexandria team has won the state title.

"This team is resilient. We had to play from behind in our first three games, and the boys remained calm and played stronger together," said manager Mike Coughlin. "Every player, coach, parent and so

SEE LITTLE LEAGUE, PAGE 10



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Alexandria Intermediate Little League team members celebrate after defeating the Broadway Community team 10-0 to win the Virginia State Championship July 10 at Eugene Simpson Field.

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Allow Virginians To Use IRS Direct File

IRS recently opened Direct File to all 50 states after successful pilot; Virginia participation requires further action by Youngkin Administration and General Assembly

Members of Virginia's congressional delegation announced today that they have written to Governor Glenn Youngkin urging him to take the necessary steps to allow Virginians the option of using the IRS Direct File program to file their future tax returns. The Treasury Department piloted Direct File for 2023 returns in a smaller group of states, which did not include Virginia, with strong positive feedback from – and savings for – U.S. taxpayers who took advantage of the program. IRS recently announced that it would open participation to all 50 states. Virginia's full participation will require further actions by the Governor's administration in concert with the General Assembly.

Rep. Don Beyer, Senators Mark Warner and

Tim Kaine, and Reps. Bobby Scott, Abigail Spanberger, Gerry Connolly, Jennifer Wexton, and Jennifer McClellan wrote:

“On May 30th, the Department of Treasury and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) announced that Direct File, a free tax filing tool operated by Treasury and the IRS, will continue as a permanent option for taxpayers. All 50 states are invited to partner with the IRS to provide Direct File as an option to their residents next year. We urge you to take the necessary steps to provide Virginia taxpayers with the option to use this service in the future.

“The IRS piloted a Direct File program during Filing Season 2024. The pilot allowed taxpayers with simple tax situations in 12 states to file taxes for free, directly with the IRS. The results of the pilot indicate the program was well received by taxpayers. 140,803 taxpayers utilized the tool to claim more than \$90 million in re-

funds and save an estimated \$5.6 million in tax preparation fees. For Filing Season 2025, the IRS is working to broaden the base of taxpayers eligible for Direct File by including more complex tax situations and inviting all 50 states to participate.

“Virginia taxpayers deserve access to this free and simple filing option. For many, the tax filing season can be time consuming, expensive, and confusing, even though most taxpayers have relatively simple returns... Virginians should have the same opportunity to access Direct File as they do any other taxpayer assistance program offered by the IRS.

“We ask that your administration work with the IRS, the Treasury Department, and the General Assembly to take the necessary steps for Virginia to join the program as soon as possible. Our offices stand ready to assist in this effort to expand filing options for Virginians.”

ALEXANDRIA NEWS BRIEFS

New Mural Coming to Torpedo Factory Art Center Loading Dock

The Alexandria Public Art Program is pleased to announce that it has commissioned Virginia-based artist Silas Baker to design and execute a mural on the exterior door of the Torpedo Factory Art Center loading dock. Silas was selected by the project Task Force and approved by the Alexandria Commission for the Arts after a competitive process that was open to all artists living in Virginia, Maryland and Washington D.C.

Silas' approved concept includes abstract design elements interwoven with American Dogwood flowers in a vibrant and colorful composition.

The new mural, located on the Union Street frontage of the Torpedo Factory Art Center, was previously the location of a mural entitled Beaded Curtain by artist, Erin Curtis. After the previous mural was deinstalled in 2021 due to irreparable damage, the City committed to commission a new mural at this location to bring back artistic vibrancy to the Union Street frontage of the building. alexandriava.gov/PublicArt

Safety Improvements on Three Key Corridors

The City of Alexandria's Traffic & Parking Board will consider recommended improvements to three key corridors at the July 22 Public Hearing.

For each corridor – South Pickett Street, Eisenhower Avenue, and Holland Lane – the City assessed existing conditions, analyzed traffic patterns, gathered community input, developed design options, and solicited community feedback on those designs. The recommendations that will be presented at the July 22 public hearing align with the Alexandria Mobility Plan and Vision Zero Action Plan efforts to provide safer travel along these corridors.

The recommendations were developed to address documented issues and community concerns regarding roadway safety and traffic congestion by reducing speeds, improving visibility, creating dedicated crossings and spaces for people walking and biking, and reducing risk and exposure for all roadway users, while ensuring minimal delay for people driving.

Learn more about each project:

- South Pickett Street Corridor Improvements
- Eisenhower Avenue Transportation Study
- Holland Lane Corridor Improvements

Annual Centenarian Day Recognition

The City of Alexandria, in collaboration with the City's Successful Aging Committee, will celebrate National Centenarian Day on Sept. 10 at 5 p.m. in the Vola Lawson Lobby of City Hall (301 King St.).

The city will celebrate Alexandria residents who have lived a century or longer. To be eligible, individuals must be 100 years or older by Dec. 31, 2024. Alexandria centenarians who choose to participate in the presentation will receive a certificate honoring their lifetime experiences and achievements. To participate or submit a nomination, complete an application and social history form by Aug. 13. alexandriava.gov/Aging

July Is Disability Pride Month

The City of Alexandria recognizes Disability Pride Month in July in honor of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), enacted on July 26, 1990. It was through this legislation that discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life — including jobs, schools, and transportation— was prohibited.

This groundbreaking civil rights law was instrumental in advancing the rights and opportunities of people with disabilities. This month and beyond, the City acknowledges and honors the achievements and experiences of people with disabilities within our community.

“During this commemoration period, we recommit ourselves to the work that still needs to be done to ensure everyone has full access to our City services and initiatives,” said Mayor Justin Wilson.

The Office of Human Rights collaborates with the Alexandria Commission on Persons with Disabilities, a volunteer body that advises City leadership on policies, programs and legislation affecting Alexandria residents with disabilities.

Additionally, the City provides several therapeutic recreation programs and services for adults and children with disabilities. These include trans

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To submit a letter to the editor, email editors@connectionnewspapers.com or via the following form <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/>

Ideally, letters will be original, about local issues and less than 300 words. Please submit letters by noon Friday before publication week, although letters received on Mondays can be considered. Letters must include your first and last name, home address and a phone number. Letters are routinely edited for libel, length, grammar, good taste and accuracy. Your name and town will be published with your letter, other personal information will not be shared. If you are a student, your school name, age and grade will also be published.

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Gazette Packet

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ENTERTAINMENT



Doc Robinson (Rock and Roll) will appear at Mount Vernon Nights at Grist Mill Park on Friday, July 19, 2024.

POTOMAC HARMONY OFFERS HARMONY & LEARNING!

School may be out in June, but the learning gets started on Wednesday nights at Potomac Harmony chorus rehearsals! Learn the art of 4-part harmony treble singing while experiencing the joy of ringing chords! Together, guests and members will rehearse new music and create harmonies lead by the expertise of our talented director Allison Lynskey. Potomac Harmony members are women and nonbinary individuals from all walks of life, live around the DMV, and have various levels of musical and singing experience. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings, 7-9 p.m., at The View Alexandria, 5000 Fairbanks Avenue, Alexandria. Questions? Contact Jackie Bottash, backrowlead@aol.com.

WEDNESDAYS THROUGH SATURDAYS

Tours Aboard Tall Ship Providence and Sen. John Warner Maritime Heritage Center. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. At Alexandria's Waterfront Park, 1A Prince Street, Alexandria. Guests of all ages are recruited into the Continental Navy aboard Tall Ship Providence with legendary Captain John Paul Jones. Recruits are assigned jobs on the ship, learn where they will work and live, how to load a cannon, etc... Tours conclude in the Naval History Theatre with a film about the ship. The Heritage center is a floating museum on the Alexandria waterfront. Visit <https://tallshipprovidence.org/>

34TH SEASON OF THE LYCEUM CHAMBER SERIES

The Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association (WMPA) announces the 34th season of its Lyceum Chamber Series, under the guidance of Music Director Laureate Ulysses James. Hosted at the Alexandria History Museum

at The Lyceum, located at 201 South Washington Street in Old Town Alexandria, this series promises to offer an array of exceptional weekly performances throughout the summer. All concerts are at 3 p.m.; no tickets required. Suggested donation \$25.

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Ulysses James, Music Director Laureate, Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic

Alberto Rodriguez, Music Director, Washington Metropolitan Youth Orchestra

Martin Garfield-Levine, Music Director, Washington Metropolitan Concert Orchestra

Caroline Mousset, Executive and Artistic Planning Director

MUSIC SCHEDULE

August 4: Alexandria Baroque

Michael De Sapio, Baroque Violin

John Armato, Lute, Baroque Guitar

August 11: Tapestry Cello Ensemble

August 18: Quodlibet, Flute/Clarinet/Bassoon

August 25: Samuel Runolfson, Cello

September 1: Michael De Sapio, Violin

September 8: Hai Jin, Piano

September 15: John Sutherland Earle: Piano & Friends

LYCEUM CHAMBER SERIES SUMMER 2024 CONCERT SCHEDULE

July 21: Sasha Beresovsky, Piano

July 28: Maxim Pakhomov, Piano

Works by Schubert, Dvorák, Poulenc, and Rachmaninoff

NOW THRU AUG. 4

Curators' Selects - Artomatic 2024.

At the Athenaeum, Alexandria.

Artists' Reception: Sunday, July 7,

4 — 6 p.m. Everyone applying to exhibit in Artomatic is accepted.

Artomatic 2024, held this Spring in Washington, DC featured over 800 artists. In this Athenaeum show,

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11



Celebrate ALX275 and join us for **"The Arc of Oblivion,"** a film that asks: **What is worth saving?**

July 26 | 6:30 p.m.

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This event is funded in part by the National Endowment of the Arts and the City of Alexandria Office of the Arts.

Another Community Partnership



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
SCOTT	16925	803	STAGE LANE	COVE CREEK	7/1/2024
ALBEMARLE	840	745	ARROWHEAD VALLEY ROAD-ROUTE 745	BRANCH MOORES CREEK	6/24/2024
BEDFORD	2832	699	BORE AUGER ROAD- ROUTE 699	BR. OF BORE AUGER CREEK	6/21/2024
DINWIDDIE	6050	624	HILLS DRIVE	WHITE OAK CREEK	6/20/2024
SCOTT	16905	732	ROUTE 0732	BRANCH	6/20/2024
LUNENBURG	11662	671	REEDY CREEK ROAD	BRANCH OF REEDY CREEK	6/17/2024
TAZEWELL	18573	627	ROUTE 627	INDIAN CREEK	6/12/2024
ROANOKE	15109	777	FT LEWISCHURCH ROAD- ROUTE 777	STYPES BRANCH	6/12/2024

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 vdot.virginia.gov and navigate to Traffic and Travel/For freight operators/Truck restrictions. 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.

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Obituary

ARCHER RICHARD BLAIR, JR.

Funeral services will be held at Everly-Wheatley Funeral Home, 1500 W. Braddock Road, at 12:00 PM on Friday July 19th for Archer Richard Blair, Jr. who passed away on July 11th. Interment will be in National Memorial Park in Falls Church, Virginia.

Family and friends may call at the funeral home on Friday from 11:00 AM prior to the service. In lieu of flowers, a contribution to the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, the Wildlife Center of Virginia in Waynesboro, or Del Ray Baptist Church on Russell Road is suggested.

Richard, as we called him, was a life-long resident of Alexandria. After serving in the Army, Richard returned home to 2200 Scroggins Road where he lived for over 80 years. He was employed by Bell Telephone as a communications specialist and spent most of his career at the Pentagon. Throughout life he was an avid reader, mainly scientific texts, and was knowledgeable in a wide range of topics from politics to quantum mechanics. Richard was also a skilled craftsman and artist. His quiet and friendly demeanor endeared him to many. He was the first son of Archer R. Blair, Sr. and Lucille Timberlake Blair. He is survived by his brother Kenneth, niece Kimberly, nephew Mark and many cousins.

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NEWS BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 8

portation services through the DOT Paratransit Program; summer camps; and youth, teen, and adult programs. We also provide Older Adult Services for those with disabilities and services for adults and children with developmental disabilities.

Scam Alert

SCAM ALERT: U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Virginia has received reports of individuals spoofing the main phone number to the office, and using the names of EDVA attorneys or government titles with the office name, in an attempt to defraud individuals. If you receive a suspicious phone call from someone who says they are calling from the U.S. Attorney's Office, follow the instructions here.

Alexandria Little League

FROM PAGE 7

many other volunteers contributed to this team becoming the state champion. We can't wait to start the regional tournament."

District 4 and Alexandria Little League hosted the Virginia State tournament from July 5 to July 10. The tournament included eight other district champions from across the Commonwealth of Virginia. Alexandria's team played four games, beating Central Accomack Little League (9-8); Broadway Community Little League (11-10); Hampton York (5-3); and Broadway Community Little League again in the Championship game (10-0)

"It was an action-packed tournament, hosting talented teams from across the state at Simpson Field," said Alexandria Little League president Laura Engel. "Having Alexandria take the title of Virginia State Champions made it even more memorable. We couldn't be more excited about what this signals about the growth of baseball in the City of Alexandria."

Engel said coordinating the state tournament was a monumental effort, crediting several entities with making it a success.

"The Alexandria Little League's Board of Directors, dedicated family volunteers, ACHS Baseball, and Alexandria's Parks and Recreation staff supported the tournament in a myriad of ways to ensure visiting teams felt like honored guests and provided all players with a memorable experience," Engel said.

www.alexandrialittleleague.org

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 9

three representatives of the Gallery selected several artists they had not been familiar with prior to visiting Artomatic. This exhibition features these artists and explains why the curators felt they merited wider recognition. Curators: Elizabeth Brown, Atheaneum Gallery Associate

Twig Murray, Athenaeum Gallery Director
Veronica Szalus, Atheaneum Executive Director
Their Selected Artists: Camron Anderson, Eric Celarier, Ellen Cornett, Louis Del Valle, Kim Dyer, Rita Elsner, Lewis Frances, Dennis Goris, A.D. Herzel, Martha Holmes, Jenny Kanzler, Phyllis Mayes, Bryan Sieling, Candice Tavares, Christian Tribastone

JUNE 1 TO AUG. 31

Creative Summer Programs is a series of workshops exploring the arts. Learn techniques in drawing, stone carving, jewelry, resin, mosaics, and more from local artists. Delve into creative exploration solo or with friends. Free and paid programs are offered. Sign up for what inspires you! Held at Del Ray Artisans (2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria) unless noted. Details: DelRayArtisans.org/creative-summer

MOUNT VERNON NIGHTS

Friday and Saturday evenings at 7:30 p.m.
At Grist Mill Park

4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Alexandria

Fridays at 7:30 p.m.

JULY

19 Doc Robinson (Rock and Roll)
26 Bio Ritmo (Salsa)

AUGUST

2 Eastern Standard Time (Ska and Reggae)
9 Project Locrea (World Music)
16 Burn the Ballroom (Alternate Rock)
23 Deanna Bogart (Blues, R&B)
30 Melissa Quinn Fox (Country/Americana)

AT WORKHOUSE ARTS CENTER

9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton
Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.

JULY

20 Fast Eddie & The Slowpokes (Blues)
27 Bela Dona Band (Funk/Jazz)

AUGUST

3 The U.S. Air Force Strings (Alt-country/Roots rock)
10 Ocho de Bastos (Latin/Pop)
17 Alex Hamburger (Jazz)
24 The U.S. Army Band Country Roads (Country)

JUNE 6 TO AUG. 26

"Nature's Spirit." Nina Tisara's mosaics and Steven Halperson's photographs and etched copper will be exhibited in the Estate House at River Farm, 7931 East Boulevard Drive, Alexandria. The public is invited to an Opening Reception on Sunday, June 23, 2-4 p.m. (RSVP: ninat@ninatisara.com). The Estate House is open to the public 9 a.m.- 5 p.m., Monday - Friday and 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Saturdays. Since the Estate House will occasionally close for rental events the public is encouraged to call 703-768-5780, ext. 137, to be certain the exhibit is open for viewing.

JUNE 29 TO JULY 21

"American Psycho." At Ainslie Arts Center, 3900 West Braddock Road, Alexandria. Monumental Theatre Company will stage Duncan Sheik and Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa's "American Psycho." Based on Bret Easton Ellis's 1991 novel of the same name, the musical follows protagonist Patrick Bateman. A suave young Wall Street banker, Patrick enjoys the finer things by day with his elite friends, but as night falls, his taste for darker pleasures threatens to uproot his normal facade. Tickets are: \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door, and \$10 for students using code STUDENT (must show ID). Visit <http://www.monumentaltheatre.org>.

JULY 18-21

The Lost Weekend Exhibit. At Nepenthe Gallery,



Jane Franklin Dance's At Large Performance will take place on Friday, July 26, 2024 at The Athenaeum in Alexandria.

7918 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Featuring the photography of May Pang, John Lennon's companion and lover. Few people knew John Lennon as intimately as May Pang. She was Lennon's lover during the infamous "Lost Weekend" which lasted 18 months during late 1973 through 1975. During this highly creative time for Lennon, Pang took candid photos of Lennon in a comfortable, relaxed environment. Pang will be in attendance at the Nepenthe Gallery, meeting customers and telling stories behind these photos for sale of John Lennon. Thursday, July 18 from 6-8 p.m., artist talk and opening reception. Visit the website www.NepentheGallery.com

JULY 18-20

250th Anniversary of the Fairfax Resolves. History enthusiasts and patriots alike are invited to participate in the 250th Anniversary of the Signing of the Fairfax Resolves, a founding document authored by George Mason and adopted at a meeting chaired by George Washington on July 18, 1774. Events are hosted by the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) and are scheduled to take place in and around Alexandria, Virginia, where the resolves were adopted. Organized by the Fairfax Resolves Chapter of the SAR, events will highlight locations significant to the signers of the Fairfax Resolves document and will foster a deeper understanding of this document and its significance in shaping the United States as we know it today. For more information about specific events, visit www.fairfaxresolvessar.org/public250

SCHEDULE:

Thursday, July 18th
9:30 AM: Gunston Hall – George Mason Plaque Dedication Ceremony
11:30 AM: Mount Vernon – Wreath Laying Ceremony and Program at the Tomb of George Washington
3:00 PM: Pohick Church – 250th Commemoration of the Fairfax Resolves, Program and Plaque Unveiling Ceremony for the Signers with remarks by the historical figure Rev. Lee Massey
6:00 PM: Market Square in Alexandria, Virginia - Alexandria 250 Commemoration of the Fairfax Resolves, Virginia 250 Road to Revolution Plaque Unveiling for the Fairfax Resolves, Keynote by Virginia 250 Chair Carly Fiorina, Mayoral Proclamation, George Washington and George Mason interpreters, Fife & Drum presentation
Friday, July 19th
3:00 PM: Christ Church – Program, Plaque Unveiling for the Signers, and presentation of the Governor's Proclamation for the Fairfax Resolves 250th by the Secretary of the Commonwealth on behalf of the Governor of Virginia

Saturday, July 20th

10:00 AM: George Washington Townhouse Alexandria, VA – Program and George Washington Plaque Dedication Ceremony

SATURDAY/JULY 20

Second Annual Best of the West. 1-5 p.m. At Patrick Henry Recreation Center, 4653 Taney Ave., Alexandria. Best of the West is a community event showcasing West End Business Association members and restaurant tastings! This event is open to everyone. It is a great opportunity to enjoy a day out in the community, get to know local business owners, and sample some of the best food that the West End has to offer.

SATURDAY/JULY 20

Mount Vernon Flea Market and Arts and Crafts Fair. 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. At Mount Vernon Masonic Lodge #219, 8717 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Up to 45 vendors, inside and outside, great variety, refreshments on site and inside the lodge. Crafters, Artisans, Antique, Vintage, Collectibles, and neighbors downsizing with practical items/household, furniture, misc. This event takes place every third Saturday of the month from March to December. Next Dates: July 20, August 17, September 21, October 19, November 16, December 21 (+ bonus holiday market Dec 7 or 14). Visit the website: <https://mountvernonfleamarket.wordpress.com/>

FRIDAY/JULY 26

At Large Performance. 7 p.m. At The Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. Jane Franklin Dance and Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association at the Athenaeum Present At Large. For the July performance at the Athenaeum, Jane Franklin Dance goes beyond the parameters of a single theme to reveal multiple viewpoints and to celebrate the communal whole of a fleeting moment in time.

SATURDAY/JULY 27

Beats, Bites & Brews - Summer Extravaganza. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. At John Carlyle Square, 300 John Carlyle St., Alexandria. Featuring Live Beats: Groove to the sounds of summer with live music performances that will set the perfect tone for your sun-soaked day; Delectable Bites: Indulge your taste buds with a variety of summer-inspired bites from local food vendors; Refreshing Brews: Quench your thirst with an array of cold beverages, including craft beers and refreshing summer cocktails in the Beer Garden; Summer Shopping: Explore local artisans and vendors offering a curated selection of summer goodies, from fashion finds to unique crafts.

Cyber Space – Between My Ears



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I don't quite know how to describe my relationship with the Internet: Friend or foe. On the one hand, whomever is in charge can sometimes offer unsolicited help, that's quite timely: Burial insurance, (let's be honest, I do have cancer) is a recent example of a recent sender from which I've been contacted many times; other emails, however, are completely off base and of no particular interest to me. Cooking recipes – from multiple entities, is an example of a regular sender. Why? I don't cook. I re-heat and I certainly don't ever follow a recipe. If I did follow a recipe, it would be a recipe for disaster. I don't think I'd burn the kitchen/house down, but there would be damage of some kind. In baseball, the catcher's equipment is referred to as the "tools of ignorance." Given my interest level and capability in the kitchen, pots and pans are my 'tools of ignorance.'

Moreover, to invoke a quote from M*A*S*H, specifically, "Hawkeye:" "The instrument has yet to be invented to measure my indifference ..." to cooking (he was responding to a remark made by Major Burns). Receiving regular emails on the subject is a 100% complete waste of the time it takes for me to delete it from my inbox. Though it's clear what the email is about when I see it listed in my inbox, its arrival irritates me, nonetheless. This is the one instance where I will say "Why me?" There is no rhyme or reason for a cooking outreach to land anywhere near my inbox. Granted, I know there's not really a sender on the other end, so there's no one to blame per se, only an entity. Ergo, my displeasure, compounded.

Receiving these unwanted emails is akin to a death from 1,000 cuts: slow and painful. In this context however, it's acquiescence from 1,000 emails. After receiving so many emails and doing so little with them for so long and knowing of no way to stop them, eventually your curiosity - morbid curiosity in this instance, gets the best of you; soon there's a click with your mouse or a tap on your keyboard and then you're in a world of someone, or something else's making. And with respect to the computer, that's not where I want to be. I want to be in my world, one of my choosing. I don't want to be led down a garden path by a computer. Any more than I want to learn how to make flowerless chocolate cake.

Most mornings, after I turn on the computer, "there it is," or I should say, there they are: "Burial insurance" and "Command" or "Heartland Cooking." One email I have zero interest in opening, another I have a grudging interest in. One is semi on target, given my current medical reality and the other is nowhere near the target. How can an entity (and here comes my 'displeasure,') hit and miss on the same person? I mean, if they found out enough to get a hit: (burial insurance), how could they be so clueless about the cooking?

I know why. There isn't anybody at home on the Internet. They're all in cyber space, not real space.

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

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www.JanetPriceHomes.com



Mount Ida | \$1,650,000

Period details meet chic style in this renovated and spacious expanded 1929 Colonial. Cottage garden curb appeal with indoor and outdoor entertaining spaces. Gorgeous open plan designer kitchen features Wolf, SubZero, & Bosch appliances. 3113 Russell Road
Julie Novak 703.719.1141
JNovak@mceneaney.com



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OPEN 7/18, 5-7; 7/20, 2-4 & 7/21, 1-4

Old Town Village \$1,255,000

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