



Messages of support shared in Del Ray in reaction to racist flyers posted.



James Henson, local historian and one of the authors of "African Americans of Alexandria Virginia: Beacons of Light in the Twentieth Century."

PHOTOS BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE PACKET

Dueling Panels

Council hears pros and cons of BID.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

After months of debate in public meetings and inside stores across Old Town, discussion of the new proposed Old Town Business Improvement District (BID) has finally reached the City Council. Dueling panels of support and opposition to the BID made their pitches to the council on June 6 in the Oswald Durant Center.

The Old Town BID would be a new tax, 10 cents per \$100 of assessed value, on businesses located on or around King Street and Washington Street with the promise of helping revitalize local retail. Discussion centered around the specifics of the proposed Old Town BID, but at the end of the day members of the council said the decision is going to come down to whether or not Old Town businesses believe they are better off being bound together or kept independent.

economic Development, introduced the BID concept to the council, after which local business owners and residents took turns expressing support or opposition. Members of the public were not permitted to speak, which annoyed the crowd.

Supporters of the BID held a unified position: that the council should approve the creation of a service district, the first step towards the creation of a BID. A service district has no power to tax, but would define the boundaries, purpose, and length of time for what would eventually become the BID. Landrum emphasized that a service district can be approved

but never be funded by the city to become a BID.

Supporters of the BID say, without it, Alexandria retail will be left behind by other areas in the region currently being revitalized as commercial districts by BIDs. Victoria Vergason pointed to Washington D.C.'s Southwest Waterfront BID and the BID in de-

"I was supportive of this process moving forward. I don't know what to believe anymore."

— Councilman Paul Smedberg

velopment at Dupont Circle as growing regional threats to Alexandria's retail. Tom Osborne, who had opposed BID proposals in the past, was one of the most adamant supporters in the panel.

"I made it clear from outset that I would only support BID if it was done right and if it was necessary," said Osborne. "Answers to both have satisfied me as yes. Old Town Businesses are struggling ... the

SEE DUELING, PAGE 27

The 'Nice-Nasty Town'

Racism — subtle and not — in Alexandria.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

On May 27, residents of the Del Ray neighborhood awoke to find their neighborhood plastered with posters bearing racist messages of hate against black Americans and against Islam. Like many Alexandrians, Lillian Patterson was shocked when she heard about the racist posters put up in Del Ray. "It really surprises me," said Patterson. "I thought Alexandria was more subtle than that."

The local residents quickly tore down the signs and replaced them with messages of love and support that a week later still remain on many telephone poles along Mount Vernon Avenue. But while Alexandrians, from neighbors to Mayor Allison Silberberg, have said the actions do not characterize this historic port city, Alexandria has a long history with racism. It is a history that was covered up and sometimes literally buried, but one that has never gone away.

Alexandria was a city built on the backs of slave labor. It was black slaves who were injured or killed in leveling the coastal cliff that gave Old Town its current shape. In the early 1800s, Alexandria was

SEE THE 'NICE-NASTY TOWN', PAGE 4

Flashes of Violence in City's History

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

While racism in Alexandria has existed mostly under the surface, there have been moments in the city's history where that tension has erupted into violence.

In April 1897, a story in the Alexandria Gazette titled "Hanged by a Mob" detailed the lynching of Joseph McCoy, a local black man who had been accused of rape.

"Joseph McCoy, the Assailant of Little Annie Lacy, Taken from a Cell in the Station House and Hanged to a Lamp Post — Thrilling Scenes in and Around Police Headquarters. The righteous indignation of old Alexandria was aroused last night ... and as a result Joseph McCoy, a negro ravisher, was strung up to a lamp post, bullets sent into body, his body, his head split open with an axe and other indignities heaped upon his quivering remains."

The Gazette account said McCoy had been arrested and accused of sexually assaulting Annie Lacy, a local 10-year old girl. McCoy denied the charge, but confessed during police interrogation. A mob assembled outside city hall and filled the street out-

side the police station. Led by Mr. Lacy, the mob broke through the front door and attempted to reach McCoy but were repulsed by the police. The group seemed to disperse after officers discharged their pistols, but the mob had reconvened at a nearby timber yard and fashioned an improvised battering ram. The main door was smashed and men poured into the station. The mob assaulted the officers defending the station, nearly killing one of the officers in a struggle for a pistol.

"McCoy, who had been listening to the assault, had become terribly frightened and had climbed up on the door and was secreted near the ceiling. The mob supposed they were at the wrong cell, and were about to leave for another, when one of McCoy's legs was discovered. He was pulled down with a yell and dragged to the pavement, and the mob surged toward Cameron street with him. The negro cried pitifully for mercy and resisted all the way. The crowd turned down Cameron street to Lee street on the southeast corner made rapid preparations to carry out their purpose. A rope had been procured from Mr. G. E. Price's awning, a noose was soon around McCoy's neck and in less time than it takes to tell it

SEE FLASHES OF VIOLENCE, PAGE 4

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Democratic Candidates for Governor Run to the Left

Two candidates try to ignore moderate records and repackage themselves as hardcore progressives.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Regrets? Candidates for the Democratic nomination for governor have probably got a few. But Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam has too few to mention. During a debate on NBC4 late last month, Julie Carey asked the lieutenant governor what kind of mistakes he's made that he regrets during a recent televised debate, Northam did not talk about about his two votes for George W. Bush in 2000 and 2004. And he didn't talk about taking money from Dominion, the utility that wants to build controversial pipelines through the state.

"Well I tell you I don't really have any regrets, Julie," said Northam. "But what I did learn was when I started in Richmond in 2008 as a senator ..."



Lieutenant Governor Ralph Northam and former U.S. Rep. Tom Perriello (D-5) debate in Fairfax County.

And then Northam told a story about his efforts to get a smoking ban passed in Richmond after initial opposition from Republicans. One of the old verities of political life in Virginia is that if you're explaining, you're losing. And the lieutenant governor was not about to start explaining his support for Republicans. And he wasn't about to start explaining the \$40,000 he's accepted from Dominion and its executives during his run for governor. So he changed the subject.

"Not sure that qualified as a mistake," responded Carey. "But let's try you Mr. Perriello on that."

That's when former U.S. Rep. Tom

Perriello (D-5) talked about an issue that his critics have been focused on since the day he announced his candidacy earlier this year: a vote he made during his time in Congress to deny federal funding for abortions in taxpayer-subsidized health insurance plans under the Affordable Care Act. Supporters of Northam have been using Perriello's vote in favor of the Stupak-Pitts Amendment as a way highlight Northam's long history supporting women's reproductive rights.

"That amendment and the eventual compromise was highly restrictive, said Perriello during the NBC4 debate. "And in working with reproductive justice advocates since then understanding just how much of a step backwards it was in that space."

THAT EXCHANGE reveals a curious phenomenon in the race for the Democratic nomination this year. Both candidates are trying to run to the left, abandoning their previously moderate or even center-right positions on a number of issues. So which candidate has a more difficult transformation? Opinions are divided. Virginia Tech political science professor Robert Denton says Perriello will have a more challenging time selling voters on his new progressive persona.

"He has to explain that at the time I wasn't countering my beliefs, attitudes or values

Ralph Northam

Age: 57
Currently: Virginia's 40th Lieutenant Governor; previously served in the Virginia Senate
Bachelor's Degree: Virginia Military Institute
Medical Degree: Eastern Virginia Medical School
Place of birth: Nassawadox, Va.
Profession: pediatric neurologist

Tom Perriello

Age: 42
Served one term in U.S. Congress, Va. 5th district
Bachelor's Degree: Yale University
Juris Doctorate: Yale Law School
Place of birth: Ivy, Va.
Profession: attorney

related to abortion," said Denton. "But I was looking at my constituents in the Fifth Congressional District and therefore trying to represent them."

Others aren't so sure. University of Mary Washington professor Stephen Farnsworth says Northam is in a more perilous position explaining his votes for Bush.

"The anger that you see among Democrats really I think is going to create a sense that the votes for Bush were more problematic," said Farnsworth. "Perriello may be better able to explain away the very conservative nature of his old congressional district."

Perhaps the more thorny issue for Northam is his position on the controversial pipelines Dominion wants to build in

SEE DEMOCRATIC, PAGE 28

Three Republicans Running for Governor Offer Dueling Tax Plans

Cut taxes or raise taxes? GOP primary debate offers an unusual array of options.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

You know that old saying that nothing is certain in life but death and taxes? Here in Virginia, there's another certainty: Every year is an election year.

This year features a primary fight between three Republicans running for governor, each with his own separate and distinct tax plan.

"Well this is really more of a conversation than Republicans usually have about taxes," said Stephen Farnsworth is a professor at the University of Mary Washington. "You have a candidate willing to increase taxes, a candidate willing to abolish the income tax and then, I guess, the Goldilocks plan, which is in the middle."

The Goldilocks in this campaign is former Republican National Committee Chairman Ed Gillespie. Back in March, he outlined a proposal that would lower the state income tax rate on people who make more than \$17,000 a year from 5.75 percent to 5.15 percent. For someone making more than \$60,000 a year, that would mean about \$400 less in taxes a year.

Gillespie's proposal relies on revenue growth rather than spending cuts to pay for the tax cuts.

"Our rates were set in 1972," said Gillespie during the one and only debate of the primary season. "They have not come down in 45 years, and other states around us have been moving."

The idea is classically Republican: cut taxes and predict that will turbo charge the economy, creating jobs in the process. It's the kind of trickle-down economics that fueled the rise of President Ronald Reagan back in the 1980s. Gillespie is selling the tax cut plan as a clean break from the last four years of Democratic leadership in the Executive Mansion, a move to the center right for a state that's sharply divided.

"It would also result in hard-working Virginians who have had stagnant wages but rising costs over the past three, four, five years when our economy has been stagnant having nearly \$1,300 more in our pockets to spend as we see fit."

ONE IDEA that's not classically Republican is raising taxes. But that's what state Sen. Frank Wagner (R-7) wants to do with the



Ed Gillespie

Age: 55
Experience: Chairman of the Republican National Committee and counselor to the President in the George W. Bush administration
Bachelor's Degree: The Catholic University of America
Place of birth: Mount Holly Township, New Jersey
Profession: lobbyist



Corey Stewart

Age: 48
Currently: Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, Prince William County
Bachelor's Degree: Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service
Juris Doctorate: William Mitchell College of Law
Profession: attorney



Frank Wagner

Age: 61
Bachelor's Degree: U.S. Naval Academy
Military service: nine years in U.S. Navy
Place of birth: Ruislip, England
Profession: businessman

gas tax. He's proposing a plan that would raise the gas tax in an effort to raise money for building roads while avoiding high-cost tolls that have become prevalent in Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads.

"I can't remember a Republican candidate for statewide office in Virginia running on a tax increase," said Quentin Kidd, a political science professor at Chris-

topher Newport University. "And there probably aren't a dozen nationally in the last decade or two decades who have run on a tax increase like Frank Wagner is right now."

Meanwhile, Wagner is suspicious of Gillespie's tax proposal. Specifically he's critical of how it's been sold. For example, Gillespie's plan would save \$1,300 a year for families that make more than

\$100,000 a year. But that's well under the median household income in Virginia, which is \$65,000. On the campaign trail, Wagner has attacked Gillespie's plan as an irresponsible giveaway to the rich — one that isn't rooted in experience in government.

"Let me tell you something," Wagner said during the debate. "It's easy to say that when you're sitting here and you've never been in state government."

To solve the problem, Wagner is proposing raising the gas tax to pay for buildings roads. The proposal echoes an earlier era in Virginia politics, when Gov. Harry Byrd suggested using the gas tax as a way to finance building roads while avoiding debt. In Wagner's plan, raising the gas tax would avoid higher tolls on roads in Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads. Plus the proposal is built on a sliding scale, which would mean the tax would actually decrease when gas prices rise.

"We have an \$18 billion deficit in the Virginia Retirement System. We have a Rainy Day Fund for a recession that should be at \$2.4 billion. It's down to less than \$300 million right now."

SEE THREE, PAGE 28

Flashes of Racial Violence in City's History

FROM PAGE 1

he was dangling from the lamp post on that corner. Bullet after bullet was sent into his body, and when he had been cut down one of the mob used an axe on his head and blood and brains were spattered on the pavement."

Two years later, another black man, Benjamin Thompson, was also lynched in Alexandria.

In 1970, the murder of 19-year-old Robin Gibson in a 7-Eleven ignited a the racial tensions that had been brewing throughout desegregation. John L. Hanna, assistant manager of the store, said he observed Gibson putting razor bags into a bag.

"Gibson then allegedly pulled a knife on Hanna. Hanna told police he then pulled a revolver from his right hip pocket and fired once. Gibson staggered toward the door and collapsed."

Immediately after the shooting at 6:35 p.m., a crowd began to gather outside the store. By 9 p.m., approximately 500 to 600 people had gathered outside the store. Police formed ranks in front of the building.

"At this point, violence broke out as persons in the large crowd began hurling rocks into a nearby McDonald's hamburger shop where customers were lined up placing orders."

The crowd spread to other nearby stores, where more rocks were thrown through windows and a fire was ignited. As the night



Scene of the Lynching.

Sketch of a lynching in Old Town.

went on, the violence spread throughout Del Rey, more cars destroyed and cars overturned.

"An Alexandria policeman with riot gun and visored helmet chased a young black down the street," according to the Alexan-

dria Gazette. "The youth turned and darted through the knots of blacks scattered up and down Glebe Road. The policeman found himself alone. Surrounded. The crowd moved slowly and cut off any avenue for the policeman. He stood his ground and shifted his hands on the barrel of his gun. The crowd drew close. Threats were hurled. "Shoot me, Whitey. Shoot."

As the incident came closer and closer to a breaking point, Ira L. Robinson appeared. A black activist,

an attorney and candidate for City Council, the reports in the Gazette say Robinson moved easily through the crowd speaking softly to those he knew. He moved up to the policeman and guided him to the crowd's perimeter. The policeman moved quickly back to the mobile command post set up at the nearby intersection. By 3 a.m., the crowds had dispersed. The newspaper's report closes with the note that "things were normal again."

But the unrest had just started.

Over the next three nights, violence continued across the city: 14 arrests and seven cases of arson.

The Hallowell House, the boyhood home



Robin Gibson, murdered in a 7-Eleven in 1970.

of Robert E. Lee, was destroyed by a fire caused by Molotov cocktails. The City Council deliberated over whether or not to instate a curfew and there were calls from Alexandria's white population for a group of armed citizens to patrol the streets.

Hanna was charged with murder that night, but was released on \$10,000 bond shortly afterwards. In mid-June, Hanna admitted he had planted his own knife near the body. After one trial ended in a hung jury,

he pled guilty to manslaughter and served less than a year in prison before he was paroled. Andy Evans, who worked for Robinson's campaign, said the campaign didn't know it at the time but the unrest played a vital role in getting Robinson elected. On election day, Evans said the campaign gathered at Alfred Street Baptist Church and the staff had all felt resigned to a loss. But Robinson won, becoming the first black member of City Council since the end of Reconstruction. According to the Gazette archives, white Alexandrians asked about their vote cited Robinson's saving of a white police officer as one of the major factors in their decision.

The 'Nice-Nasty Town:' Racism in Alexandria

FROM PAGE 1

one of the slave ports in the country. The Franklin & Armfield Slave Office & Pen, today the Freedom House Museum and home to the Northern Virginia Urban League, exported thousands of slaves across the American South.

Patterson is a fourth generation Alexandrian. Her family on her mother's side has been in the city at least since the Civil War.

"For my grandmother, and for my mother, growing up in Alexandria was very much what it was like when I was coming along," said Patterson. "It was a very segregated town. Everybody went their own ways. I didn't know white people and they didn't know me. When you live in divided communities you don't even think about it, that's just how it was."

Andy Evans, a local community activist, said the racism in Alexandria was different than in other places in the south. The racism rooted deeply into the city was always something that simmered under the surface and only occasionally boiled over.

"The kind of racism that people talk about in the south is a little bit different from what you talk about in Alexandria," said Evans. "There were places in south where if people would just walk in that neighborhood at night, you were in trouble. This was a town where nobody wanted to talk about it."

While Alexandria is a southern city, James

Henson, a local historian and one of the authors of "African Americans of Alexandria Virginia: Beacons of Light in the Twentieth Century," said several factors have helped the city avoid more of the outright racial violence of other cities. Henson notes that the city's proximity to Washington D.C. offered the city's black citizens a degree of legislative protection in the 1800s. There were also education opportunities available in Washington D.C. that were inaccessible to black residents of other cities in Virginia.

But mainly, Henson said it was because the black community of Alexandria was very tight knit and had strong leadership. Until the mid-1900s, the black community in Alexandria had been clustered into several neighborhoods throughout the city. These were neighborhoods like The Burg, so-named from black residents moving into the city in the mid-1800s from Petersburg, or The Bottom just south of Alfred Street Baptist Church.

"Whatever happened in the street got home before you did," said Patterson. "Alexandria was a small town for us. You knew most families. Not everybody in them, but you knew somebody."

Henson said these communities also helped protect black Alexandrians from threats.

"These pockets helped protect the black communities from whites coming in," said Henson. "No sane white person would go

through The Bottom trying to intimidate black people. Alexandria was very different from other cities because the black community here had a unified strength."

Throughout the mid-19th century, black leadership in Alexandria was at the forefront of the civil rights movement. A sit-in arranged at the Queen Street library by local lawyer Samuel Tucker was one of the first of its kind to challenge the discriminatory laws. Evans, whose uncle was one of those arrested in the sit-in, came home from the Vietnam war and started to get involved with the local civil rights movement. In 1970, Evans worked on the campaign for Ira L. Robinson, the first black Alexandrian elected to the City Council since the end of reconstruction.

"Alexandria is a success story about changing the city," said Evans. The city hired its first black police officer, Albert Beverly, in 1965. "Now, nobody thinks twice about black police officer. Back when Melvin Miller ran for City Council, there was a firestorm. People were saying 'don't let two blacks run for City Council.' Now we have two [on the council] and nobody thinks twice about it. Once generations mix and have diversity, it's harder to pass on that racism. We're in a transitional phase now."

But black leaders in Alexandria say they have seen that tone shift in the last few years.

"It leaves me concerned, as it should leave

all of us, about the future direction of our country with regards to race, ethnicity, and diversity," said William Euille, who in 2003 became the first black mayor of Alexandria. "I think it's unfortunately a sign of our times, but that doesn't mean we have to tolerate or accept it."

"I feel that the new administration has emboldened people, where people would normally hold back out of civility, or out of respect," said Lavern Chatman, born and raised in Alexandria. "There's a segment that feels emboldened. The whole 'Make America Great Again' sometimes means striking out against certain communities. Hadn't seen it that blatantly in this community before."

In 1970, Evans remembered when the American Nazi party came to Alexandria and tried to create a stir. Evans said the Nazis were trying to get a rise out of the local black population to incite violence, but just found themselves laughed at. Evans said it's no different with the racist posters in Del Ray.

"People behind things like the poster are trying to create a stir," said Evans. "The problem they have, a lot of the original blacks who grew up here just look at it as a bunch of knuckleheads. These people don't know this city well enough."

But in 2017, Alexandria's black community is still very much under siege. Black

SEE THE 'NICE-NASTY', PAGE 5

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'Nice-Nasty Town'

FROM PAGE 4

leaders in Alexandria say the biggest threat to the community today is not from racist flyers or alt-right lobbyists, but the long, slow death of affordable housing in Alexandria. The neighborhoods that first gave the black community in Alexandria a unified voice and strength are being pushed out to make way for new development.

"I don't even have to think about it: the biggest issue [facing the black community in Alexandria] is affordable housing," said Euille. "That's number one."

Since 2000, market rate affordable units have fallen from 18,218 to 6670. 2017 is the first year in the city's history where the number of committed affordable units will surpass the number of market rate affordable units.

"There were a lot of African American communities in Alexandria," said Patterson. "All of them have been gentrified or destroyed."

The historically black neighborhoods in Alexandria were home to much of the city's market-rate affordable housing. These were places that were not set aside by the government as affordable and weren't public housing, but were considered affordable to local residents at lower incomes. Sometimes rising property values and taxes forced the rents to continue to rise until the residents were forced to disperse. Patterson said many residents of the south side of the city moved into Del Ray. Along with Queen Street, Mount Vernon Avenue became one of the spots in the city with a large share of black businesses.

"Then, somewhere along the line something began to change," said Patterson. "Folks move in and yuppies up the housing. It became more expensive."

In other cases, the places that were once black communities were physically destroyed by the city. Many of the sections of what was once market-rate affordable housing units have been replaced with public housing projects. The neighborhood that was The Burg

"I think it's unfortunately a sign of our times, but that doesn't mean we have to tolerate or accept it."

— William Euille

still exists in a few blocks of the city, but only as public housing. Parts were demolished to make way for Chatham Square, a mixed-income residential development. Further west, the black community that was built around Fort Ward after the Civil War was pushed out to make the space available for historic preservation. The community moved east into a part of the city derogatorily called "Mudtown." Patterson recalled that the area was covered in mud and much of the streets were unpaved, but the black community worked for years to completely transform the area, only to be forced out again in 1971 to make way for a new integrated high school.

"[The city] took the area between the white neighborhoods, where the black community was," said Patterson. "They destroyed it to build the new high school. The biggest insult was naming the school after T.C. Williams, who was the biggest racist in town."

Patterson said this phenomena is something she's seen her whole life in the city.

"It's a nice-nasty town," said Patterson. "They will do something that looks nice on the surface, but is nasty when it goes deeper."

Chatman said the lack of affordable housing is one piece of the larger income inequality crisis that haunts Alexandria, as it does cities throughout the country.

"Income inequality is an issue in this city," said Chatman. "We're still giving scholarships to young people who are the first in their families going to college. These are still the kind of issues that are affecting these communities."

Boxer on the Big Screen

Alexandria boxer Anthony "Tony" Suggs' life has been a series of ups and downs: a shot at the Olympics upended by the loss of a child, followed by a drug addiction and jail sentence that eventually left him clean and re-connected with his faith.

On Friday, June 16, Southern Bell Production will host a screening for a documentary about Suggs' rise, fall and redemption. "Out of the Ring: Still in the Fight" will show at 7 p.m. at the Burke Theatre, 701 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC.

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PEOPLE

From Bartender to Owner

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BY SHIRLEY RUHE
GAZETTE PACKET

Trea Lamond walks up and down the noisy bar with a handshake for the regulars at Chadwicks, a clap on the back and a greeting for new customers. Two men are there from the boats, others after work in the shops. Lamond has owned Chadwicks in Old Town since July 1, 2015 but he has been working there since 2004. "I was out of college and living at home, and I had to get out of the house so my friend found me a job here."

PEOPLE AT WORK

He said within a year he had been promoted to a bartender working five nights a week "making incredible money while learning about the business, eating free, meeting girls. It was a great gig." He said, "I picked up my wife here while she was working in the Torpedo Factory."

He explains, "You know what's funny? When I was a kid I wanted to be an architect, but everyone told me it took too much math."

But he discovered, "You can make great money here as a bartender right out of college. For a while we were about the only one around and you could work from 6 p.m.-midnight and then double your money from midnight to 2 a.m. The industry crowd would drop \$20 tips." But during this time he was also learning about the business and became manager and eventually owner. "One of the things I stress is communication with staff because when I worked here I saw we would run out of something on Monday night and no one knew it when we opened on Tuesday morning." He says he tries to make a list but before he can scratch one thing off, three more pop up and other things change.

Monday is half price burger night, and the burgers are flying out of the kitchen. They are hand-formed patties with high-quality beef. But they don't add a lot of extra ingredients. "It's not fine dining. We don't doll our stuff up." He stops to chat with Mike Schauer and Mary O'Donnell, who are perched at a small table in the bar. She lives just around the corner. "I have the burger with cheddar and an amber, and Mike



Ten stools of customers with a variety of beers line the upstairs bar as Trae Lamond chats with regulars eating dinner at the far end.

orders the nachos because it's happy hour ... and his amber as always."

Lamond continues his rounds. "A lot of what I do is make sure people are comfortable. If I see someone not eating his or her meal, I always want to know why. A lot of times we can fix the issue on the spot. And it's important to remember people's names and faces. It all goes back to bartending."

Lamond has been there since morning when he does the paperwork. He balances the books, keeps track of yesterday's business, the trends, and what the competition is doing. For instance, if he sees someone has a new crab dip that everyone is buying, he may want to consider adding his own crab dip. Lamond says his chef has been working at Chadwicks off and on since high school. The chef never went to culinary school "but he works hard, doesn't leave a lot of waste and just knows what to

SEE A NEIGHBORHOOD, PAGE 27

PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/GAZETTE PACKET



PHOTO BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE PACKET

Diane Rossi (left) and Gene Rossi.

Man of Courts

Local prosecutor and basketball coach runs for lieutenant governor.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

For someone with a very keen sense of fairness, life has not been very fair to Gene Rossi.

Seven years ago, Rossi received a midnight call that his daughter had been taken to the emergency room after suffering severe pains. She had cancer on her heart, and the doctors said it was a miracle that she was still alive. After seven months of treatment she finally recovered. But then, four years ago, Rossi found himself in the hospital bed being treated for amyloidosis, a rare blood disease that gave him about 50-50 survival odds. While in bed, Rossi says he watched the second inauguration of President Barack Obama, mostly keeping an eye on shots of the crowd to try and catch a glimpse of his two sons. As he watched the speech, Rossi said he promised himself if he made it through the treatment he was going to do something with his life: he was going to run for office.

Now, Rossi is making good on that promise to himself. Rossi, a longtime resident of Alexandria, is running for lieutenant governor. He faces opposition from two other northern Virginia residents, Justin Fairfax and Susan Platt. Rossi worked as a U.S. attorney in Alexandria for 27 years working extensively on drug-related cases, from helping lock up drug kingpin Ernesto Cole in 2001 to prosecuting Dr. William Hurwitz for excessive prescribing of opioids.

Inspired by his own experiences, criminal justice, healthcare and education reform all form the major tenets of Rossi's campaign. In many ways, Rossi said Alexandria has been a template for social and criminal justice reforms that need to be applied statewide. In particular, Rossi praised the work he's seen the Alexandria Police Department, under former Chief Earl Cook, put into maintaining community relationships.

Locally, Rossi is renowned as a basketball coach. Mac Slover, regional program director for Alexandria's Department of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Activities, said Rossi has played a large part in the city's youth basketball program for nearly two decades. "He really has the best interest of the kids at heart," said Slover. "He doesn't care if he has the most skilled players or the least, he works to develop them all. He's a very positive guy. Those are the kind of people we look for in volunteers."

Slover also said Rossi makes a special effort to work with youth off the court as well. Slover said Rossi frequently checks with them on their grades and tries to stay aware of their school and home life.

"It didn't matter to him where the kids came from," said Slover. "He was going to work with them no matter what. It wasn't always about basketball, it was about becoming strong young men."

The primary for Virginia's gubernatorial race will be held on June 13.



Trae Lamond started working at Chadwicks as a server in 2004 to get out of his parents' house after returning home after college. Now he owns the business with 50 employees.



Two regular customers discuss the advantages of different beers with Trea Lamond, the owner of Chadwicks. They agree they would drink gluten-free beer if offered.



Daniel Aragon has been working at Chadwicks "for an eternity." Owner Trae Lamond says he has busboys who have been working there since the '80s and are working the same schedule. He says it's a neighborhood institution.



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Attendees who bring three items or more will receive a gift, while supplies last.

No products will be sold at this event.

**Saturday,
June 17, 2017**

9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Registration begins at 8:15 a.m.

Lee Center

1108 Jefferson Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Plenty of free parking

Complimentary light refreshments will be available in the morning, and lunch will be provided in the afternoon.

This event is free, however, registration is required; preferred classes fill up quickly.

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or call 1-877-926-8300



Gleaning, An Old Concept with a New Twist

Helping to feed those in need.

By Vivian Gray
Gazette Packet

The Old Town Farmers Market is one of the oldest farmers markets, held in the same location since 1753, which is outside of City Hall every Saturday year-round from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. But, since 2014 a rapidly growing volunteer program has become a part of this history.

Gleaning, or the collecting of unwanted left-over produce or products that any vendor at the market decides they want to donate instead of throwing away, has made its way into Old Town. Christ Church and St. Paul's Church provide volunteers every Saturday to help glean and sort the donated produce and products to be distributed at each of their Lazarus food pantries and to Friends of Guest House, a home for formerly incarcerated women re-entering the community.

"Gleaning is important because we are helping those in the community get food that are unable to do so otherwise," said Brandie Mae Grubb, the gleaning coordinator. Her role is to weigh, keep track of, and sort all the produce and products that the vendors donate. Even though Grubb works at Christ Church as their parish administrative coordinator she is also paid a stipend by Hunger Free Alexandria for her work as the gleaning coordinator.

Grubb gets to see the process come full circle — from when she sees vendors, sorts the goods, and then sees it go directly to the people at the Lazarus Food Pantry.

Stephanie Roberts, the representative from Christ Church, and Cindy Brack, the representative from St. Paul's Church, take charge after the donated goods have been sorted and taken to each church. The goods then are placed in each separate food pantry, and distributed to the Friends of Guest House on Monday, on Tuesday for St. Paul's and Thursday for Christ Church.



PHOTO BY VIVIAN GRAY/GAZETTE PACKET

From left: Stephanie Roberts, Mary Ann Rudy, Cindy Brock, Brandie Mae Grubb, Ann Richardson, Melanie Gray, Sandy Muraca, John Muraca, Holly Hughson, and Elizabeth Trigg volunteer for both Christ Church and St. Paul's Church.

Lori Brown, a vendor from The Farmstead of Charlotte Hall, travels from Charlotte Hall, Md. 45 miles to participate in the farmers market. Brown's commute usually starts around 3 a.m. and she arrives in Old town around 5-5:30 a.m. The Farmstead has been a vendor at the Old Town farmers market for 20 years now and hasn't been participating in any other markets.

"I have a lot of regular customers, we always try and produce and meet their demands for our customer but no matter what we grown there are always leftovers," Brown said. The convenience of having a gleaning program at the market has saved Brown multiple trips into D.C. to the soup kitchens where she used to donate her produce. Margaret (Maggie) Livelsberger, the city's SNAP/EBT

program coordinator, helps organize the gleaning process through the months of June to November. The first three Saturdays in every month Livelsberger helps Christ Church and St. Paul's glean from the market.

The gleaning is a chance for vendors to give back to the community and donate to people in need. This program has fed hundreds of families in the City of Alexandria.

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McCormick & Lusk Group 202.412.8885
ALEXANDRIA / Riverwood \$ 675,000

Beautiful home backing to parkland. Nearly .5 acre lot. Gracious entertaining space, loads of storage, large table-space kitchen, mud room area from garage, basement with wet bar and extra storage, spacious rear yard with play areas, private setting and great location. 4BR / 2.5 BA.

Margaret Keagle 571.332.5264
ALEXANDRIA / Hollin Hall Village \$ 639,000

Updated throughout this lovely home offers open living areas, hardwoods, two fireplaces, light-filled windows overlooking parkland, 5 large BR and 3 renovated BA. A chef's kitchen has white cabinetry, granite, SSA, and center island, while the dining area leads to a spacious sunroom plus deck for easy entertaining.

Martine & Alexander Irmer 703.346.7283 or 403.2465
LORTON / Village at Lorton Valley \$ 599,900

4BR / 2 Full BA / 2 Half BA. This lovely home features a bright floorplan with high ceilings and 3,600 sf of living space. Open kitchen leads to family room with fireplace and yard. There is a large master suite level, 3 more large bedrooms, storage and a 2-car garage. Easy access to Ft Belvoir and Lorton VRE.

Suzanne Backus 703.338.3594
ALEXANDRIA / Old Town Greens \$ 524,900

Sunny and bright brick end unit townhouse in popular Potomac Greens. Freshly painted home with wood floors, plantation shutters, renovated master bath and outdoor patio off the kitchen. Great storage. Garage parking. Many amenities: pool, tot lot, walking path and Metro Coming Soon!

Marcy Covvarubias 703.772.6569
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Directly across from Metro! No car necessary plus it is the best value for luxury condos. Beautiful oak floors. Building amenities included: pool, parking, 24/7 concierge/2 club houses/fitness center and guest suite. Convenient: 1 mile to Old Town, National Harbor, MGM, USPTO and NSF. 1BR/1BA.

Ann Logsdon & Emily Capelli 703.568.8433 or 472.1282
ALEXANDRIA / Potowmack Crossing \$ 221,900

First floor sunny 1BR / 1BA has been newly painted, plus updated bath and hardwood floors. Community amenities include pool, tennis, exercise and party rooms, picnic/BBQ area, and ample parking. One stop to Metro Station and one light to DC. New windows are coming soon.

Long & Foster Old Town Historic District Office 703.683.0400
400 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314



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Mike Manuel 703.615.6317
ALEXANDRIA / Rivergate \$1,275,000

Beautiful park and river views from this 3BR/3.5BA, 4 level home. Enjoy sunny Southern exposure on 2 balconies and a private brick patio. Open floor plan, wood floors, gas fireplace, cathedral ceilings in Master. A 2-car garage completes this home along the Potomac River plus Old Town, and more.



Kim Muffler 703.282.7739
ALEXANDRIA / Old Town \$959,000

No detail overlooked in this fully renovated and expanded historic semi-detached home in central Old Town. 3BR / 2.5BA, expansive gourmet kitchen addition and deep, fenced rear yard with deck. Tons of storage and large closets. Truly a home for entertaining and comfort!



Mike Lekas 703.927.9895 & Mary Bourke 703.906.5825
ALEXANDRIA / Old Town \$1,999,975

IN THE HEART OF OLD TOWN. This elegant 1906 Victorian home masterfully blends period architecture and modern conveniences for easy living. Prominently sited on a double lot, the spacious slate patios and pergola allow for wonderful outdoor entertaining. This grand residence featuring gracious rooms, high ceilings, and reclaimed wood floors is ideally located just steps to shops and restaurants. Boasting almost 4,500 square feet with 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths and versatile lower level may be used for nanny/mother-in-law suite. Complimenting this impressive home is rarely found parking for five cars including 2-car garage. The best of city living!



Ruth Guirard 703.609.3343
ALEXANDRIA / Mt Vernon \$885,000

Exceptional Value! Dynamite custom Colonial! Over 4,000 finished sq ft! Beautifully updated! 5BR / 4.5BA, den / office, family room, rec room, oversized 2-car side load garage. Adjoins Collingwood Park: ball fields, tennis courts, playground, access to trail. Wayneswood Elementary School.



Dave Olinger 703.864.3196
FALLS CHURCH / Rees Place \$850,000 OPEN SUN 2 - 4

101 REES PL Elegant end unit town home with 3BR/3.5BA/3 levels. ML living and dining rooms, family room with gas fireplace + gourmet kitchen with bay window breakfast nook. Stunning floating staircase to UL. Master bedroom with Palladian window + more. LL features foyer, rec room and garage access.



Catherine Foltz 703.626.6914
ALEXANDRIA / Belle Haven \$835,000

Williamsburg Replica, 9' ceilings, hardwoods on 2 lvs, 3 fireplaces, flowing floor plan, spacious foyer, living/dining rooms, stylish kitchen/breakfast room. Doors off Keeping Room lead to brick patio. 3BR/3.5BA. Master has en-suite bath/dressing area. LL rec/den/au pair suite + large utility room.



Judy Pisciotta 703.405.4485
ALEXANDRIA / Clover \$825,000

Original Owner! Fantastic opportunity to own a lovely, freshly painted home, beautiful living room, large dining/family room, sunroom, 2 masters, LL rec. Surrounded by superb landscaping, including a rear slate patio with gorgeous, serene garden. Tons of space to make your own. 2-car garage. 4BR/3BA



Elizabeth Lucchesi 703.868.5676
ALEXANDRIA / Beverley Hills \$775,000 OPEN SUN 2 - 4

3306 OLD DOMINION BLVD Charmingly updated home surrounded by gorgeous landscaping. Custom entry, living room with wood-burning fireplace; sunny family room opens to patio and private backyard. LL has rec room/tons of storage. Conveniently located within minutes of Old Town, Pentagon & DC.



Martha Deal 703.622.6797
ALEXANDRIA / Oakbrooke \$769,900 OPEN SUN 2 - 4:30

8205 CHOLLMAN CT Classic Colonial on cul-de-sac boasts gracious living with great curb appeal. 3 finished levels, 4BR/2FB/2 half baths plus hardwoods, 2 fireplaces, updated kitchen and baths, deck slate patio. Located near river, bike/hike trails, parks, shops, restaurants. Wayneswood School District.

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OPINION

Vote On or Before June 13

In-person absentee voting continues through June 10.

On June 13, every Virginia voter has the opportunity to vote in the Primary Election to choose the candidates for their chosen party for governor and lieutenant governor.

Ralph Northam and Tom Perriello are vying to be the Democratic nominee for governor.

Ed Gillespie, Cory Stewart and Frank Wagner are seeking the Republican nomination for governor.

VIEWPOINTS

'What is your favorite Father's Day tradition?'



Rosemary Stewart, Alexandria resident

"Going home to Ohio for Father's Day because that where I grew up."



PHOTOS TAKEN ALONG THE OLD TOWN WATERFRONT BY LAURYN OVERHULTZ WITH VIVIAN GRAY



Janelle Sutton, Alexandria resident

"Because I've lived here since 2001, my father is in Tasmania, Australia and I don't get to visit him or anything like that so we only do the FaceTime thing and I probably send him a small gift."

Raghad Alsayyad, works and lives in Alexandria

"We usually go to a dinner, I usually buy a gift for my dad either cologne, a belt, or socks but we usually go to dinner."



Dave Halasikun is in the military and lives in Adams Morgan.

"I guess playing baseball in the backyard for Father's Day and I have three kids so getting the five of us out there to play ball."

For lieutenant governor, Justin Fairfax, Gene Rossi and Susan Platt are seeking the Democratic nomination.

Bryce Reeves, Glenn Davis Jr. and Jill Vogel compete for the Republican nomination for lieutenant governor.

The filing deadline for independent and non-primary party nominees is June 13 at 7 p.m. for the November general election.

For more information on voting in Alexandria, www.alexandriava.gov/Elections

Send Father's Day Photos

Father's Day is Sunday, June 18, and once again the Gazette will publish a gallery of

Father's Day photos.

Every year at this time, the Gazette puts out the call for photographs of fathers and their children, grandfathers and their children and grandchildren.

Send in photos with the following information: the town where you live, the names of everyone in the picture, the approximate date the picture was taken, the ages of the children and a sentence or two about what is happening and where the photograph was taken. Be sure to tell us your town name and neighborhood.

Photos are due by June 12.

You can submit your photos online at www.connectionnewspapers.com/fathersday. You can also email photos to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Race To 'Modernize'

To the Editor:

The City of Alexandria is making a mistake by recommending a new hotel and restaurant at 115 South Union St. The city hotel occupancy rate is lower than the surrounding cities and there is no need to destroy yet another historic street in the name of tax revenue in the form of a hotel. Most of the time when people think Alexandria they think of Old Town and for many they imagine the cobblestones of Prince Street (hence the dozens of photographers on any given day taking engagement pictures, wedding pictures and capturing any myriad of other special occasions).

Residents and businesses alike need to work together to maintain the ecosystem of Old Town and if any one group outweighs the other the balance and charm of our city is lost and with it goes what we all fight and argue for and against.

Should the city allow 115 S. Union Street to move forward as planned, it continues a slippery slope we have already engaged in of destroying the very reason the tourist dollars come to our great city — our charm and history. How much longer will the residents of Prince Street and other historic streets continue to uphold their part of the ecosystem by investing financing, time and love to maintain immaculate homes when they are being squeezed out and seen as a burden to corporate hotels and chain restaurants.

The city leaders need to stop, breathe and realize the race to "modernize" our city may provide a short-term gain but in the long run destroy the very nature and ecosystem that makes our city

great.

Brandon Hensley
Alexandria

Unintended Consequences

To the Editor:

I've been reading the letters from fellow citizens concerned about the recent 9 percent property tax rate increase. I feel that we should speak up rather than just sit idly by as our elected council imposes what many agree to be an ill-timed, ill-advised action that comes at a time when the economy is still fragile with many still unemployed and trying to build up their reserves. I was surprised that this move was made unanimously save for Mayor Silberberg and since then, I have spoken to many people from millennials and unemployed baby boomers, to retirees to try to gauge their opinions. All of us are trying to get a leg up in what is already a very expensive city when considering rent, utilities, food, fuel, education, insurance and so forth. Several of the retirees lamented their displeasure at the increase and wondered how much longer they would be able to stay here, sadly suggesting they might have to move to a lower priced locale. Likewise, some of the young adults and families also decried the increase and stated they're finding it difficult if not impossible to afford a place to buy in this city. Finally, my unemployed baby boomer friends who have not had steady work in years, are worried that they too may have to leave. It seems that we are steadily becoming a city with the wealthy at the top, a shrinking middle class and a lower class being squeezed out. Without

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 15

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OPINION

Community Forum

Alexandria – A Livable Community for Seniors.

BY MARY LEE ANDERSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SENIOR SERVICES OF ALEXANDRIA



Senior Services of Alexandria and AARP are cosponsoring a Community Forum: “Alexandria – A Livable Community for Seniors,” and we want to hear from you.

As our population ages and people stay healthy and active longer, communities need to adapt. Alexandria is leading the way and taking steps to make our city a livable community for seniors — and people of all ages. Come to Beatley Library at 5005 Duke Street on Wednesday, June 21, from 10 a.m. to noon to hear about the ideas being considered for transportation, housing, employment, and community involvement. Members of the city’s Commission on Aging will share updates on these plans, but the real focus will be on hearing from the community about what the priorities should be to en-

sure our seniors remain active and independent.

Alexandria has joined the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities as part of the World Health Organization’s Global network. The goal of this

effort is to help communities become great places for seniors by adopting such features as walkable streets, better housing and transportation options, access to key services and opportunities for residents to participate in community activities.

The thought is that well-designed, livable communities help sustain economic growth and make for happier, healthier residents of all ages.

It is important that older adults take an active role in their communities’ plans and ensure that their voices are heard. See AARP.org/agefriendly.

The Community Forum is free and open to the public with light refreshments and plenty of parking. Registration starts at 9:30 a.m. Please RSVP online at seniorservicesalex.org or call Senior Services at 703-836-4414, ext. 110.



Building Better Conversations with the Whole Family When a Loved One Has Dementia

Tuesday, June 13, 2017 • 6pm-8pm
700 West Broad St, Falls Church, VA

RSVP to 703-992-9868 or ConciergeFS@kensingtonsl.com

Dementia knows no boundaries. It not only erodes memory but also imposes stressors on the whole family. Because a family is a blend of personalities, perspectives and priorities, it can become difficult to agree when care and lifestyle decisions need to be made. Longstanding dynamics often become exaggerated or change altogether, and then, conversations can get messy. Please join us for a discussion led by Dr. Vivek Sinha and Mikki Firor to help your family talk and interact productively as dementia progresses. Topics include:

- Understanding the impact of family dynamics on decision-making
- Ideas and techniques to ensure everyone’s voice is heard
- What to stop doing, start doing and keep doing when conflicts arise and emotions become charged
- Determining how much participation your loved one should have in decision-making conversations
- Identifying resources to offer additional support



Vivek Sinha, MD, is the Co-Founder & Chief Medical Officer of Bellevue Medical Partners. Dr. Sinha’s “House-Call” practice provides care to patients in their homes or assisted living residences.



Mikki Firor is the president of Trovato, LLC, a dementia consulting company. Mikki provides education, support and guidance to help families and professionals navigate the diagnosis, prognosis and full experience of dementia.



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OPINION

Who Will Be Next 'Animal of the Year?'

BY BARBARA S. MOFFET
ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE OF ALEXANDRIA

How does a homeless, frightened beagle from West Virginia wind up as Alexandria's 2017 Animal of the Year? The improbable journey began two years ago when Charlie (then called Howie) was transferred to the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria (AWLA) by Potomac Highlands Animal Rescue of West Virginia, in an area where his chances for adoption were slim. He soon was adopted from AWLA, only to be returned to the shelter, where he was christened "Banjo" and awaited a new fate.

Meanwhile, Alexandrian Maria Canellis had just lost her longtime beagle pal and was searching the AWLA website for information on a pet bereavement group when she spotted Banjo — and decided she had to meet him. Arriving at the shelter, she discovered that a kind donor had "adopted him forward," paying his adoption fee in advance. Canellis didn't hesitate to choose Banjo to join her family.

Renamed Charlie (after Charleston, W. Va.), the dog, known as a "red beagle," started out extremely shy and fearful, growling when anyone approached his food or toys. "But after about six months," Canellis said, "Charlie did a complete 180 and started interacting with people. He became the poster 'child' for what

A Banner Month for AWLA

The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria recorded an unusually high level of activity in May:

- ❖ 114 animals transferred to AWLA from other areas or shelters (nearly twice last year's number)
- ❖ 84 animals adopted out
- ❖ 38 pets surrendered to the shelter by owners
- ❖ 50 stray animals accepted for evaluation and possible adoption
- ❖ 37 wild animals helped
- ❖ 3 animals involved in Animal Service Officer cases
- ❖ 3 animals taken in for temporary safekeeping
- ❖ 7 animals born at the shelter

can happen to an animal when a shelter doesn't give up on him."

Seeking to support the AWLA, Canellis entered Charlie in last year's Pet Photo Contest, an annual AWLA effort to attract donations to help local animals in need. Charlie's picture featured a close-up of the chestnut-brown dog, pink tongue hanging out, standing in a lush garden. "We really didn't expect him to be in the running as top vote-getter, but we rallied the troops to show support for the cause, and he came out on top," Canellis recalls. The vote landed Charlie on the cover of the 2017 calendar, a full-sized, four-color publication that features every animal entered in the contest in its pages.

Charlie has had a whirlwind year as "top dog" — appearing in costume at last fall's AWLA Howl-O-Ween event and taking part in this year's St. Patrick's Day festivities. Canellis's

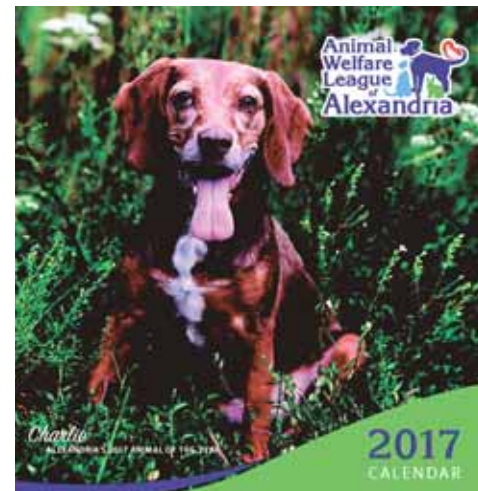


PHOTO COURTESY OF DIRTY PAW PHOTOGRAPHY

The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria's 2017 calendar, featuring Charlie.

advice for the next Animal of the Year: "Sit back and enjoy the ride."

This year's online Pet Photo Contest has started and will continue through July 16. The fee to enter an animal is \$30 (one entry per photo), and votes cost \$1 each. The pet who receives the most votes will be named Alexandria's Animal of the Year and receive a professional pet photography session, among other prizes. More details on the contest are available at AlexandriaAnimals.org/ClickYourPick.

City's Decision Drains Pool Supporters

Last week's Gazette Packet published an incomplete part of the The Advocates for Alexandria Aquatics (AAA) release. Here it is in its entirety.

On May 19, Advocates for Alexandria Aquatics (AAA) served formal notice to the City of Alexandria that it is withdrawing from the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) it has with the city regarding the planned 50-meter indoor pool at Chinquapin. Furthermore, AAA will terminate its working relationship with the city on this project.

"It is with a heavy heart that we made this decision," said Bill Rivers, outgoing chair of AAA's board of directors. "We have worked closely with the city for over four years to improve the aquatics infrastructure of Alexandria and to present a vision for a new pool at Chinquapin that would add so much to our community."

In its public-private partnership with the city, AAA had pledged to raise \$2.5 million in private sector funds to supplement the city's \$20 million investment.

In withdrawing from the MOU, AAA cited two reasons for its decision: first, the action by the city and the City Council to remove all funding identified for the planned pool at Chinquapin from the current budget; and second, the failure of the city to communicate and cooperate with AAA about the status of the Chinquapin project as explicitly stated in the MOU.

Specifically, in November 2016 the city manager — with no consultation with AAA — announced the Chinquapin project was being put "on hold." As a result, the \$4.5 million in funds in the FY 2017 budget approved by City Council in May 2016 were not to be released to be-

gin the design process of the 50-meter pool.

Following the decision by the city manager, the City Council refused to take any action — either as part of its oversight of the FY 2017 budget or in creation of the FY 2018 budget — to reverse the city manager's decision to put the project on hold.

"The decision by the city manager to pause the work on the 50-meter pool at Chinquapin was a complete surprise," said Melynda Wilcox, incoming chair of the AAA board of directors. "For over four years we operated in good faith with the city. Yet we never received a satisfactory explanation as to why the 50-meter pool was 'paused' while numerous other projects around the city went forward as planned."

"AAA and its members are committed and dedicated partners with the city," stated Bill Rivers. "By a conservative estimate, the volunteer community has spent over 11,000 hours of its time to help the city improve its aquatics facilities. Over \$800,000 of volunteer time and city funds has been spent on a project that was arbitrarily and abruptly eliminated by the city this year."

The most significant consequence of the city's decision to not move ahead with the new pool at Chinquapin is that both current and future generations of Alexandrians will be deprived of many of the simple pleasures of life that aquatics brings, not the least of which is the life-saving ability to learn how to survive in the water.

"There are approximately 7,500 kids in Alexandria who don't know how to swim," said Carolyn Grigione, AAA board member. "If every child in our community is to have the op-

portunity to learn basic swimming and water safety skills we need more pool space in Alexandria. There simply is not enough room in the existing pools to give every child a chance to learn to swim."

A public opinion survey conducted on behalf of AAA in March 2017 showed that the proposed 50-meter pool at Chinquapin has strong support in the community. According to the survey, roughly two-thirds of Alexandria residents favor the City of Alexandria investing \$20 million on a new 50-meter pool at Chinquapin. In particular, Alexandrians believe a new pool is needed to expand access for local children to learn to swim and to allow residents of all ages to use the facility for exercise, rehabilitation and recreational uses.

Residents also appreciate the economic benefits a new facility will bring to the community. With a state of the art 50-meter pool in Alexandria, local swim teams finally will have the ability to host meets — ranging from events for regional youth swim clubs to high school teams to adult Masters swim teams from the East Coast. By attracting more visitors to Alexandria, the community understands that restaurants, hotels and other local businesses will see an influx of customers.

"Because the design money was not released to begin work at Chinquapin, it is impossible to foresee when Alexandria will get its first and only 50-meter pool," said Bob Ludke, treasurer of AAA. "We had a wonderful opportunity to improve our community for the benefit of all residents. Knowing that an arbitrary decision by the city has closed the window on that opportunity is a bitter disappointment."



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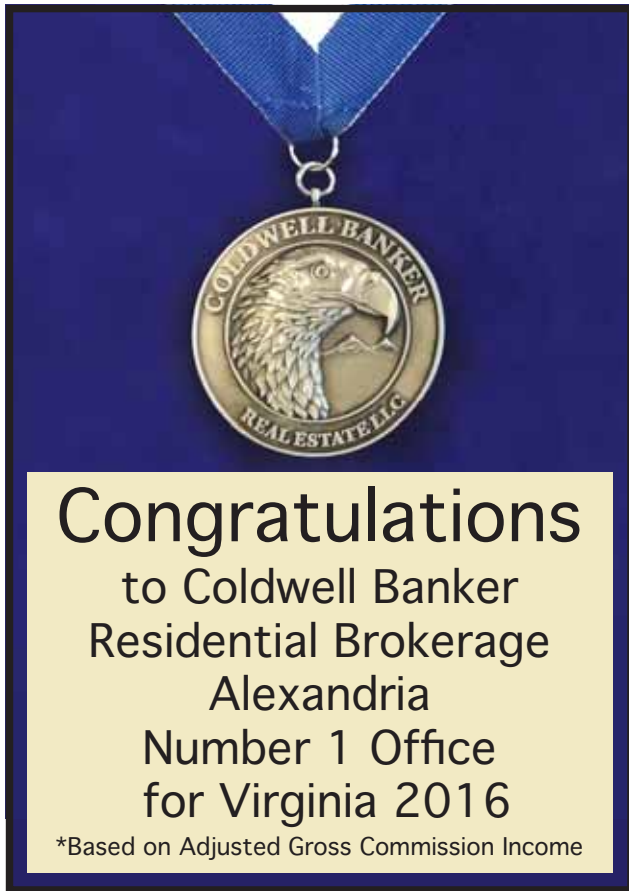
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			York College of Pennsylvania

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

a hefty income, who can afford to live, much less buy in such a desirable area as this?

I pose several questions to the entire council: Is this the kind of city we want in the future? I fear that those very people who may have supported the council are the ones who will suffer the most — the service workers and blue collar workers who really power this city. We stand to lose the diversity that makes this city so interesting and vibrant today, much like what is happening in some big cities in California where people cannot afford to live in the city where they work. Did the council consider the impact to those who are usually unable or unwilling to voice their displeasure? They are the ones who will be driven out, further south and west, making their lives harder as they have to commute further and longer to be able to afford to live. Finally, what about the unforeseen consequences to the business sector?

Certainly we all understand that it costs to live in a modern city with all the concomitant amenities and we are willing to ante up, but at the cost of alienating an entire class of people who can little afford it just does not make sense.

However, this is not the end of the difficulty, for as those who are taxed further will find it harder to come up with disposable income to spend at businesses in the city, causing more hardship for our already beleaguered business sector. Every time I ride my bike up and down King Street I see shuttered businesses, and this I fear will increase. Are we also going to drive more businesses out of the city?

We believe that the council did an incredibly poor job of justifying such a large tax increase in light of some of the expensive line items that may or may not be of value to us. Perhaps the city should try like most families do and balance our budgets and work within the confines of available funds as a fiscally responsible city and make hard decisions about what is necessary and what can be deferred.

The council would do well to listen to the many concerned voices of its citizens, as it seems that they are out of touch with many of its citizens and I fear may have repercussions into the future.

Rudolf M. Rojas
Alexandria

Reducing Parking

To the Editor:

Hotels, hotels, hotels! A few weeks ago, the City Council unani-

mously approved the seventh hotel within walking distance from the King Street Metro. This one borders on historic Harvard Street, and it will disrupt not only the residents, but the streetscape of early 29th century, two-story homes on that street. I fail to see why Alexandria needs another hotel when the current citywide occupancy rate hovers around 70 percent?

Now comes yet another hotel; this one with a “boutique” appellation. It will consist of 64 rooms, and it will be located at 115 South Union St. This boutique hotel will be the third waterfront hotel if the Robinson Terminal North site on Oronoco Street is developed (although no hotel chain has yet offered to pick up this location). Although the Waterfront Plan specifically mandates that no more than two hotels should be built on the waterfront, the city maintains that the new boutique hotel was not in the Waterfront Planning area, therefore, it doesn’t count. To me, this is a form of hotel “gerymandering.”

This boutique hotel will contribute to our parking problems. Patrons of the hotel’s 20-seat outdoor dining facility must fend for themselves regarding parking, since restaurants on the waterfront need not provide parking for their customers. To make matters worse, the developer is asking for a 13 space reduction to the current parking arrangements, which consists of 65 parking spaces for the general public on the first floor, and 32 parking spaces for hotel guests on the second floor. Since parking spaces for diners and most of their employees will not be provided, this impacts the parking on our congested Old Town streets, especially in our residential areas.

Every development seems to request a parking reduction, which is always approved by City Council without much ado. At some point in the not too distant future, visiting Old Town Alexandria will not be worth the effort, given the ongoing parking constraints. The Alexandria goose that lays the golden egg is getting very nervous indeed.

Townsend A. “Van” Van Fleet
Alexandria

Mason’s Contributions

To the Editor:

Alexandria’s trustee George Mason of Gunston Hall has not received proper due for his remarkable contributions to creating our state and national governments. One of his greatest achievements was creating the Virginia

Declaration of Rights which the Virginia Convention adopted on June 12, 1776.

Mason, a member of that Convention, was immediately appointed to a committee charged with organizing a new colonial government. Frustrated by the unproductive arguments of its 31-man committee, he worked alone for nine days at the Raleigh Tavern; then he presented drafts of the Virginia State Constitution and the Virginia Declaration of Rights to the committee. After some revision, the Convention adopted the Declaration — and our first constitution after the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

When Thomas Jefferson penned the Continental Congress’ Declaration of Independence, he had access to both Mason’s first draft and final copy of the Virginia Declaration of Rights. He used Mason’s ideas and words freely — but in compressed form with even greater force. For example, Article I of Mason’s document states: “That all men are by nature equally free and independent, and have certain inherent rights of which, when they enter into a state of society, they cannot, by any compact, deprive or divest their posterity; namely, the enjoyment of life and liberty, with the means of acquiring and possessing property, and pursuing and obtaining happiness and safety.” (Jefferson wisely dropped “obtaining”; government cannot provide happiness, only opportunity to pursue it.)

Article 2 declares “That all power is vested in, and consequently derived from, the people; that magistrates are their trustees and servants, and at all times amenable to them.” (This was a revolutionary idea; previously, kings were acknowledged as God’s designees to rule on earth. Although their powers were increasingly limited, they still held the highest authority. This article asserted that one who opposed the king did not therefore oppose God’s ordained order and become in danger of eternal damnation.)

Article 3 states “That government is, or ought to be, instituted for the common benefit, protection, and security of the people, nation or community; of all the various modes and forms of government, that is best which is capable of producing the greatest degree of happiness and safety and is most effectually secured against the danger of maladministration; and that, whenever any government shall be found inadequate or contrary to these purposes, a majority of the community hath an indubitable, unalienable, and in-

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 29

The Hallmarks of Service

BY EMILY
MCMAHAN

One of the hallmarks of serving in the military are the stories of how service transcends lives, businesses, and beyond here in our local community. I recently had the pleasure of attending the promotion of Army Lieutenant Colonel

COMMENTARY Charcillea Schaefer, whose service has impacted

so many lives throughout her career. U.S. Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash.) presided over the ceremony and eloquently shared thoughtful examples of Schaefer’s service that resonated with the standing-room-only audience. Murray described how Schaefer not only loves what she does but loves the people she leads even more. Indeed, it has not been an easy road for Schaefer. She could not understand how the events of Sept. 11 only three months after her graduation from West Point would test her life and career. In the 16 years since that fateful day, Schaefer has spent four of those years deployed to both Iraq and Afghanistan and will soon take on new challenges in her next chapter as a battalion commander in the Pacific.

What anchors Schaefer amidst her challenging roles? She explains, “My love for the Army is rooted in service and the idea of being a servant leader in whatever capacity I am assigned.” When Schaefer stops to reflect on what life after the military might be like, she is sure that service will continue to play a significant role in some capacity.

She says she will “look to excellent role models and peers who continue to serve their communities in many different ways — whether at the grassroots levels, through their businesses, or in the government.”

Luckily for Schaefer, there are many examples here locally in Alexandria of military veterans who continue to serve after they take off the uniform. For example, local veteran Josh Riojas is a founding member of Rios Partners, a public sector management consulting firm that specializes in helping organizations execute strategy. Looking back, Riojas shares a common sentiment of what made him join the military. “I joined the Army because I wanted to serve our country, and



it seemed like it would be a lot of fun, which it certainly was,” he says. When Riojas left the military, he went on to earn his MBA from Harvard Business School and eventually returned to the Army Reserves, where he currently serves as a company commander.

Now, his service has taken on a different meaning through the business he leads. Riojas and his co-founder Zach Osborne, also a military veteran, formed their company by calling on their previous experiences. “My time in the Army influenced the way I approach business more than my time in business school. In school, I certainly learned all about the technical aspects of running a business, but in the Army, I learned the values that have been much more impactful to my business.” Riojas continues, “From the very beginning, we wrote down our mission and values long before we ever built a financial model. A year later, we still make our important decisions based on those values we learned in the Army.”

Then, there are the Rakassan Tea co-founders, veteran Brandon Friedman and military spouse Lauren Bailey who sell premium loose-leaf tea in the United States from farmers in post-conflict countries. Rakassan Tea also plans to hire military veterans to help execute their vision. Friedman started Rakassan Tea based on the demand for high-quality tea from remote areas abroad based and his experiences while he was deployed. “The military instilled a set of values that guide me to this day, especially in my business. The lessons I learned about discipline, courage, and sacrifice have helped me shape two businesses now. And more importantly, it has given me a sense of mission and service. And that never leaves, even after you take off the uniform,” says Friedman.

These stories are just a few examples of how one’s service can begin in uniform and transcend to business and beyond. Moreover, military service is just one path, and it is important to recognize how services can impact similar endeavors. It is these stories of individuals like Schaefer, Riojas, and Friedman that exemplify why military service establishes the foundation of values that is so important to our nation both in uniform and beyond.

Emily McMahan is executive director of Capitol Post and Bunker Labs DC

Getting Hurt in the Gym

Prevent and treat workout injuries.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

While sustaining an injury isn't on anyone's list of fitness goals, a recent study by the Center for Injury Research and Policy shows an increase in gym-related injuries in recent years. Corrective exercise is among the strategies for recovering from workout-related injuries, but fitness experts are also emphasizing prevention.

"Generally speaking, at some point it's good following an injury to perform corrective exercises to rehab injured muscles," said Joel Martin, Ph.D., Exercise, Fitness and Health Promotion Graduate Program coordinator and assistant professor of Kinesiology at George Mason University.

"Depending on the stage of the healing process the exercises may focus on getting blood flowing to the injured area, regaining strength in injured muscle or correcting poor movement patterns that contributed to the injury."

One of the most common causes of sports or workout related injuries is performing an exercise incorrectly, says Martin. "You

should take the time to learn proper form and seek the help of an exercise professional for advice as to how to perform various exercises," said Martin. "Investing the time to learn how to move well at the beginning of an exercise program will pay off in the long run."

Failing to do warm-up exercises before a workout and increasing the intensity of the exercise too quickly — either within the exercise session or across multiple exercise sessions — are among the leading causes of workout injury, says Martin. Not following safety procedures is another.

"Some of the most serious exercise injuries happen from not using common sense," he said. "These can come in a variety of forms, but may be due to trying to show off, not wearing proper shoes or equipment for the exercise mode, exercising in unsafe environments, or not using a spotter for heavy lifts."

Even with safety measures in place, Parker Bryant, a personal trainer based in Bethesda, Md., tells his clients that injuries can happen, even to the most cautious athletes. "For many common injuries, especially a muscle that's sore because it's been over-used, I usually advise clients to apply ice for about 20 minutes several times a day to reduce any swelling and to rest the injured body part," he said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GEOFF ROBISON

Geoff Robison of Custom Kinetics in McLean shows a client how to use corrective exercise.

For those dedicated to fitness, being told to rest can be hard to hear, says Geoff Robison of Custom Kinetics in McLean, but he says that it is possible to be active while recovering from an injury. "One of the hardest things for a runner with an injury to hear is that they have to stop running," Robison said. "But one of the worst things you can do when you have an injury is lay down and not move. Movement, when done properly, can be very healing. It can bring blood flow and realign your body."

Exercise can be used to help heal some workout or sports related injuries, says Robison. "Everyone who walks in our door gets taken through an assessment," he said. "Whether it's low back pain, a knee problem or shoulder pain, we find the root cause of the problem."

Once the problem is identified, Robison and his team of trainers work to create an exercise program that is designed to decrease pain and build fitness.

One example that he uses to explain his therapeutic strategy is knee pain, which he says is one of the injuries he sees most often in clients. He observes the client's movements to help determine the cause of the problem. "Maybe it's coming from the foot, because the foot is not strong enough, so your knees cave in when you squat," he said. "Maybe your glutes [gluteal muscles] are weak or maybe your quads [quadriceps] are weak. Strengthening these muscles can help stabilize the leg and help relieve knee pain."

Robison builds an exercise regimen that is designed to address a specific issue or injury. "One exercise that I might use is the clam shell where clients lie down on their side and open and close their knees," he said. "When it's a case of muscle overuse, I might use a foam roller or resistance bands to loosen and strengthen the muscles."

Bryant says that an injury can be an opportunity to try a new type of workout. "For example, if you're a runner, but your knees are bothering you, stop running for a while and try swimming to give your knees a rest," he said. "After you're been pain-free for more than a week, you're probably healed. When you do return to your normal exercise routine, don't dive in with the same intensity as before your injury. Gradually work your way back so that you don't reinjure yourself."

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More than half of your body consists of water. The water we drink in Alexandria comes from the Occoquan Reservoir, and NOVA Parks has over 4,000 acres of forests around this body of water providing a natural buffer. NOVA Parks has an additional 4,000+ acres of parkland adjacent to the Potomac River. These lands offer opportunities for people to reconnect with nature while hiking, camping and boating. They also protect our natural resources. These same lands provide sanctuary for endangered species like the Eastern Wood Turtle, and the Small Whorled Pogonia, as well as habitat for Bald Eagles, Great Blue Heron and many other species.

Come out this weekend and rent a kayak or hike a trail, explore your regional parks, and connect with nature. Pohick Bay and Fountainhead Regional Parks are both located less than 25 minutes from Alexandria.



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**WHAT'S
NEXT**
Find out at
novaparks.com

ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

Ceramic Show. various times through July 1 at Studio 19 of the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. The “Classic Wedding Whites” Ceramic Guild show at Scope Gallery. Call Scope Gallery at 703-548-6288, visit www.scopegallery.org for more.

Art Exhibit: Pattern and Repetition. Various times through June 25 at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Artists Reni Gower and Stephen Boocks use repetitive shapes and patterns, combining both precision and randomness to create meditative and mesmerizing pieces. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

“Master Class” on Stage. Through June 11, 7 p.m. at Metrostage, 1201 N. Royal St. Music direction by Joseph Walsh, featuring Ilona Dulaski as Maria Callas in Terrence McNally’s valentine to “La Divina.” Call 703-548-9044 or visit www.metrostage.org.

Native Plants, Herbs, and Heirloom Tomatoes. Various times through mid June at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church Greenhouse, 1909 Windmill Lane. Visit www.mvuc.org for more.

Flora and Fauna Artshow. Through June 25, various times at Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, Studio 29, 105 N. Union St. This show will highlight the work of artists Jeanne Bohlen and Floris Flam. Visit www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com or call 703-548-0935 for more.

Artwork Inspired by Nature Exhibit. Various times through August 31 at Huntley Meadows Park Nature Center, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Local artist-photographer Nina Tisara will share some of her mosaic work in an exhibit entitled “Inspired by Nature.” Call 703-768-2525 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks.

Costumes of Mercy Street. Through Sept. 1, at The Lyceum: Alexandria’s History Museum, 201 S. Washington St. To learn more about The Lyceum, visit alexandriava.gov/Lyceum or call 703-746-4994.

Gadsby’s Tavern Museum Relics. Various times through Labor Day at Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Learn the history of the museum, the purchase and see the original woodwork. Call 703-746-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org for more.

Mount Vernon Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-12 p.m., Wednesdays, through Dec. 14. Fresh local food, artisan crafts. Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/mtvernonmkt.htm for more.

All the President’s Pups. Saturdays 10 a.m. at George Washington’s Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. All the President’s Pups Walking Tour, along the way, learn about George Washington’s love for dogs, his dogs’ unusual names, and his efforts to improve the quality of his hunting dogs through breeding. \$7. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

Mercy in Alexandria Walking Tour. Sundays at 1:30 p.m. at Alexandria Visitors Center, 221 King St. Experience an inside access tour of 19th century Alexandria. Inspired by the PBS mini-series “Mercy Street,” accompany a trained military historian through Civil War-era Alexandria and learn the actual history behind the TV show. Short tours are \$15, private tours for five



Enchanted

On June 24-25, “Enchanted, the Musical” is playing 1 and 7 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center in 4915 E. Campus Drive. Metropolitan School of the Arts (MSA) of Alexandria Va. will perform their spring production. \$20-\$23. Visit www.metropolitanarts.org for more.

are \$149. Visit www.dcmilitarytour.com for more
The Lyceum: 175 Years of Local History. Ongoing, Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday 1-5 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. On view in the museum’s Coldsmith Gallery, the historical objects and images featured represent The Lyceum, the community at work, and commemorations and celebrations. Throughout the exhibition, visitors are invited to “be the curator” and think about why the various artifacts are in the museum’s collection, and about how tangible representatives of the past help tell the story of Alexandria’s history. Free. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org for more.

Pick-Up Hockey. Ongoing, Wednesdays and Fridays 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Mount Vernon Ice Skating, 2017 Belle View Blvd. Play hockey with other hockey buffs, hitting slap shots and learning puck handling skills that the pros use. Players must

have full equipment. 16 and older. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/mtvernon/ or call 703-768-3224 for more.

Medical Care for the Civil War Soldier Exhibit. Ongoing at the Fort Ward museum, 4301 W. Braddock Road. ongoing exhibit which features original medical instruments and equipment from the Civil War period and information on Union Army hospital sites in Alexandria. Free. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/fortward for more

Alexandria’s Nurses and Hospitals During the Civil War. Ongoing at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. An exhibit on the life of Clarissa Jones, a nurse at The Lyceum hospital during the Civil War. The true story of a nurse in Alexandria during the war, drawing parallels with characters portrayed in the PBS drama “Mercy Street,” with references to the experiences of other nurses, such as Anne Reading, who

worked in the Mansion House hospital, and Jane Woolsey, who served at the Fairfax Seminary hospital. Admission is \$2. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/lyceum for more.

Shield of Earth: Defending the Heart of the Union exhibit. Ongoing, museum hours Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. -5 p.m., Sundays, noon-5 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum, 4301 West Braddock Road. Highlights of the exhibition include military passes issued by Provost Marshal’s Office, construction tools, and original photographs of some of Washington’s defenders. 703-746-4848 or www.fortward.org.

Who These Wounded Are: The Extraordinary Stories of the Mansion House Hospital exhibit. Ongoing, Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sundays, noon-4 p.m. at the Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. Come see the site that inspired “Mercy Street,” the new PBS’ series



PHOTOS BY LAURA MANN

inspired by real events that took place at Carlyle House. www.carlylehouse.org or call 703-549-2997

Color Disorder Exhibit. Ongoing, Thursday through Sunday, noon-4 p.m., Sundays, noon-4 p.m. at the The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. A joint exhibition of artists Katie Baines and Amy Chan who use diverse painting materials such as acrylic, gouache, airbrush and screen print to build energized abstract paintings. www.nfaa.org or 703-548-0035.

Flamenco Show. Wednesdays and Thursdays, 7:30-8:30 p.m. at La Tasca, 607 King St. Watch dancers and guitarists perform traditional flamenco. Free to attend. Call 703-299-9810 or visit www.latascausa.com.

French Movie Night. Every Thursday, 7 p.m. in the back room of Fontaine Caffe and Creperie, 119 S. Royal St. View a French film. Free, no reservation necessary. Call 703-535-8151 or visit www.fontainecaffe.com/reviews.html.

Their Fates Intertwined: The Lees of Alexandria in the War of 1812. Wednesday- Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, 1-4 p.m. Lee-Fendall House and Gardens, 614 Oronoco St. A new exhibit on the experiences of the Lee family in Alexandria during the War of 1812 examines the contributions of Alexandria’s citizens during the conflict that led to the writing of our national anthem through the lives of this iconic Virginia family. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org or call 703-548-1789.

Alexandria Cars and Coffee invites car enthusiasts to meet for coffee at Hollin Hall Shopping Center in front of Roseina’s, 1307 Shenandoah Road. Owners of classic cars, hot rods, exotic cars, motorcycles and more meet to share car stories and drink coffee. Group meets the first Sunday of every month. 8:30-11 a.m.

Fifty Years of Collecting. Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sundays 12-5 p.m. Fort Ward Museum, 4301 W. Braddock Road. An anniversary exhibit of objects from the Fort Ward collection. Free. Visit www.fortward.org or call 703-746-4848.

Dinner for the Washingtons. 12 p.m. at George Washington’s Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. A walking tour that goes behind the scenes to find out how food was prepared and served before the era of microwaves and TV dinners. \$5 in addition to estate admission. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

Second Thursday Music. Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. 7 p.m. Second Thursday of every month. Visit nvfaa.org to view concert calendar and listen to upcoming Second Thursday Music artists.

The Monday Morning Birdwalk takes place weekly, rain or shine (except during electrical storms, strong winds, or icy trails), at 7 a.m. (8 a.m. November through March), is free, requires no reservation and is open to all. Birders meet in the parking lot at the park’s entrance at 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Direct questions to park staff during normal business hours at 703-768-2525.

Civil War Sundays. 1-5 p.m. at Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 North Union St., #327. Learn more about the Civil War as it occurred in Alexandria. Find dioramas, newspaper articles and more Free. Visit www.alexandriaarchaeology.org.

Doggy Happy Hour. Starting April 5, Tuesdays through October 5-8 p.m. at Jackson 20 and Hotel Monaco



Meet the Artist

On Thursday, June 8, meet the artist Sage Chandler and models (human and feathered) at the artists reception from 6:30-8 p.m. at The Art League gallery, 105 N Union St. The FOWL MOOD Show exhibit runs through July 2. Visit theartleague.org

ENTERTAINMENT

3 Dates to Circle in June

BY HOPE NELSON

June is teeming with summertime activities for foodies of all stripes. Here are a few can't-miss events to keep your schedule (and stomach) full.

June 18: Father's Day Brunch, Blackwall Hitch, 5 Cameron St.

Celebrate dear old Dad with some of his favorite goodies overlooking Alexandria's waterfront. From 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., feast on a buffet that runs the gamut from chicken and waffles to fresh oysters and shrimp. Order up a custom omelette or take advantage of Blackwall's carving station, which features beef, ham and pork. And — why not — grab a pastry or two for the occasion as well.

The buffet price is \$39.99 per person; the tab goes down to \$14.99 for children 13 years old and younger.

June 23: Retro Night and Tap Takeover, FireFlies, 1501 Mount Vernon Ave.

Time to bust out your best gear from the '80s and '90s. Local band Cognitive Behavior will provide the tunes; you provide the festivity. Need help? FireFlies is the site of

a tap takeover that evening, as well, featuring local favorites DC Brau, Fair Winds, Heroic Aleworks, and Victory Beer.

There's no cover charge to get in — and you'll get 15 percent off your meal if you wear throwback attire.

June 24: Vine on the Waterfront

The sixth annual Vine on the Waterfront event, situated at Oronoco Bay Park for another year, offers up a wide array of wine, food and entertainment options for everyone to enjoy. Wine options range from Orange County's Horton Vineyards to Leon's Prince Michel Vineyard to cider from Winchester's Cobbler Mountain Cider. Venture over to some of the food vendors, including the Italian-food purveyor Carluccio's and all-American Mason Social, and finish up the event with a sweet treat from the likes of Alexandria Cupcake or Dolci Gelati.

The event is free to attend; tickets are required for tasting. Tickets are \$15 through June 16 and \$25 after. Check www.vineonthewaterfront.com for details.

Hope Nelson owns and operates the Kitchen Recessionista blog, located at www.kitchenrecessionista.com. Email her any time at hope@kitchenrecessionista.com.

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Summer Escape at Mount Vernon
June 9 - 10

Historic Breweries Walking Tour
June 18

Alexandria/USA Birthday Celebration
July 8

10th Annual Del Ray Music Festival
July 22

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VisitAlexandriaVA.com/Summer

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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 19

Alexandria, 480 King St. Doggy Happy Hour at Jackson 20 and the Hotel Monaco Alexandria offers specials on cocktails and beers plus treats and water for canine companions. Free, but drinks sold separately. Visit www.monaco-alexandria.com for more

Wake Up Wednesdays featuring The Pop Up Cafe. 7-9:30 a.m. on Wednesday's near the King Street Tunnel - Carlyle Entrance located near 2000 Duke Street near Motley Fool. The cafe will feature coffee, live music to help commuters start the day off right and donuts from Sugar Shack. maurisapotts@gmail.com

CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Community Dance. 7:30-9:30 p.m. every third Friday at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Live music. Tickets are \$4. Call 703-765-4573.

Life Drawing. Del Ray Artisans offers a range of open life drawing sessions for anyone to develop life-drawing skills further. Drop-in for the session and bring supplies to draw or paint live models. Fee ranges from \$8-\$12. All skill levels are welcome. Del Ray Artisans is located at 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for a schedule.

The Harmony Heritage Singers (Mount Vernon Chapter of Barbershop Harmony Society), a daytime, a cappella, Chorus, rehearses on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, monthly, at Sherwood Hall Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Newcomers welcome for fun or to book for a

performance. Visit www.HHSingers.org, or call Bruce at 703-352-5271.

MAY 31-AUG. 25

Summer Theatre Camps. Various times at the Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. Preschool-8th graders can learn acting, musical theatre, dancing, improv, Shakespeare, film making. Visit www.thelittletheatre.com or call 703-683-5778.

JUNE 26-28

Civil War Mini-Camp. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. each day at Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site, 4301 West Braddock Road. Camp participants will explore life during the Civil War through fun and educational activities such as drilling and marching, hands-on craft lessons, 19th-century games, and learning from guest reenactors. Ages 9-12. Call 703-746-4848 or visit www.fortward.org.

JULY 13-29

By the Seashore. 6-8 p.m. at The Lab at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. Produced by Arts on the Horizon. Using an imaginative mix of puppetry, movement, and sound, this sensory-filled production is specifically designed for babies and young toddlers. Visit www.artsonthehorizon.org for more.

JULY 17-21

Del Ray Artisans 2017 Summer Art Camp. All day at Del Ray Artisans gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Ages 8-14 are invited to spend one week creating art and architecture, followed by a one-day gallery show.



All art supplies and snacks are provided. Visit DelRayArtisans.org/event/Art-Camp-2017 for more.

JULY 24-28

Del Ray Artisans 2017 Summer Art Camp. All day at Del Ray Artisans gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Ages 8-14 are invited to spend one week creating art and architecture, followed by a one-day gallery show. All art supplies and snacks are provided. Visit DelRayArtisans.org/event/Art-Camp-2017 for more.

<caThursday/June 8

Artists Reception. 6:30-8 p.m. at The

Art League gallery, 105 N Union St. Meet The FOWL MOOD Show artist Sage Chandler and models (human and feathered) . Exhibit runs through July 2. Visit www.theartleague.org for more.

Meet the Author. 7-9 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Meet Vivian Thomson, former state air board member during the Alexandria, Wise and Roda issues, as she presents her new book, "Climate of Capitulation," which narrates both scientifically and politically these three cases. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Lyceum or call 703-838-4994.

United States Air Force Band. 7

Summer Sunset Movies in Mount Vernon

The Mount Vernon Rec Center at 2017 Belle View Boulevard will be the location for family-friendly movies throughout the summer. Twice a month, from 7-11 p.m., movies will start at sunset. The movie schedule is as follows:

- ❖ June 16 - "Sing"
- ❖ June 30 - "Nine Lives"
- ❖ July 14 - "The Jungle Book"
- ❖ July 28 - "Secret Life of Pets"
- ❖ Aug. 11 - "The Lego Batman Movie"
- ❖ Aug. 25 - "Beauty and the Beast"

Visit www.ZelsmanPowersGroup.com for more.

PHOTO BY MICHELLE ZELSMAN

p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. A traditional orchestra and strolling segment. Questions will be entertained by the band members at intermission. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

FRIDAY/JUNE 9

Art on the Vine. 7:30-10:30 p.m. at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Art auction and wine tasting party. \$55. Must be 21+ to attend. Call 703-683-1780 for more.

Organ Concert. 7:30 p.m. at the St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 228 South Pitt St. David H. Brock will be performing an organ concert at St.



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Alexandria
Gazette Packet

ENTERTAINMENT



Piggy Bank by Tracie Griffith

Ceramics

Ceramics Show runs July 3-30 at 105 N. Union St., ground floor Studio 19. The "Rough around the Edges" Kiln Club show. Call 703-548-6288 or visit scopegallery.org.

Green Goddess by Marsha Lederman

Paul's Episcopal Church. Visit www.stpaulsalexandria.com/news-and-events/.
Symphony Chamber Concert. 7:30 p.m. at Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. \$15, children 5 years and under are free. Visit www.alexandriava.gov for more.

SATURDAY/JUNE 10

Coffee with the Mayor. 10-11:30 a.m. at the Union Street Public House, 121 S. Union St. Join Mayor Allison Silberberg for her next monthly "Mayor on Your Corner." Casual attire. Free. Visit www.allisonsilberberg.com for more.
Civil War Camp Day. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Fort Ward, 4301 West Braddock Road. This annual living history event features military and civilian reenactors in camp settings. Suggested donation is \$2 per person or \$5 per family. The program is weather dependent. Call 703-746-4848, or visit www.fortward.org.
Old Town Arts and Crafts Festival. 10-6 p.m. at Waterfront Park, 1A Prince St. Food, beverages and snacks provided by Bunny & the Bear Food Festival; Rockland's BBQ and Grilling; Red Hook Lobster Pound; and Talk Of Di Town II. Email mbrunken@volunteeralexandria.org or call 703-836-2176 for more.

Artists Reception. 6-8 p.m. at the gallery, 5641-B General Washington Drive. The Light of Day exhibit featuring Michael Godfrey, Christine Lashley, Tricia Ratliff, Rajendra KC. Exhibit will run through July 15. Visit torpedofactory.org for more.

SUNDAY/JUNE 11

Mount Vernon Spring Art-Fest. noon-4 p.m. at the Sacramento Center, 8794 Sacramento Drive. Browse and shop for art and crafts created by local artists. Email patricia.enright@ucmagency.org for more.
Poetry in Motion. 3-4 p.m. at the Mount Vernon Community School Auditorium, 2601 Commonwealth Ave. Dancers created choreography inspired poems with their teachers. Wendi R. Kaplan (Alexandria's Poet Laureate) will be the featured reader. \$5 for ages 3-17, \$10 for adults. Visit www.localmotionproject.org for more.
Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Concert. 3-5 p.m. at George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Paul Creston's Fantasy for Trombone; Ives'

Variations on "America"; and the winner of the WMPA composition competition, Thomas Sleeper's Symphony #1. \$20; children under 18 are free. Visit www.wmpamusic.org or call 202-294-6811 for more.

Vaughn Ambrose Quartet. 4 p.m. at Meade Memorial Episcopal Church, 322 N. Alfred St. Part of the Jazz at Meade series of concerts. \$20 donation, free street parking, free intermission buffet. Call 703-549-1334 for more.

FRIDAY/JUNE 13

Civil War Nurse Descendant. 7:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon Rec Center, 2017 Belle View Blvd. Anne Reading, a descendant of a nurse portrayed on Mercy Street, will discuss her Great, Great Grandmother's book "The Journal of Anne Reading." \$10. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Lyceum for more.

JULY 13-29

By the Seashore. 6-8 p.m. at The Lab at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. Produced by Arts on the Horizon. Using an imaginative mix of puppetry, movement, and sound, this sensory-filled production is specifically designed for babies and young toddlers. Visit www.artsonthehorizon.org for more.

THURSDAY/JUNE 15

Farewell to Alexandria's 18th century Ship. 3-6 p.m. at 116 S. Quaker Lane. The ship discovered by archaeologists during construction of the Hotel Indigo begins one last voyage before returning to her final port at Texas A&M University's Conservation Research Laboratory in College Station, Texas. Free but reservations are required. Proper footwear and close-toed shoes are recommended. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov/Events.aspx for more.

FRIDAY/JUNE 16

Summer Sunset Movie Night. 7-11 p.m. at Mount Vernon Rec Center, 2017 Belle View Blvd. "Sing" is the first of a series of movies throughout the summer. Visit www.ZelsmanPowersGroup.com for more.

SATURDAY/JUNE 17

Colorful Garden Totem Workshop. 9:30 am-noon at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Horticulturist Nancy Olney guides in making a garden totem with a birdhouse topper to use as a garden feature or focal point. \$38 for the program plus \$20 supply fee. Register online for the program at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes or call 703-642-5173.

Anne Hills and Jay Ansill in Concert. 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road, Alexandria. \$15 in advance and for members, \$18 at the door. Visit <http://www.focusmusic.org/buy-tickets> to purchase.
Country-Western Dance. 7-9:30 p.m. at Lincolnia Senior Center, 4710 North Chambliss St. The Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association will hold a dance. Lessons, 6-7 p.m.; open dancing, 7-9:30 p.m. A DJ provides music. Couples and singles welcome. Admission for NVCWDA members \$10; non-members \$12; children under 18 accompanied by a paying adult \$5. Smoke-free, alcohol-free. BYO refreshments. Visit www.nvcwda.org or call 703-860-4941.

TUESDAY/JUNE 20

Sons of the American Revolution Genealogical Lecture. 1-3 p.m. at the Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Paul Welden and Dave Thomas will talk about the SAR Genealogical Research Library in Louisville, Kentucky. Free. Email publicity@mvgenealogy.org for more.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 21

Home Beautification Tips. 7-8:30 p.m. at the Mount Vernon Recreation Center 2701 Commonwealth Ave. The Alexandria Beautification Commission programs focus on ways residents can beautify their homes and neighborhoods using sustainable landscaping practices. Email AlexandriaBeautification@gmail.com
Jonathan Butler Concert. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. He'll perform his biggest hits and songs from his latest album "Free." Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

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PEOPLE

40 Under 40

Chamber recognizes Alexandria's emerging leaders.

The honorees for the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce's 2017 40 under 40 awards will be celebrated at a reception, sponsored by Potomac Conference Center, to be held July 27 at the United Way Worldwide building.

The 40 under 40 program was established

in 2016 by the chamber to recognize top men and women, age 40 and under, engaged in a variety of fields including business, technology, nonprofit management, civic life, public service, education, and the arts, who are shaping Alexandria for the future.



Andrew D. Watson

Andrew D. Watson, the recipient of the 2015 Art Education Technology Outstanding Teacher Award from the National Art Education Association, is a leading arts educator. As the fine arts instructional specialist for the Alexandria City Public Schools, he supervises the curriculum and professional development of the ACPS art, music, and theatre teachers. He regularly writes and speaks on issues involving design thinking, arts integration, and STEAM education. He is a founding member of the board of directors for the Innovation Collaborative and previously served as an advisor to the National Art Honor Society and the Smithsonian Institute's National Portrait Gallery.



David Lord

David Lord is a senior assistant commonwealth's attorney for the City of Alexandria and has been employed as a prosecutor for 11 years. Lord presently supervises the Violent Crimes/Narcotics Unit. He teaches extensively in the fields of legal ethics, white collar crime, and the prosecution of sexual offenses. He has previously worked as an adjunct professor in Appellate Writing for George Mason University's School of Law. He attends Wesley Theological Seminary during the evenings and is a member of Commonwealth Baptist Church in Alexandria. He is also the current president of the Alexandria Bar Association.



Aseel Elborno

Aseel Elborno is the executive director for MAS DC Community Center. In this capacity, she reports directly to the board of trustees and has overall strategic and operational responsibility of the chapter and the execution of its mission. She is responsible for the development and execution of MAS DC's community center programs in addition to developing and expanding its members, core staff, volunteers, and the community it serves. Elborno did her graduate studies in political communication at Johns Hopkins University and earned her BA in political science from North Carolina State University.



David Ramos

David Ramos joined BB&T Bank in 2007. His experience consists of mortgage credit underwriting, retail branch management and small business lending. Today, he is responsible for the bank's multicultural banking operations for five of the corporation's mid-Atlantic regions.

In 2016, he was appointed by Governor McAuliffe to serve on the board of commissioners of the Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA) to help Virginians attain quality, affordable housing. Ramos serves on The Chief's Council on Diversity Recruitment for Fairfax County Police Department and the board of directors of Ayuda, offering legal and social services to low-income immigrants in the Washington, D.C. community.



Bill Rausch

Bill Rausch is executive director at Got Your 6. He is a former Army major with 10 years of service including 17 months in Iraq serving under Generals Casey and Petraeus. Rausch is an active Alexandria community leader serving as chapter captain for Team RWB, member of the board of directors at Volunteer Alexandria, and recently appointed by the city manager as a board member of the Veterans Commission Advisory Group. He received his Bachelor of Science in Geospatial Information Science from the United States Military Academy, West Point, N.Y. He lives in Alexandria with his wife and son.



Elizabeth Bennett Parker

Elizabeth Bennett Parker is the co-director of Together We Bake, a nonprofit job training and personal development program for women in need of a second chance. She also serves on Alexandria's Commission on Employment. She is the founder of Fruitycycle, a social enterprise providing second chances for women who need them and for fruit that would have otherwise gone to waste. She previously served as the director of communications and outreach for the United States Healthful Food Council. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Cornell University, is a former Fulbright Fellow, and has a Master's in the anthropology of food.



Brent McKenzie

Brent McKenzie's career and public service have been dedicated to improving the lives of children. Growing up in Virginia Beach, he was one of the youngest elected officials in that city's history, winning a seat on the School Board at 30. Today, he and his wife, Anna, live in the Quaker Hill neighborhood with their daughter, Sorrell. He is the chief of staff to state Sen. Dave Marsden, where he leads efforts to improve education opportunities for all students and reform Virginia's criminal justice system. Previously, he was a high school leadership teacher and a former member of the Governor's Advisory Board on Juvenile Justice.



Erica Russell

Erica A. Russell received her B.A. in speech communications and theatre (2005) and M.A.Ed. in exercise science (2007) from Tennessee State University. She works with United Way of the National Capital Area (Washington, D.C.) as a community impact manager and as an adjunct professor in the Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Department at Northern Virginia Community College (Alexandria). She serves on the Dance Place, center of dance activity, board of directors (Washington, D.C.). Her first love for ballet developed her appreciation of the health benefits related to the fine art and sparked her commitment to promoting physical activity.



Brian Kearney

Brian Kearney is the COO of Kearney & Company, a CPA firm with over 600 employees headquartered in Alexandria. He is committed to the firm's mission of making Kearney a "Best Place to Work." As a result, Kearney is a major player in Federal financial management. He graduated from George Washington University in 2006 with an MBA. He received his BA from George Mason University. A dedicated volunteer, Kearney donates his time as a fundraiser and coach to non-profit organizations and area schools. He enjoys spending time with his wife, two daughters as well as traveling and playing golf.



Emily McMahan

Emily McMahan is the executive director of Capitol Post and Bunker Labs DC. Capitol Post is 501(c)(3) that inspires veterans and spouses to find clarity professionally to achieve fulfillment. After graduating from West Point, McMahan was commissioned as a military police officer, and her military experience includes deployments supporting Operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, and Noble Eagle. She holds an MBA from UVA's Darden School of Business and a Bachelor of Science degree from the United States Military Academy at West Point. She is an active member of the local community with her husband and three children.



Craig Fifer

Craig Fifer is the communications director for the City of Alexandria, where he has worked since 2003. He is a Court-Appointed Special Advocate for children, served on the United Way Regional Council, and volunteers in politics and his faith community. He co-chairs the Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership's regional board, served on the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council, and was president of the Virginia Coalition for Open Government. Fifer holds a bachelor's degree from Virginia Tech and a master's degree in public administration from GMU. In his free time, he is a Nationals season ticketholder and an inconsistent triathlete.



Fernando M. Torrez

Fernando Torrez is a natural born leader who honorably served in the United States Air Force. In 2003 he was awarded Supply Airman of the Year, the highest worldwide award within Air Force Space Command. Fernando founded NanoTech in 2008, a firm which provides IT services and network security while supporting small and mid-size business in the metropolitan area. He is a board member of the Alexandria Sheriff's Office's Correctional Services Advisory Board, the Government Relations Committee for the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce and also serves in the Alexandria Commission on Employment, Department of Community and Human Services & Center for Economic Support.



Crystal Nosal

Crystal Newcombe Nosal balances work in policing and crisis communication as commander of the Public Information Office for the Alexandria Police Department. She has significantly expanded the department's use of social media and online interactions with the Alexandria community. She was formerly a police officer for neighboring Arlington County, where she was a patrol officer, crime-scene investigator and a public information officer. While with Arlington, she received two valor awards and a law enforcement commendation. She graduated from Mary Baldwin College and the Virginia Women's Institute of Leadership and served on the MBC Alumni board of directors for six years.



Hope Nelson

Hope Nelson, 36, is a marketing manager at The Motley Fool. A native of Tallahassee, Fla., she earned her master's and bachelor's degrees at Florida State University. She is also the "Appetite" columnist for the Alexandria Gazette Packet and a longtime volunteer at the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. She lives in Old Town with her husband, Michael Pope, and their cats, Humboldt and Pliny.

PEOPLE: 40 UNDER 40



Ingris M. Chavez Moran

Ingris Moran born and raised in Arlandria-Chirilagua neighborhood. Her parents arrived in the late 1980s from El Salvador. She joined Tenants and Workers United youth group in high school to ensure that Alexandria City Public Schools were providing a high-quality education for youth of color. She was also involved in 2007-08 with New Virginia Majority and coordinated with teams of canvassers that encouraged local residents to vote. While in VCU she was 1 in 12 founding sisters to have created a chapter (Zata Alpha) on campus of Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority Incorporated. She currently enjoys working to organize youth in Alexandria, and continues to facilitate leadership development skills for youth of color in the city.



Jeff Swedarsky

Founder/president, largest Food Tour company in North/South/Central America, with seven-figure annual revenues. Averaging 30 percent annual growth since founding in 2008. Manages a team of 100-plus in 24 cities nationwide. Established sister companies, 4Lobe, WelcomeDMC, GimmelTravel, and Thirst to focus on events, Destination Management, International Tours and Crawls. Highlighted by local, national, and international media in tourism and entrepreneurship. Noted speaker on tourism/entrepreneurship, and arm/hand transplants. A second-term ACVA board member. Former board member, DC Event Planners Association. Former amputee and recipient of rare arm transplant, continues to work to overcome complex rehab and chronic pain, while leading and growing the FTC4Lobe Group.



Jennifer Mellon

Jennifer Mellon is the founder of Trustify, the first technology platform to connect clients and businesses across the United States to a nationwide network of highly vetted private investigators. Previously, Mellon served as executive director of Joint Council on International Children's Services based in Alexandria and program director for the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute. Trustify is the third company she founded. She is also the founder of Aqua Pure Technologies and Oh My Darling Designs. She is a graduate of Bucknell University and currently working on her MBA. She resides in Alexandria with her husband, Danny Boice and their five children.



Jesse O'Connell

Jesse O'Connell is a deputy director at Lumina Foundation, a private foundation committed to making opportunities for learning beyond high school available to all Americans. O'Connell leads work to develop and support models of postsecondary finance as well as advance federal policy to increase the attainment of high-quality credentials. Prior to joining Lumina, he served as the assistant director for federal relations at the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators. He holds a master's and bachelor's degree from Georgetown University, and was an All-American as a member of the track and field team. In addition to his professional work, he is involved in his community of Alexandria where he lives with his wife and two children.



Jessica Ruth Killeen

Jessica Ruth Killeen graduated from James Madison University, cum laude, and from the University of Maryland School of Law. Killeen is a community activist, volunteering with the Alexandria Democratic Committee, Alexandria Bar Association, Alexandria Sister Cities Committee, her church Fairlington United Methodist and as a mentor to a young girl with Space of Her Own. Killeen is a native of Alexandria, product of Alexandria City Public Schools and an attorney at Rich Rosenthal Brincefield Manitta Dzubin & Kroeger, LLP.



Jordan L. Costen

Jordan L. Costen wears several hats. The first and most prominent is as manager of a Service Delivery Management Team for NTT America. Another hat he wears is as entrepreneur and real estate investor. In 2012 he launched Alexandria City Properties, LLC which oversees the day-to-day management of condos in the Virginia and Washington, D.C. area. Lastly, he is the founding executive director of a nonprofit, Safe Space, Inc. which provides positive programming for LGBT+ youth. Costen holds a BA in TV Production from Howard University and a MA in Public Communications from American University.



Joseph J. Valenti

For over a decade, Joe Valenti has advanced the cause of economic fairness and inclusive finance. He is the director of Consumer Finance at the Center for American Progress. Prior to joining CAP in 2012, he held research and policy roles at the U.S. Treasury Department, New York City Department of Consumer Affairs, and the Aspen Institute, and was a graduate intern for the U.S. Senate Banking Committee under Chairman Christopher Dodd (D-CT). From 2012 to 2016, he served on the Alexandria Economic Opportunities Commission, including two years as chair. He holds degrees from Columbia and Georgetown universities.



Karim Guirguis

Karim Guirguis is chief strategic and innovation officer of the American Bankruptcy Institute. As the CSIO, Guirguis provides vision and leadership in transforming and conducting the company's internal and external technology and develops strategic partnerships with major firms in the insolvency industry. Guirguis's work has earned several awards from his peers, including the prestigious Horizon Award for ABI's video honoring its founders, as well as the Webby Award for his work with Tiffany Inc. and Polo.com. He is a regular presenter on cutting-edge technology issues for professional educators such as the American Society of Association Executives, where he serves on its technology board. Guirguis received his Master's from George Mason University and his B.S. from Cambridge University in England and currently is in an executive MBA program at the Harvard Business School.



Kathy Dalby

Kathy Dalby serves as CEO for Pacers Running, a specialty retail, events, and media company. Her responsibilities include: lead on strategy development and execution of high level objectives for all Pacers Running business units; serves as chief creative and marketer for branding and integrated marketing efforts; oversees business operations and administration including legal and finance; is the managing partner of Pacers Events, its race management division; and is publisher of the award-winning publication, RunWashington. Pacers Running also hosts the largest road race in the City of Alexandria, the George Washington Parkway Classic, benefiting the Boys & Girls Club. She has 20 years experience in the run specialty industry and was named to the SGB 40 under 40 in 2016.



Katie Linn Leonard

Katie Leonard, MAURP, MPH, AICP works to achieve equitable mental, physical, and social health outcomes in Alexandria. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and her Master of Arts in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Florida. She later received her Master of Public Health from the University of South Florida where she specialized in Socio-Health Sciences. She also holds a certificate in Community Real Estate Development from the University of South Florida and is a certified urban planner through the American Institute of Certified Planners.



Kelly Booz

Spanning a full career in education, Kelly Carmichael Booz currently serves as associate director for the American Federation of Teacher's ShareMyLesson.com. In the community, Booz serves as the education advisor to state Del. Mark Levine and on two community boards: Kathy Wilson Foundation and Advocates for Alexandria Aquatics. Appointed by Governor McAuliffe in 2014, she served on the Virginia Standards of Learning Innovation Committee. She was elected to the Alexandria School Board and served from 2013-2015. Working in various civic education capacities, she served as director of Civic Education at James Madison's Montpelier and as manager of Teacher Programs at Alexandria's Close Up Foundation. She has a M.Ed. from the University of Virginia a B.A. from Carleton College.



Lauren O'Brien

Lauren O'Brien is part of The O'Brien Team, which specializes in investment management, retirement planning, retirement income generation, and multi-generation legacy planning. The team has collectively over 35 years of wealth management experience and the distinguished credentials of Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor and Certified Financial Planner. O'Brien's comprehensive wealth management practice showcases her family values: doing the right thing, making a difference, serving the community and forging long-term, meaningful relationships.



Lekeisha Terrell

Dr. Lekeisha Terrell M.D., is physician passionate about adolescent healthcare. She's the medical director for Adolescent Health Services and School-Based Health Centers at Unity Health Care, serving over 100,000 patients, including 12,000 adolescents. Terrell is committed to addressing the underrepresentation of minorities in STEM professions by generating youth interest in health and STEM careers. Supporting pipeline programming and mentorship in Alexandria, she leads health career workshops, reaching over 400 youths. She currently serves as a volunteer for ASBC and director of membership for the NoVA Urban League Young Professionals Network and has been honored for her service.



Lindsey Swanson

Lindsey Swanson is a lifelong Alexandrian who helped establish her family's charity, the Kelley Cares Foundation, after her sister Kelley's tragic passing in 2006. Lindsey has served as the executive director since its founding in 2006, successfully organizing and fundraising for many projects benefiting the Therapeutic Recreation Program of Alexandria. She also serves as the vice-chair of the Miracle League of Alexandria, the volunteer chair for Art on the Avenue, was a Planning District II representative with the Alexandria Parks & Recreation Commission, and also served on the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria Gala Committee.

PEOPLE: 40 UNDER 40

Matthew Stensrud



Matthew Stensrud moved to Alexandria after receiving his music education degree with Distinguished Honors from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. He has served as general music teacher for a Title I elementary school in Fairfax County since 2010 and is joining the ACPS music team at George Mason elementary this fall. He is certified in Orff Schulwerk, is on the national Orff Editorial Board, and he provides graduate-level professional development to teachers across the country. Recently, he contributed to the book "Responsive Classroom for Music, Art, PE and Other Special Areas." As an advocate and activist, he serves as chair of Alexandria's Commission for the Arts.

Michael Detomo



Michael Detomo is a principal at Cole & Denny Architects and registered architect with 13 years of professional experience. He received his Bachelors and Masters of Architecture degrees from Virginia Tech. He is an Alexandria City Commissioner of the Arts and recently the president of the board of directors of the Torpedo Factory Art Center. As a resident of Alexandria and a member of the Del Ray Business Association, Detomo participates in community planning and policy; he is a co-author of the Waterfront Small Area Plan and a designer of the future Del Ray Splash Park & Dunning Garden.

Michelle Jorie Millben



After six years as a youth pastor in Oklahoma, Michelle Jorie Millben switched gears to enter the legal profession. After law school she served an advisor to the chairman of the U.S. House Judiciary Committee, an attorney in the U.S. Department of Justice, and most recently served in the White House as an advisor to President Barack Obama. She served on Alexandria's Redevelopment and Housing Authority Board, and remains an advocate for affordable housing. She is an associate minister at the Alfred Street Baptist Church, where she conducts a vibrant program that welcomes over 1,000 people to Alexandria every summer.

Noraine Buttar



Noraine Buttar serves as the youth development team leader within the city's Department of Community and Human Services, where she leads a team of eight individuals, to promote healthy social emotional development of children and youth through evidence-based prevention initiatives, subsequently preventing costly risk outcomes such as alcohol and drug use, pregnancy, school drop-out, smoking and violence. Outside of work, Buttar volunteers for Alexandria's Domestic Violence Program. She enjoys living, working, and volunteering in Alexandria. Buttar holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in public health from The George Washington University.

Paul Holland



Paul Holland is a senior analyst for Marstel-Day, where he provides strategic planning and analytical advisory services to federal clients on conservation and environmental security policy. A lifelong resident of Northern Virginia, he chaired the Arlington County Park and Recreation Commission from 2011-2013, where he worked closely with park leaders in Alexandria on the Four Mile Run Restoration project. In 2014, he was a candidate for the Virginia House of Delegates and was appointed by Gov. Terry McAuliffe to serve on the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin. He lives with his wife and two children in Arlington.

Peter Balas



Peter Balas earned a BA in history from Hofstra University. Balas became the principal at Mount Vernon Community School in 2012, and is now in his 15th year of service with Alexandria City Public Schools. He started his ACPS career as a ninth grade teacher at Minnie Howard School in 2001 and became an administrator at T.C. Williams High School in 2007. He has earned two MA degrees in education from George Mason University. As a transformational school leader, Balas views a collaborative school environment as the key to creating successful teachers and students. Under Balas' leadership Mount Vernon Community School improved overall operations, student achievement, and staff retention rates. In 2017 Balas was named principal at T.C. Williams High School.



Quan Leysath

As the manager of Operations Support Team at Alexandria-based National Industries for the Blind (NIB), Quan Leysath works to create and maintain employment opportunities for people who are blind by breaking down the barriers people encounter looking for employment. He graduated from Winthrop University with a bachelor's degree in business administration and worked in banking before moving to Virginia to work for NIB. He started as a price analyst and was promoted to his current managerial position. He is currently pursuing his MBA from LSU Shreveport. His wife Priscilla and daughter Helen reside with him in Manassas.



Randy Borland

Randy Borland is an IT professional leader with 20-years experience mentoring personnel, managing resources, knowledgeable in information technology policy and other telecommunications matters related to cybersecurity, national security, and homeland security matters. Senior technical expert in communications security, records management, security planning and evaluation, and incident detection, reporting and evaluation. Enjoys inspiring others, and coaching them towards achieving their personal goals and their organization's objectives. Awarded the 2017 Copernicus Award by AFCEA and the U.S. Naval Institute for specific and demonstrable contributions to the advancement of communications security. Serves on ACPS Career and Technical Education Advisory Committee.



Ryan Michael Hayes

Ryan Michael Hayes has endeavored to be a leader in every aspect of his professional, personal, cultural, and philanthropic life. He is a leading event and wedding planner for corporations, non-profits, cultural institutions, and personal social events. He is an unrepentant cultural evangelist; volunteering with local arts organizations in musical theater, dance, Shakespeare, and visual art. He also serves as executive producer for the Chance for Life Foundation's annual benefit for childhood cancer research. Hayes is a proud graduate of American University and currently serves as director of Strategic Partnerships and Event Management at RedPeg Marketing in Alexandria.



Sean Kumar

Sean Sullivan Kumar was born in Alexandria, living in Del Ray until joining the Army JAG Corps in 2010. He graduated from T.C. Williams, UVA, and Richmond Law. Before joining the Army he practiced law, volunteered as a voter protection attorney, advisor/treasurer for Mayor Euille, served on the DASH board of directors, and chaired the Alexandria Transportation Commission. He worked as a prosecutor and operational law attorney serving in Korea, Kosovo, and Afghanistan. He is the JAG for the Old Guard and will begin his MBA at UVA this summer. He is on the BZA and NOVA Parks Board.



Shanyn Ronis

Shanyn Ronis is the founder and executive director of the Education Global Access Program (E-Gap). She is a member of the Forbes 30 Under 30 Class of 2017, a finalist for the Forbes \$1 Million Change the World Award, and winner of the 2015 \$50,000 Gifted Citizen Award for her work in international education. Her works are published in the Huffington Post, Devex, and the World Post. An anthropologist by training, she holds a Master's Degree in Social Sciences from the University of Chicago. Ronis is fluent in German and Spanish.



Thomas Park

Tommy Park was hired as Alexandria Soccer Association's executive director in 2011 as their first ever full time employee. Alongside the board of directors he developed a new vision for better supporting the community pulling from his experiences at nationally recognized DeMatha H.S. and D.C. United. In the Georgetown University Sports Industry Management program he learned best practices across all business focus areas that guided his strategic plan for ASA. Since 2011, ASA has doubled in capacity now serving over 4,000 youths year round with over 500 volunteers, a full time staff of 10 and 50 part-time staff coaches.



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Dueling Panels

FROM PAGE 1

things about Old Town that attracted my partner and me to move our business here 20 years ago have deteriorated. Old Town has not kept up with changes. I'm in favor of preserving Old Town architecture and culture, but there's going to be change. Change for better or worse? An Old Town BID makes sure change is for better."

The opposition to the BID was more divided. Some, like Bloomers owner Kim Putens, said she was not opposed to the idea of a BID but that this proposal had fundamental flaws that needed to be revisited back at the drawing board. Putens said the proposed voting structure, which would give retail owners one vote and property owners one vote per million dollars of assessed value, would allow powerful property owners along the waterfront the influence to drown out retail owners. While some were concerned about the failure of the BID, Old Town Civic Association representative Bert Ely was more concerned about its success. While residents within the BID's area are not taxed, Ely said that could easily be changed by future councils once business realizes that residents are also benefiting from services like park activation and streetscape improvements. Ely also worried that a successful BID would bring in more tourists, which in turn would exacerbate Old Town's parking woes. Feedback provided by the City Council indicated that they shared many of the same concerns about the BID.

"Earlier I said I was for the BID because it would be easier to work with," said Councilwoman Redella

"Del" Pepper. "I have to say, I'm not so sure now. My emails are saying [people] are not worried about structure or boundaries, which incidentally are truly weird, or who is on the board or how many people are on the board or what issues it's actually going to solve other than the general statement 'fill in gap.' They want to know about the bit in our ordinance about the assessment ... what is perceived as a tax in addition to the real estate tax."

"I was supportive of this process moving forward," said Councilman Paul Smedberg. "I don't know what to believe anymore. When I saw initial proposal, I was concerned about the size. This is really five distinct areas ... all with different wants and needs. I'm not sure at this point what is the main goal." Smedberg said that in all of the discussions surrounding the BID, he had never received a solid answer on what the BID was going to do. Those in favor of the BID argued that the exploratory committee had been designed to leave the specific details of the BID operations to the next phases of the plan, but that defense did not sit well with members of the opposition.

"You are asking businesses to be investors in this BID situation," said Putens. "If I went into bank and said I want to do a business, I need to have a plan; an exact plan. There isn't a plan. It lacks a lot of details. There are no details about how money spent and what we're doing with it. You are asking us to invest in this organization, and I want to see more details."

The first stage of the BID process is scheduled for a vote by City Council later in June.

A Neighborhood Institution

FROM PAGE 6

do. And I have a couple of busboys who have worked here since the '80s. They still work the same schedule."

Lamond says the customer favorite is definitely the burger, and the crab cakes and ribs are huge crowd favorites. While he loves the burgers, too, "I eat here 6-10 times a week so I go healthy — the Greek salad with blackened salmon."

He continues the rounds walking up the wooden railed stairs to the upstairs bar. Lamond says they mostly don't serve "fru fru" cocktails. "We're really a beer bar." He runs into two women regulars. "How you doing? Haven't seen you for a while." A conversation unwinds about beer. "Would you drink gluten-free beer if I sold it?"

Two heads nodded yes. Then they agree anything Belgium is good.

He heads for the kitchen and runs into Dannie loaded with two plates headed for the upstairs customers. "Dannie has been here for an eternity. His son just earned a 4.63 GPA. I hope my sons do that when they grow up." Lamond says the only thing about the job he doesn't like is when he sees a server skipping steps and he has to let him know.

"We've been an institution since the '90s. We're a consistent neighborhood place, not frilly." He says, "We can be having a birthday party for a 4-year old while the bar is noisy or grandma and grandpa can be eating during a rowdy happy hour. We're all things to all people."

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Three Republicans Running for Governor Offer Dueling Tax Plans

FROM PAGE 3

REPUBLICANS USUALLY run on cutting taxes. And although Gillespie has a moderate plan for cutting taxes, another candidate in the race has an extreme proposal, one that some Republicans are calling unworkable.

Prince William County Board of Supervisors Chairman Corey Stewart wants to eliminate the income tax.

“Virginia hasn’t had a significant surplus in revenues, unanticipated unaccounted for revenues, in 10 years,” said Stewart during the televised debate. “Ed’s plan is completely dependent on that. It hasn’t happened. It’s a charade.”

Stewart’s solution? Ask state departments to identify how they would slash their budgets 30 percent, and then use those cuts as

Top Gillespie Donors

- ❖ \$1.5 million from Let’s Grow Virginia, a Henrico-based PAC, funded in part by Hilton Worldwide and Carly Fiorina’s super PAC
- ❖ \$100,000 from Dwight Schar, a McLean-based homebuilder with NVR Homes
- ❖ \$50,000 from Florida-based private prison company GEO Group, which operates Lawrenceville Correctional Center, Virginia’s only private prison
- ❖ \$50,000 from Edward St. John of the Maryland-based commercial real-estate agency St. John Properties Inc.
- ❖ \$40,000 from Richard DeVos of the Michigan-based investment management firm Windquest Group (husband of Education Secretary Betsy DeVos)

a menu to reduce spending.

“My tax plan is dependent on a cut in spending,” he said. “We are going to reduce the rate from 5.75 percent to 4.75 percent in a single year.”

Top Wagner Donors

- ❖ \$205,000 from Wagner’s Senate campaign committee, funded in part by the Virginia Senate Republican Caucus and the Republican Party of Virginia
- ❖ \$23,000 from William Magann of the Portsmouth-based concrete contractor W.F. Magann Corp
- ❖ \$10,000 from Stephen Ballard of the Virginia Beach-based general contractor S.B. Ballard Inc
- ❖ \$10,000 from Kenneth Allen Hall of the Virginia Beach-based Hall Pontiac GMC
- ❖ \$10,000 from Virginia Beach-based commercial real estate firm Pembroke Enterprises

Within a decade, Stewart says, the income tax would be eliminated altogether.

“That’s wishful thinking,” said Republican strategist Dan Scandling. “That’s not going to happen because what are you go-

Top Stewart Donors

- ❖ \$429,000 from Stewart’s Prince William County committee, funded in part by the Republican Party of Virginia and the Republican Party of Prince William County
- ❖ \$35,000 from Christopher Ekstrom of the Texas-based private equity firm Ekstrom Properties LLC
- ❖ \$30,000 from Manassas-based information technology company Progeny Systems Corp
- ❖ \$20,500 from Charles Robbins of the Newington-based home health care company CR Associates
- ❖ \$10,000 from Ahmet Aksoylu, an Oakton-based Realtor with Aksoylu Properties

ing to replace it with? Are you going to do something on property taxes and push it all onto the localities? I don’t think that’s going to go over very well.”

Democratic Candidates for Governor Run to the Left

FROM PAGE 3

Virginia. Despite being asked multiple times on the campaign trail, the lieutenant governor has yet to take a stand one way or the other. Northam says the multibillion projects could create jobs and boost the economy.

“Obviously we want the pipeline

to be built with science and transparency,” Northam said during the first debate in April. “We also need jobs in the commonwealth of Virginia.”

Perriello has made his opposition to pipelines a centerpiece of his campaign, and he’s pledged to reject campaign contributions

from the utility. Perriello says all that money Dominion plans to spend on the two pipelines in Virginia could be put to better use.

“I’ve opposed these two pipelines,” he said during that first debate. “I believe for a fraction of that \$6.7 billion, we could put tens of thousands more people to work

on clean energy, energy efficiency, localizing food production and other measures.”

The debate over guns has also been a sticking point in the Democratic primary. On the campaign trail, Northam has criticized Perriello for changing his position on the National Rifle Association, a group that once endorsed his campaign for Congress. During one of the televised debates this year, Northam turned to Perriello and reminded voters that he has received support from the NRA during a time when concerns were mounting over gun control in America.

“That was since 2010,” said Northam. “You served in Congress from 2008 to 2010. That was after the Virginia Tech tragedy. What has changed about the National Rifle Association between 2010 and 2017?”

Perriello responded that times have changed. “Well, you know, you and I have both have all done guns. You know that. You were a deciding vote after Virginia Tech on something that prevented Fairfax and other communities from being able to demand fingerprinting on concealed carry permits. That was a deciding vote. There was never a moment where I was a deciding vote for the NRA.”

Both of the candidates support free community college for Virginia students, although they differ on how to finance it. Northam says no tax increase would be needed to finance his plan; students would engage in public service to pay for free community college in high-demand areas.

“If they become certified in one of these areas, then they will give one year back in public service at which time they will get paid,” said

Top Northam Donors

- ❖ \$200,000 from venture capitalist Michael Bills of Bluestem Asset Management LLC
- ❖ \$110,000 from Henrico-based Common Good VA, a committee set up by Gov. Terry McAuliffe in March 2014 to raise political donations during his time as governor
- ❖ \$77,000 from Thomas DePasquale of the software company Outtask LLC
- ❖ \$52,500 from Conrad Hall, retired president and CEO of Norfolk-based Dominion Enterprises
- ❖ \$50,000 from Washington-based DGA Action, a super PAC funded by Democratic Governor’s Association

Top Perriello Donors

- ❖ \$500,000 from Sonjia Smith, Charlottesville philanthropist
- ❖ \$250,000 from George Soros of New York-based Soros Fund Management LLC
- ❖ \$230,000 from the New York-based activist network Avaaz Foundation
- ❖ \$125,000 from Alexander Soros, New York executive and philanthropist (son of George Soros)
- ❖ \$75,000 from Courtney Smith, financial advisor with New York-based East Rock Capital

Northam. “So it’s not like they’re out there working for free.”

Perriello says a tax increase will be needed, especially for those making more than half a million dollars a year. He says that would allow people who attend free community college to have the dignity to come home at night and tuck their children into bed.

“We don’t need people giving back in service,” said Perriello. “We have a private sector with jobs ready to hire people if we help them just a little bit to get that certificate and have the dignity of the kind of job they can support a family with.”



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Alexandria Gazette Packet

Another Community Partnership

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 15

defensible right to reform, alter or abolish it, in such manner as shall be judged most conducive to the public weal.” (This statement justifies revolution!)

Mason also noted the responsibilities of the people in Article 15 – “... firm adherence to justice, moderation, temperance, frugality, and virtue (willingness to put the general interest before one’s own) and by frequent recurrence to fundamental principles.”

Mason’s Declaration was our first founding document to call for recognition of individual liberties like freedom of religion and of the press and other now familiar rights.

Ellen Latane Tabb
Alexandria

Clear Choice

To the Editor:

As Virginia’s June 13 primary approaches, the choice for the Republican nominee is clear: Ed Gillespie. Ed knows what Virginia needs to start growing again, putting forward policies to cut Virginians’ taxes, restore faith in our government, improve how our state government operates, boost job creation, and support small businesses.

Ed understands the challenges in running a small business. He began his career working in the Senate as a parking attendant, working his way to becoming a counselor to President George W. Bush, and then built up his own small businesses.

As Ed knows, supporting small business and reducing barriers for success, is the way to drive the economy. His plan of action will ensure Virginia’s small business community, the engine which moves our economy forward, will succeed and benefit us all.

Through his experiences, he is ready to be an effective Governor.

Shari Simmans
Alexandria

Experience Matters

To the Editor:

I am a native Alexandrian. I care about Virginia and the upcoming Governor’s primary on June 13 and believe it is more important than ever, to have someone with experience in Richmond, in that job.

I think we as Alexandrians understand just how important having Terry McAuliffe in the governor’s mansion has been these past three and a half years.

Unemployment across the Com

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 30

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I Hope I'm Right



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Having been a cancer "diagnosee" now for eight years and exactly three months — as I sit and type on May 27, 2017, a lifetime considering the original "13 month to two-year" prognosis I was given on February 27, 2009, I have learned much about cancer that I didn't know. In fact, I've learned everything about cancer I know now because previously I knew nothing. Growing up I heard/experienced very little about cancer. My parents were healthy as was my immediate family (aunts, uncles, cousins).

And even though I spent many Sundays with my parents visiting my grandparents in nursing homes, the diseases/afflictions I remember hearing most about were diabetes, Parkinson's, Leukemia and high cholesterol. Never cancer or any condition that I associated with cancer. I realize now how lucky we all were. I wouldn't say I took good health for granted, but I might have taken it as a given. Not any more.

Everyday I wake up, as my father used to say, is a good day; and ever since I was diagnosed in early 2009, most days — all things considered, and I do consider all things, have been good days. I have been extraordinarily fortunate in how my body and mind has reacted to being diagnosed with a "terminal" disease: non-small cell lung cancer, stage IV. Rarely have I ever gone one step forward and then two steps backward.

Oh sure, the early hairless days of heavy-duty chemotherapy (infused for six hours every three weeks) were challenging, but it was a process I had to endure — so far as I knew (I know a bit more now and there are many more choices/protocols than ever before).

It reminds me of a long-ago M*A*S*H episode in which "Hawkeye" met a South Korean woman after she drove — a Cadillac — into the 4077th. She needed medical help for her family. Col. Potter ordered "Hawkeye" to return with the woman back to her home.

Begrudgingly he went along, mistakenly thinking she felt a sense of entitlement. After a short time treating her family he learned how wrong he had been. Later that day, "Hawkeye" saw the woman walking up a nearby trail carrying buckets of water on a pole. When he asked her why she was doing that (getting the water that way, from wherever); she replied:

"Because that's where the water is." It struck him — and apparently — it struck me, too. As a cancer patient/survivor, that has always been my approach/attitude. "Next man up," a common sports refrain; no excuses, keep moving forward.

Over the years, I have met many cancer patients; at the Infusion Center, at conferences, at work and at play. And I may be biased (no 'maybes' about it), but I have to say, we're a fairly hearty and resilient bunch. Getting diagnosed with a terminal disease — frequently out of the blue, is not exactly the stuff of which dreams are made. Quite the contrary.

Nevertheless, many of the cancer patients I've met seemed to have faced their demons and are standing tall against the worst kind of adversity. Bette Davis is often credited with the quote: "Old age is not for sissies." Well, neither is cancer. It seems to be for everybody, everywhere. Unfortunately, cancer is an indiscriminate, equal opportunity destroyer; all ages, all races, all ethnic groups, all populations.

According to "Medical News Today," "One in two people will develop cancer in their lifetimes." So getting cancer is either a matter of time, inevitable or a random-type miracle if it doesn't affect you. For many of us who've been affected already, we've come to learn that cancer isn't the automatic death sentence it used to be, especially for us lung cancer patients. The research dollars and enthusiasm going into defeating this scourge are at their most significant in decades, perhaps ever.

Now is not the time to give up hope. It's time to embrace it.

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

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 29

monwealth has dropped from 5.4 to 3.8 percent. 190,000 new jobs were brought here to Virginia, along with \$15 billion in new capital investment.

Governor McAuliffe has also acted as a vital check on our too-radical General Assembly. The governor has vetoed 111 bills, more than any other Virginia governor in history, which would have discriminated against LGBT Virginians and limited women's access to health care, dragging us back to the Virginia of the past.

And the one who's been there with Governor McAuliffe every step of that way — Lieutenant Governor Ralph Northam — is the one who deserves our vote in the Democratic primary on June 13.

Ralph Northam has the experience, the service record, and the ideas to lead Virginia through these challenging times.

Ralph Northam has been on the ballot and has won in a statewide election previously. I hope you'll join me in supporting Ralph at the polls on June 13 help him win again.

Lucelle O'Flaherty
Alexandria

Local Connection

To the Editor:

We are writing to express our enthusiastic support for Ralph Northam as the next Governor of Virginia.

We believe he is uniquely qualified to be the next governor: As a veteran, pediatric neurologist, state senator and Lt. governor, he is well prepared to take the Oath of Office and step directly into the job.

Furthermore, there may be some further influence for the City of Alexandria. A son of Alexandria and a 1998 graduate of T.C. Williams, Clark S. Mercer, is his current chief of staff. Wouldn't it be great for our fair city if Clark becomes chief of staff for the next governor?

It seems to us that if you are seeking a reason to vote for one Democratic candidate over the other, this local connection to Alexandria is another strong reason to support Ralph Northam on June 13.

Charles W. Linderman
and Wilma Hazen
Alexandria

Man of Conviction

To the Editor:

Lt. Governor Ralph Northam, a pediatric neurologist, stood up to the Virginia GOP and their absurd attempt to force invasive vaginal ultrasounds on women. Ralph Northam has been a stalwart supporter of women's reproductive freedom and common sense gun legislation. We've never had reason to doubt his commitment and convictions. In his decade of service as a state senator and now lieutenant governor, Dr. Northam has also made extra effort to assist Democrats across Virginia in their election efforts. Ralph Northam has been dedicated to Virginia his entire life, as a statesman, a veteran, and a surgeon. Ralph Northam has earned the vote of every Virginia Democrat.

Gail Gordon Donegan
Alexandria

5

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NEW PRICE with gorgeous panoramic Potomac River views! Compact enough for easy living yet airy enough to entertain, work from home, or just relax. 1 bedroom and 1.5 baths plus a den/office space. thegoodhartgroup.com/listings/1250-s-washington-street-415/
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www.TheGoodhartGroup.com



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In Belle Haven - remarkable high end renovation with custom built-ins throughout; salt water heated pool; 4 bedrooms and 4 baths; Butler's pantry; main level master suite; chef's kitchen; 4,000+ sq ft of curated refinement. 2200 Windsor Rd.
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Brand new home built on large private lot in Braddock Heights. Quality materials and craftsmanship in this 5 bedroom, 4 full and 2 half bath colonial with attached two car garage. Master suite with dual baths, sitting room and fireplace. 2436 Ridge Road Dr.
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www.SarahEKing.com



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Breathtaking waterfront views from every level. This Fords Landing townhouse offers 3 bedrooms, 3.55 baths with a spacious patio & garden. Distinctive architectural details include hardwood floors, 4 fireplaces, chef's kitchen and a luxurious master suite. Attached 2-car garage.
Babs Beckwith 703.627.5421
www.BabsBeckwith.com



Alexandria \$1,825,000

Stunning home located on a quiet street in a serene and private setting among lush landscaping. Six large bedrooms, gourmet kitchen, custom built-ins and a beautiful sunroom. 415 E Timber Branch Pkwy
Lauren Bishop 202.361.5079
www.LaurenBishopHomes.com

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Alexandria \$799,000

Don't miss the opportunity to see this fabulous 4-bedroom, 3.5-bath Colonial offering 2 fireplaces, walk-out lower level, beautiful wood floors, breakfast bar, updated baths and kitchen, freshly painted throughout. Private deck, patio and play space. 2008 Scroggins Road
Betty Mallon 703.989.8548
www.BettyMallon.com

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Old Town \$992,500

Ice Cream Social. Beat the Heat with your favorite flavor while touring this lovely 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath townhome. Located in a beautiful courtyard just steps from community pool & fitness center. Updated eat-in kitchen, gorgeous renovated master bath, family/theater room, deck & two car garage. 1228 Roundhouse Ln.

Lisa Groover 703.919.4426
www.LisaGroover.com



Alexandria \$650,000

Extraordinary town home with so many updates. New carpet, beautiful finished in-place hardwood floors. Kitchen features stainless steel appliances, granite counters & a large center island. Master suite with 2 walk-closets & master bath with 2 vanities, a separate water closet, walk-in shower & jetted tub. 5704 Governors Pond Cir.

Bob Bazzle 703.599.8964
www.BobBazzle.com



Alexandria \$600,000

Dramatic floor plan with sunken living room & floor to ceiling Palladian windows with French doors opening to a spacious deck. Kitchen with granite counters & hardwood floors that extend to the adjacent family room & dining room. 5753 Governors Pond Cir.

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