

Alexandria Gazette Packet



25 CENTS

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JUNE 29, 2023



Jeanne Warner, holding scissors, cuts the ribbon to formally dedicate the Senator John Warner Maritime Heritage center June 22 at Waterfront Park.



Jeanne Warner, center, is joined by former Secretary of the Navy Richard J. Danzig and John Warner's daughter Mary Conover at the June 22 dedication of the Senator John Warner Maritime Heritage Center.



Reenactors of the Continental Navy of 1776 aboard the Tall Ship Providence at the June 22 dedication of the Senator John Warner Maritime Heritage Center at Waterfront Park.



Teva O'Brien Warner, Mary Warner Conover and John Warner IV attend the dedication of the Senator John Warner Maritime Heritage Center June 22 at the Alexandria waterfront.

Anchors Aweigh

John Warner honored with Maritime Center dedication.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

The Senator John Warner Maritime Heritage Center was formally dedicated June 22 with friends, family members and dignitaries in attendance to pay tribute to the former Secretary of the Navy and longtime Alexandria resident.

"John was a Navy sailor, a Marine, Secretary of the Navy, and a beloved son of Virginia and Alexandria," said Scott Shaw, president of The Tall Ship Providence Foundation. "It was an easy decision to name this center after him and we are honored that he and Jeanne chose to work with us."

Warner, who died in 2021 at the age of 94, served three decades as a U.S. senator from Virginia. His widow Jeanne, daughter Mary Warner Conover and son John Warner IV were in attendance at

the dedication.

"More than 100 of John's former staffers are here today," said Jeanne Warner. "This is such a great tribute to him. John had a great bond with Alexandria. He loved living here and would be thrilled to be here today."

Among the dignitaries in attendance was former Secretary of the Navy Richard J. Danzig.

"There are so many things to

"We found a perfect namesake for this center in John Warner."
— Mayor Justin Wilson

celebrate in John Warner," Danzig said. "His uniqueness in having served as a 17-year-old young sailor, then after college serving as a Marine, then to go on later in life to such remarkable accomplishments – including as Secretary of the Navy and U.S. senator for three decades. This is an amazing combination of things."

Danzig continued, "John always valued his early experiences, his small, lesser status start for him with his days in uniform. With John, I came to see that it isn't the qualities of achievement that matter for statesmen and stateswomen, it's qualities of character and his character always shone through."

Located at Waterfront Park, the center is the new permanent home for the Tall Ship Providence, which formally opened to public tours earlier this month.

Shaw founded the Tall Ship Providence Foundation in 2017 when the ship was acquired, restored and brought to Alexandria.

Built in 1976, Providence is a replica of the first naval warship commissioned by the Continental Congress in 1775. The original builder of the replica, John Millar, was in attendance at the dedica-

SEE JOHN WARNER, PAGE 7

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

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Home of the Brave

“Flags For Heroes” on display at Cedar Knoll.

By JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

The strains of a lone trumpeter filled the air as hundreds of American flags stood overlooking the Potomac River as part of the 6th annual Flags for Heroes opening ceremony June 25 on the grounds of Cedar Knoll Restaurant.

Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Alexandria, the Flags for Heroes project provides community members an opportunity to dedicate a flag to honor a hero in their life. A card attached to each flag bears the name of the hero – a friend, family member, veteran, healthcare worker, first responder or other hero -- along with the name of the individual sponsor.

“The Flags for Heroes project recognizes those individuals who have made a difference; teachers, mentors, parents, first responders and members of the military service who continue to defend our rights as citizens,” said Rotarian and organizer Sharon Meisel. “We do not take their service for granted.”

More than 300 flags were unfurled at 6 a.m. the previous day to set up the display, which will remain in place through July 8.

This year’s Flags for Heroes program raised in excess of \$30,000 which will benefit Alexandria Rotary Club community projects and provide direct financial support to more than 40 local charities and nonprofits. www.alexandriarotary.org



Paul Johnson performs Taps to close the opening day ceremony of the Flags for Heroes program June 25 at Cedar Knoll Restaurant. The flags will be on display through July 8.

“The Flags for Heroes project recognizes those individuals who have made a difference.”

— Project organizer Sharon Meisel



Alexandria Rotary Club president Bob McClure, second from left, stands with past presidents Mike Wicks, John Moorman and Sharon Meisel at the opening ceremony of Flags for Heroes June 25 at Cedar Knoll Restaurant.



Edward Mitchell stands among the Flags for Heroes display June 25 at Cedar Knoll Restaurant.



PHOTO BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

Service Above Self

The Rotary Club of Alexandria held its annual Contributions Day June 20, presenting 26 area nonprofits with grants to advance literacy for children and adults and/or improve the lives of children, youth, seniors, and others with special needs within the city of Alexandria. Pictured are representatives of some of the organizations at the event at Belle Haven Country Club. www.alexandriarotary.org

Juneteenth

City commemorates the end of slavery.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Hundreds gathered in Market Square June 19 as the city marked the end of slavery in the U.S. with a Juneteenth musical celebration featuring the Jubilee Voices of the Washington Revels.

“We have been collaborating with the Washington Revels Jubilee Voices for over four years,” said Audrey Davis, Director of the African American History Division of the Office of Historic Alexandria. “They do traditional African American mu-

“We want people to know and really understand that Juneteenth is an important thing to celebrate.”

— Tamara Williams, Washington Revels Executive Director

sic and the concert is the conclusion to our Juneteenth celebration.”

Juneteenth, an abbreviation of “June Nineteenth,” marks the day when federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, in 1865 to take control of the state and ensure that all enslaved people be freed. Juneteenth, which honors the end of slavery in the United States, officially became a federal holiday in 2021.

Other Juneteenth events included a community cleanup of the Frederick Douglass Memorial and Penny Hill Cemeteries. Established in 1895 as a non-denominational African American cemetery, the Fred-



PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

The Juneteenth flag, second from left, flies in Market Square as part of the city’s Juneteenth celebration program.

erick Douglass Memorial Cemetery is the final resting place for 2,256 people and the largest African American Cemetery in Alexandria.

At the Black History Museum, the Storytelling for Young Historians event featured Lillian Patterson, a Living Legend of Alex-

andria and descendant of slaves. Patterson read to children then led a Juneteenth craft project.

Said Washington Revels Executive Director Tamara Williams, “We want people to know and really understand that Juneteenth is an important thing to celebrate.”



Susan and Elan Medina attend the Juneteenth celebration June 19 in Market Square.



Lillian Patterson, center, gathers with some of the attendees at the Black History Museum storytelling and craft Juneteenth celebration. Patterson, a descendant of slaves, was the guest host of the event.



The Washington Revels Jubilee Voices perform traditional African American music as part of the Juneteenth celebration June 19 in Market Square.

Warner Visits Neighborhood Health

Roundtable focuses on community health services.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Senator Mark Warner (D-VA) was on hand for a roundtable discussion on community health care during a visit to Alexandria’s Neighborhood Health facility June 16 at the Del Pepper Community Resource Center.

Warner met with Neighbor-

hood Health leadership and staff to learn more about the needs of community health centers that are a critical part of the healthcare safety net.

“With the public health emergency expiring, much of our funding will come to an end and a lot of people will lose Medicaid coverage as well,” said Dr. Basim Khan, CEO of Neighborhood Health. “In this situation we really hope the Sena-

tor can advocate for more community health center funding so we are able to continue our mission.”

In addition to the discussion officials toured the new clinic and facility that houses several com-

SEE WARNER VISITS, PAGE 5

Neighborhood Health board members Nora Partlow and Paola Navarro with a display of information on community health.

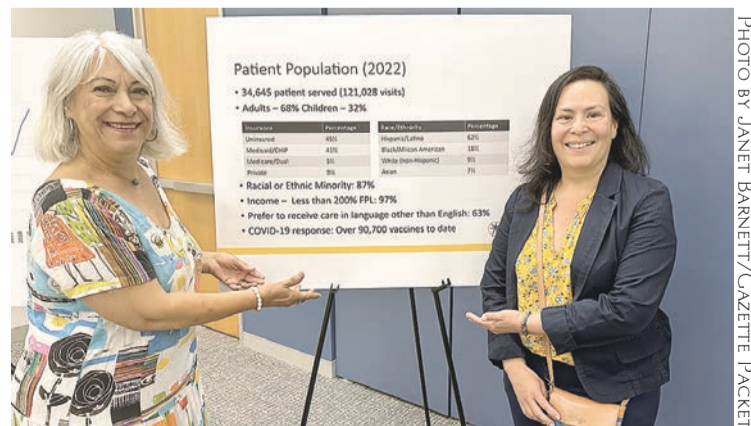


PHOTO BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

PHOTO BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET



U.S. Sen. Mark Warner joins city officials and board members of Neighborhood Health at a roundtable discussion on community health June 16 at the Del Pepper Community Resource Center.

Warner Visits Neighborhood Health

FROM PAGE 4
community health partners.

“This is an incredible opportunity for us – to focus the resources that families need in a central location,” said Kate Garvey, Director of the Department of Community and Human Resources. “Whether trying to achieve health goals or deal with a major crisis we really have a majority of the services needed here to be more effective and to coordinate care.”

Warner listened as health care leaders discussed the crucial need for continued community support.

“There are so many patients in Northern Virginia who depend on us for their health care when often there is no other place to

turn,” Khan said. “We serve about 35,000 people with about half of them uninsured. During the pandemic our patient population has grown but so have our expenses so continued funding is crucial.”

In closing the discussion, Warner noted that mental health issues, particularly post-COVID, will continue to be a focus of health care.

“I don’t know any family in America, including my own, that hasn’t coped with mental health issues and that need is only going to go up,” Warner said. “I will continue to try to be an advocate, continue to try to be a partner for the health of the community.”

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It Takes a Village Cultivating friends to maintain independence.

BY DEBORAH T
OMPkins JOHNSON
SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE PACKET

When we talk about aging, a question that comes up quickly is, “Will I have to move from my home?” I suggest we re-phrase our questions to ask not whether we need to move but rather, “How long can I stay in my home? ... What do I have to do to stay comfortably in my home?”

“Somewhere between 70 and 90 percent of Americans say they want to stay put as they grow older,” says Steve Gurney, founder of The Positive Aging Community. “They want to age in place right where they are.”

If we or our loved ones are in good to fair health, staying in our homes longer or even forever is possible. But the time to prepare is now.

Simple but important tasks that we might need help with can be planned for now, to help us extend our stays in our own homes and can make that stay in our home more comfortable, predictable — and affordable.

At any point in time any of us might find ourselves in a situation

where we need help with transportation, meal support or grocery shopping. Who will take care of the lawn, make sure the car gets washed, do minor home repairs, or fix those all-important computers or phones when they act up? Suppose your faucet or commode has a slow drip or a light switch just stops working? The cost of these fixes can add up if a professional must be called each time.

However, what we can do instead is create our own network or participate in building a village of people who can mutually help each other.

“To begin, write down a list of your contacts,” says Gurney. “Think of what roles these people can play.”

Identify your weaknesses and strengthen those relationships that can help you in those areas. And perhaps make a list or mental note of ways you can help others.

“Once you have a friend, family, or faith-based support network,

Steve Gurney, Founder/Director of Positive Aging Community, talks with the Northern Virginia Senior Resource Network about trends and resources for older adults.



then all you have to do is supplement that with or plug in paid providers — as necessary,” Gurney adds. “The secret to affordability is cultivating relationships and having conversations now so that if something happens, you will have some support that you do not have to write a check for. When you find holes in your support network, that is where you can plug in the paid providers.”

This type of planning is growing among a group of older adults referred to as solo agers. The solo aging classification is broader than what you might think. It does comprise single people, widows and widowers, but it also includes couples, some with children, who are smart enough to know they too, need to plan ahead.

So, regardless of your family status, expanding your social network and building your village could be beneficial both socially and practically. You can read more about solo aging and building your own networks at these links: Aging Alone: How to Build a Community to Rely On (aarp.org), and Understanding Solo Aging - Senior Living Member Article By Positive Aging Community (retirementlivingsourcebook.com).

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Antisemitism on the Rise

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
GAZETTE PACKET

A police car sits outside the Agudas Achim Congregation in Alexandria on Sunday, June 25 offering protection during their event “Antisemitism on the Rise. What Are We Doing About It?”

Judith Fogel, Sisterhood Programming VP and chair of this event, says the congregation used to have security services for the holidays but after the mass shooting at the Pittsburgh synagogue in October, 2018, they have security services every week.

The idea for this topic was spurred by the disturbing uptick in violence against Jews in the United States. From 2021-2022 in Virginia there was a greater than 70 percent increase in antisemitic incidents. “It’s the worst it’s been since the Holocaust.” Fogel is particularly sensitive to this because both of her parents were survivors of Nazi death camps — “the worst trauma of mankind.”

Fogel says there has been an erosion of the generations. “Right after the Holocaust there was some

protection but that generation is dying out. There is an uptick in Germany, too ... In addition, social media makes the spread of Semitic comments easy.”

The Sunday program featured Vicki Fishman and Guila Franklin Siegel of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington (JCRC) and Rabbi Eric Fusfield, Legislative Director for B’nai Brith International and a member of the Virginia Governor’s Commission to Combat Antisemitism. Fishman is a member the task force on antisemitism created by Attorney General Jason Miyares.

Fusfield focused on the International angle. “It is coming from both the right and the left.”

Siegel discussed her work to sensitize schools to antisemitism — who Jews are and how they have contributed. “We’re more than just a religion; we’re a civilization,” Fogel says. Siegel also works to establish school based programs to help Jewish youth feel safe in the schools and works with the superintendents to make them aware of what is being experienced by Jewish students in schools.

Siegel was a strong advocate at



From left: Rabbi Eric Fusfield; Judith Fogel, Vicki Fishman and Guila Franklin Siegel.

the state level for adoption of an official definition of antisemitism. Virginia’s Jewish communities issued a statement when the bill was signed on May 8, “With today’s ceremonial bill signing, Virginia joins 29 other states and the District of Columbia in adopting the

International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance working definition of Antisemitism as an educational tool to identify and combat antisemitism.”

Fogel said this is especially important with what is going on now on college campuses. “As Jews we

are deeply passionate about social justice but some Jewish students go to college and are made to feel not welcome. They don’t understand it, and it is a real blow to the families who raised them.”

Lisa Shimberg and Liz Kulick, who attended the event, come with different perspectives and experiences. Kulick grew up in Buffalo New York in an area with few Jewish people around. “Parents wouldn’t let their kids play with us. I didn’t understand why my religion made any difference. ... Something about it seemed wrong.”

Shimberg was raised in New York in a mostly Jewish neighborhood and didn’t face any of these issues growing up. It wasn’t until she got into physical therapy school as an adult in the first class of the program that it hit when someone made a comment about “how Jewish doctors are.” Now Shimberg is a member of Agudas and Kulick considers herself mostly a Buddhist. But both Shimberg and Kulick agree on the importance of today’s program and need to raise awareness on the rising incidents of antisemitism.

PHOTO BY NOCAH SZABO

Battle of the Businesses

Annual softball game raises funds for Little League.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Representatives of the business associations of Del Ray and Old Town were on hand to present a check for \$5,300 to Alexandria Little League June 26 at Little Simpson Field.

The proceeds were raised from the annual Del Ray vs. Old Town softball battle, which was held May 25. The DRBA team won the game and now leads the series 3-2.

"It's really fun to beat Trae [Lamond] in things but even more fun to do it for a great cause," said DRBA coach Bill Blackburn of the Homegrown Restaurant Group.

The Old Town Business Association team was led by Chadwick's owner Trae Lamond. "Trae and I dreamed up this idea about 6

or 7 years ago and it has turned into a wonderful tradition in Alexandria," Blackburn said.

The two teams vie for the John Porter Cup, named in honor of the prominent Alexandrian and Living Legend. Porter was on hand for the game along with Sherry Reilly, president of Alexandria Little League.

"It is amazing to receive this check," Reilly said. "We plan to use the funds to do a lot of outreach to underserved neighborhoods and fund programs and equipment for those children."

This event is sponsored by Port City Brewing Company, Simpson Real Estate and Yates Service Center.

"The business community identified youth sports as something that needs attention," Blackburn added. "Alexandria Little League is a great organization and we are proud to support them."

"Alexandria Little League is a great organization and we are proud to support them."

— DRBA softball captain
Bill Blackburn

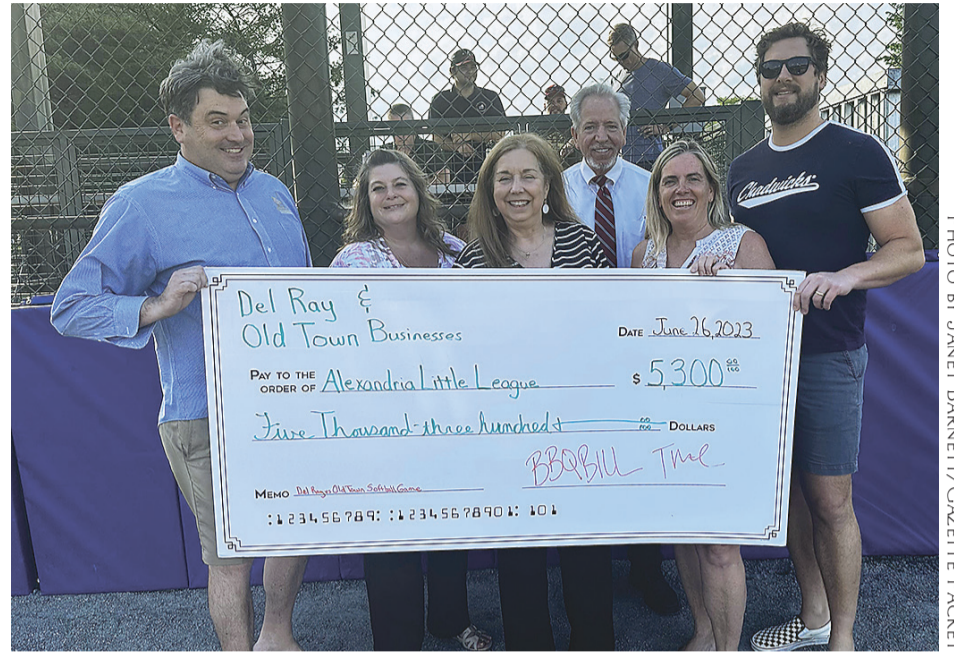


PHOTO BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria Little League president Sherry Reilly, second from right, is presented a check for \$5,300 from Del Ray and Old Town business leaders Bill Blackburn, Shannon Catlett, Gayle Reuter, Jason Yates and Trae Lamond June 26 at Simpson Field. The check represents proceeds from the annual Old Town vs. Del Ray softball game.

John Warner Honored with Maritime Center Dedication

FROM PAGE 1
tion.

"I was living in Providence in 1974 and as the nation's bicentennial was approaching, I wanted to have a Revolutionary War ship so that people could see what they looked like," said Millar, who was dressed in period attire of a captain of the Continental Navy of 1776. "I put together a board of directors and raised the money to build the Sloop Providence, the first ship of the U.S. Navy."

Clair Sussin, president and CEO of the Tall Ship Providence Foundation said the center has been a work in progress for several years.

"The Center has been in progress for six years," Sussin said. "It started with an idea that our board

chair, Scott Shaw, had. His perseverance and vision were critical in bringing the center to life."

Mayor Justin Wilson echoed the words of others in saying that Warner was the perfect person to honor in naming the center.

"We found a perfect namesake for this center in John Warner," Wilson said. "He was such a patriot, such a fierce defender of our nation. We could not have come up with a better person to honor in this center, which helps achieve a vision of having a ship along this waterfront."

Added Sussin, "We were thrilled when John agreed to have the center named after him and we are excited to be the reason people visit Alexandria and the DMV."

www.tallshipprovidence.org



Providence board member Patrick Burchette, right, with Trae Lamond, Carolyn Lamond, and Maura Burchette at the June 22 dedication of the Senator John Warner Maritime Heritage Center.



Cindy Millar, John Millar and Pat Webb at the June 22 dedication of the Senator John Warner Maritime Heritage Center. John Millar was the original builder of the replica Providence.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

ALEXANDRIA BIER GARDEN COMING TO OLD TOWN

The highly anticipated grand opening of the Alexandria Bier Garden is set to take place on Thursday, July 13, offering

German beer enthusiasts a unique food and beverage experience and a lively entertainment lineup. Located in the heart of Old Town Alexandria, the beer garden will bring together German fusion cuisine, whimsical themed dining rooms, and a range of engaging activities to create a vibrant destination for locals and visitors alike.

Co-Owners Fito Garcia, Augusto

Campo, Michael Ciuffardi were quick to snag the 710 King Street when it entered the market as they had long set their sites on Old Town Alexandria after success with the group's Peruvian concept, Inca Social in Arlington and Vienna, as well as Fito Garcia's success with Courtside Social, also in Arlington and High Side in Fairfax City.



Former congressmen Tom Davis, left, and Jim Moran, right, with Freeman Jelks at the June 22 dedication of the Senator John Warner Maritime Heritage Center.

THE CHAMBER ALX

THE CHAMBER ALX ANNOUNCES OUR 2023 40 UNDER 40 HONOREES

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Get your tickets at thechamberalx.com

ENTERTAINMENT

A Few Restaurants to See the Fireworks

A few of the many great places to enjoy the fireworks display in Alexandria right on the Potomac River.

Ada's on the River: Nestled on the picturesque waterfront, Ada's on the River offers a dining experience with a front-row seat to the fireworks extravaganza. Imagine indulging in exquisite food and drinks while watching awe-inspiring bursts of color and light in the sky.

Barca Pier & Wine Bar: For wine enthusiasts and tapas lovers, Barca Pier & Wine Bar is the ideal spot to watch the Fourth of July fireworks. With its Catalonian inspired cuisine, extensive wine selection, and a stunning view of the Potomac, guests can enjoy a glass of their favorite vintage and Spanish-Mediterranean small plates.

Vola's Docksides Grill: Vola's Docksides Grill, located near the historic waterfront, is a beloved local hotspot known for its seafood offerings and vibrant



Ada's on the River

atmosphere. From the spacious outdoor patio, visitors can enjoy the display of fireworks in the company of friends and family.

APPETITE

4 Dates to Circle in July

BY HOPE NELSON
GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria Birthday Celebration, July 8

Sundown on July 8 brings fireworks to the equation, but the city's birthday celebration really carries on all day. Expect revelry throughout town, especially in Old Town, where the sidewalks will be jammed with people and the restaurants teeming

From birthday celebrations to soccer tournaments to parties in the park to a pub crawl reaching double digits, July is teeming with opportunities to celebrate with food and drink. Here are some of the month's best bets.

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THE CONNECTION Newspapers & Online
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Mount Vernon Gazette
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ENTERTAINMENT



Independence Day fireworks will be held on June 30 and July 1 at George Washington's Mount Vernon.

JUNE 30 AND JULY 1 Independence Day Fireworks.

At George Washington's Mount Vernon. Enjoy an evening of family fun and Independence Day fireworks along with patriotic music to celebrate the nation's founding. Guests also can attend a special wreath-laying at Washington's Tomb, watch colonial ice cream-making demonstrations, and enjoy 18th-century dancing. The Mansion will be lit in red, white, and blue during this event scheduled for June 30 and July 1.

SATURDAY/JULY 1

Fireworks. 6-10 p.m. At Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. The Workhouse Arts Center will present a pre-Independence fireworks event Saturday, July 1 from 6-10 p.m. on its Lorton, VA 55-acre campus. The event includes the fireworks display (beginning at dark, approximately 9:15 p.m.), live music, free access to galleries, artist studios and museum; food and beverages are available for purchase. Entrance is free; parking is \$40 per vehicle.

VIP tickets are available for \$120 and includes private reception, food, wine tasting and reserved seating for the fireworks show. To purchase tickets, visit workhousearts.org/fireworks.

SATURDAY/JULY 8

The City of Alexandria celebrates its 274th birthday on Saturday, July 8, starting at 6 p.m., with a performance by the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra and a grand finale fireworks display at 9:30 p.m. Enjoy the big birthday experience including cupcakes, local vendors and live music. Oronoco Bay Park, 100 Madison St.

6 p.m. - Opening Music; 7:30 p.m. - Welcome by NPR's Suraya Mohamed. Announcement by Town Crier, Remarks by Mayor Justin Wilson, Poetry by Alexandria Poet Laureate Zeina Azzam; 8 p.m. - Distribution of birthday cupcakes by members of City Council; 8:30 p.m. - Performance by the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra; 9:30 p.m. - Grand finale fireworks display with Alexandria Symphony Orchestra performing 1812

CITY OF ALEXANDRIA BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND FIREWORKS

The City of Alexandria will celebrate its 274th and the USA's 247th birthday on Saturday, July 8, at Oronoco Bay Park (100 Madison St.). The event includes a performance by the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra, ending with the Grand Finale -- a fireworks display at 9:30 p.m. Admission is free!

Will you be attending?

RSVP to help us plan the best event for you!

Location: Oronoco Bay Park (100 Madison St.)

6 p.m. - Opening Music

7:30 p.m. - Welcome by NPR's Suraya Mohamed, Announcement by Town Crier, Remarks by Mayor Justin Wilson, Poetry by Alexandria Poet Laureate Zeina Azzam

8 p.m. - Distribution of birthday cupcakes by members of City Council

8:30 p.m. - Performance by the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra

9:30 p.m. - Grand finale fireworks display with Alexandria Symphony Orchestra performing 1812

FIREWORKS VANTAGE POINTS LOCATIONS

Grand finale fireworks display, July 8 at 9:30 p.m.

Vantage points:

Canal Center Plaza (Center Canal Plaza)

Rivergate Park (2 Montgomery St.)

Oronoco Bay Park (100 Madison St.)

Founders Park (351 North Union St.)

Waterfront Park (1A Prince St.)

<https://www.alexandriava.gov/Birthday>

NOW THRU JULY 15

Alexander D'Agostino: "A Shrine for the Forgotten" Exhibition. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Baltimore-based solo artist exhibition recipient, Alexander D'Agostino, presents "A Shrine for the Forgotten." The work explores queer histories and images, through performance, installation, and reclaiming material from queer archives and other cultural resources related to the historic marginalization of LGBTQ people.

THROUGH-AUGUST 31

Creative Summer Programs.

At Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Creative Summer Programs is a series of workshops exploring the arts. Learn techniques in drawing, mixed media, mosaic, jewelry, watercolor, and more from local

artists. Delve into creative exploration solo or with friends. For children and/or adults, free and paid programs are offered. Sign up for what inspires you! Visit the website: DelRayArtisans.org/creative-summer

MOUNT VERNON NIGHTS

Fridays at 7:30 p.m. at Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Alexandria

JUNE

30 Collective Delusion (Rock)

JULY

7 Kickoman (Latin/Reggae)

14 Burn the Ballroom (Alternative Rock)

21 King Teddy (Swing)

28 The HalfSmokes (WHFS Playlists/Alternative Rock)

AUGUST

4 Kadencia Orchestra (Bomba, Plena, Salsa)

11 Collaboration featuring Lori Williams (Jazz)

18 Crack The Sky (Rock)

25 Deanna Bogart (Blues, R&B)

FRANCONIA NIGHTS

CONCERTS

Wednesday evenings from 7:30-8:30 p.m.

At Leonadus K. Plenty Amphitheater, 6601 Telegraph Road, Alexandria.

JULY

5 Natyabhoomi School of Dance (Indian Dance and Music)

12 The Pietasters (Ska)

19 Chuck Brown Band (Go Go/Funk/Soul)

26 Silver Tones Swing Band (Swing Dance)

AUGUST

2 Pablo Perez El Alcalde de la Salsa (Salsa)

9 Alexandria Harmonizers (Chorus)

16 The Nighthawks (Blues)

23 Dave Kline Band (World Jazz Fusion)

OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA

WATERFRONT MUSIC SERIES

Free Concerts. Wednesdays from 4-7 p.m. At Old Town Alexandria waterfront. Join in the Waterfront Wednesday Music Series featuring a range of music genres by local musicians. Bring a chair or simply stop by to enjoy some beautiful waterside beats. Free. Weather permitting.

June 28 - Adrian Duke Project

July 12 - Melissa Quinn Fox

July 19 - Vaughn Ambrose and the SJE

Point Lumley Park, (1 Duke St.)
Windmill Hill Park (501 South Union St.)
Fords Landing boardwalk (99 Franklin St.)
Jones Point Park (Jones Point Drive)
George Washington Masonic Temple (101 Callahan Drive)

In case of inclement weather, the event will be rescheduled to Sunday, July 9, at 6 p.m.

ALEXANDRIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PERFORMS FOR ALEXANDRIA BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Alexandria Symphony Orchestra will present a free concert as part of the 274th Alexandria Birthday Celebration on Saturday, July 8, 2023. The celebration, sponsored by the city and coordinated by the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities, culminates with fireworks underscored by additional music from the ASO.

The concert will include the Armed Forces Medley, film scores, patriotic favorites and highlights from West Side Story and Guys and Dolls. The grand finale will feature a spectacular fireworks display with Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture, accompanied by live cannons from the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard). The program will be led by guest conductor John Devlin. Concert sponsors include McEneaney Associates Realtors, Caudron Megary Blackburn Wealth Management, Chadwicks, and the City of Alexandria.

July 26 - Amafujo's Moodswings
August 2 - Chris Barrick Vibes and Organ Trio
August 9 - Sol Roots
August 16 - Delta Spur

SUNDAY SOUNDS ON THE PROMENADE

Free Concerts. 11:30-1:30 p.m. At 7 Pioneer Mill Way, Alexandria. Yellow Door Music Concert Series presents a musical lineup of artists on select Sundays.

July 30 - Vaughn Ambrose Jazz Trio
Aug. 27 - Trifilio Tango Music
On Aug. 27, in honor of National Dog Day that weekend, Robinson Landing encourages individuals to bring their dog out for a yappy social for play and fun for your furry ones. The full event schedule of Robinson Landing programming is located at www.RobinsonLanding.com/WaterfrontEvents.

THRU-JULY 23

Mark Drefs and Leslie Nolan Exhibit. At the Athenaeum, Alexandria. Mark Drefs and Leslie Nolan are presenting a vibrant body of work at the Athenaeum Gallery. Drefs and Nolan both play with bold lines and color in a way that is complementary of the other's work and style. Drefs' abstract pieces are highlighted by their layered components, and almost transparent hues that show all the details in the paintings. While Nolan shows more figurative forms that have a raw quality to the finished product through the strong paint strokes and bold gestural motions, which display the realness of the subject.

THURSDAY/JUNE 29

Music at the Manor. 5-7 p.m. At River Farm, 7931 E. Boulevard Dr., Alexandria. River Farm presents its first-ever Music at the Manor, a sunset evening featuring live music by 2 dames and a stand-up dude. Mary Bowers, Lynne White, and Scott Freeman are 2 dames and a stand-up dude. They play an array of cover songs that span several decades and multiple genres; from Bossa Nova and show tunes like Girl from Ipanema and Fly Me to the Moon to singer-songwriter and contemporaries like Sheryl Crow and the Indigo Girls, with some

APPETITE

4 Dates to Circle in July

FROM PAGE 8

with specials. Looking for a spot to take in the evening show? Snag a reservation at Jula's (formerly Café 44), Barca, Vola's or Ada's on the River. But do it quickly - they fill up fast.

Tenth Annual Old Town Pub Crawl, July 15

Is it really the 10th annual pub crawl already? Host Port City Brewing says yes. Get ready to belly up to several bars in your quest to have your passport stamped - and earn a limited-edition pint glass. From Buggy's to Chadwicks, Virtue Feed and Grain to Blackwall Hitch, to many other stop-offs in between, you'll be able to sample some Port City beer at the various locations and make some new friends along the way. 1:30-6 p.m. Free to participate (but beers, of course, will cost you).

Women's World Cup Tournament, Beginning July 20

This year's soccer tourney, hosted in New Zea-

land, is going to be hard on American viewers - with kickoffs ranging from 3 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., it's going to be crucial to develop a critical mass of fans to watch with. Keep an eye out on your favorite pub's social media pages for special World Cup-related deals - and special hours of operation, to boot.

Beats, Bites and Brews at John Carlyle Square, July 29

Local musicians, local food vendors and local breweries and wineries join forces on the final Saturday of the month to celebrate the best of summer. From Himalayan and Japanese cuisine to ceramics artisans and fitness leaders, this event is poised to contain multitudes. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Free admission.

Hope Nelson is the author of "Classic Restaurants of Alexandria" and owns the Kitchen Recessionista blog, located at www.kitchenrecessionista.com.

Email her any time at hope@kitchenrecessionista.com.

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ENTERTAINMENT



“Spring Awakening” will be shown June 30-July 24, 2023, at the Ainslie Arts Center in Alexandria.

FROM PAGE 9

country and Americana tossed into the mix. Guests are encouraged to pack a blanket and picnic basket with their choice food and beverage for an evening of crowd-pleasing tunes at sunset along the Potomac River. The BYOB outdoor garden event is free and open to the public.

JUNE 30-JULY 24

“Spring Awakening.” At Ainslie Arts Center, 3900 West Braddock Road, Alexandria. Monumental Theatre Company will stage Duncan Sheik and Steven Sater’s Spring Awakening. Based on Frank Wedekind’s 1891 play of the same name, the story follows a group of German teenagers who discover and explore their sexual identities. This alternative rock musical is a timely and timeless story that invites audience members to reclaim the narrative surrounding the often taboo subjects of sexual education, love, and acceptance. Tickets will be available online at <https://www.monumentaltheatre.org/>.

10TH ANNUAL OLD TOWN PUB CRAWL ON SATURDAY, JULY 15

One day, one crawl, eight stops. There will be two Port City Brewing Company pub crawl guides at participating bars and restaurants. See below. Participation is as simple as this: visit one of the participating restaurants, find a Port City pub crawl guide and obtain a pub crawl pass from them. You’ll then take that pass and get it stamped at each participating restaurant (no purchase required to get the stamp) between 1:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. Once your pass is completed, take it to the information station (across from Mai Thai) beginning at 5 p.m. to get your limited edition pub crawl glass.

- From 1:30-2:30 pm go to any of the participating locations to grab your Pub Crawl Pass

JULY 1, 2023

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

SUNDAY/JULY 9

The Capitol Collective Chamber Ensemble. 2 p.m. The Capitol Collective Chamber Ensemble is partnering with the Athenaeum to present an afternoon of chamber music. Consisting primarily of DC military band musicians, they seek to promote accessible chamber music throughout the DMV area. Enjoy works for strings, winds, brass, and percussion in this program featuring composers Jesse Montgomery, Ivan Trevino, Aaron Copland, and Jean Francaix.

Timed Entry for Freedom House Museum

The Freedom House Museum is what remains of a large complex dedicated to trafficking thousands of Black men, women, and children from 1828-1861. This museum honors the lives and experiences of the enslaved and free Black people who lived in and were trafficked through Alexandria. Slavery, race-based laws and racial terror erased and diminished African American history and contributions from the national narrative; however, this museum seeks to reframe white supremacist history.

Admission is required to visit the three floors of Freedom House Museum. Due to high demand, we highly encourage you to purchase tickets in advance and not at the door.

Museum is open Sunday and Monday, 1-5 p.m.; Thursday and Friday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Notes on your visit:

- Guests do not need to print off tickets. Your name will be on the registration list for the day.

- Please arrive 5 minutes prior to your admission time. If running late, call the Museum at 703-746-4702 or your reservation will be

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forfeited 5 minutes after your admission time has begun and no refunds will be issued.

- The Freedom House Museum’s timed entry reservation system is for visitors’ personal use only. Timed tickets are valid only for the stated visitor(s), guests(s), date, and time. Tickets may not be sold or transferred. Reservations that violate these conditions may be cancelled.

- Admission includes the ability for guests to step outside and return to the Museum during the same date of admission. Plan at least 1.5 hours for your visit.

- At all Historic Alexandria sites, we do not tolerate racist or derogatory jokes, comments, or harassment from our guests or staff. We value the dignity of all people who enter our sites. We are committed to creating an environment where together we can explore Alexandria’s complex history in a manner that is respectful for all. Violators of this policy will be asked to leave the premises.

- For groups of 10 or more, visit Freedom House webpage (alexandriava.gov/freedomhouse)

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

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

Please, help save these historical papers. All gifts will be used to fund our printed newspapers and websites and to meet obligations to our loyal and patient employees, writers, contractors and suppliers. The ongoing pandemic continues to crush many newspapers across the country, and our newspapers continue to be at risk. The Northern Virginia area’s best read and most trusted source for community news includes the Alexandria Gazette Packet, Mount Vernon Gazette and all Connection Newspapers in the metropolitan region.

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

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

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Within the Next Month



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

One of the most persistent and enduring thoughts I have is very much a product of my survival. When you’re told by your oncologist – and by association, your pulmonologist, your thoracic surgeon, a pathologist, and by your long-time internal medicine, primary care provider, that you have stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer and have a “13 months to two years” prognosis, your life is turned completely upside down and inside out. To say your life will never be the same is the understatement of the year. To characterize it any differently would be naïve/delusional.

As such, your sense of time – and appreciation of time, changes. How do you live in the present when you’ve been told by several physicians that in effect, you have no future? Your perspective and orientation go to an emotional place you’ve likely never been to before. And oh, by the way, you pretty much cede control of your life to this most unwanted intruder: cancer, as well.

And then, low and behold, to all your doctors’ surprise, you don’t succumb to your disease. In fact, you live a relatively normal life, from outward appearances, going on 14 and half years. So far, that’s 13 years-ish past the do-or-die prognosis you received. Eventually, since you’re still living, you sort of work in, or perhaps even plan for a future. A future which has been tenuous and hardly guaranteed. Yet, in this conundrum of living after being told you were likely going to die, suddenly, sort of, the future is upon you.

But it’s a future that’s coated in the past. How can one look forward when previously you were constantly being pulled backward to a pre-existing grim reaper if there ever was one: “terminal” cancer. Then you don’t die. Years pass and your sense and expectation of time is thrown completely out of whack. Living forward, how do you live and try to ignore all the indicators and professional opinions that say you were going to die much sooner than you or they anticipated? Somehow, you must bury the lead, as they say.

So, you put these thoughts in the vault, per a Jerry Seinfeld episode, and try to live as if you’re not dying. But as simple as that may sound, if you compartmentalize, the fact and truth of the matter is there’s always a nagging subconscious Ying and yang that hides in plain sight. And so, you think, what happens if and when the results of lab work diagnostic scans (PET, MRI, CT and Bone) change – for the dramatically, dare I say, inevitably worse? This is the definition of unproductive thought. But that’s the battle that rages in your brain – the conscious and the subconscious.

And when this internal emotional struggle manifests for me, it’s typically when my next quarterly scans are around the next quarter. As it so happens, and it serves as good fodder for this column, it is “now,” as made famous by legendary football coach, George Allen, pronouncing that “The future is now.” – as is mine right now. Certainly, after 14 years, I’m experienced dealing with this reality. Nevertheless, the future is now, and I can’t deny that the longer I live the more intense my fear that change is coming. Moreover, neither can I deny that this process is getting more difficult to endure. I can’t help thinking that one of these days, the figurative hammer is going to come crashing down on my computer when my most recent lab and/or scan results are emailed to me.

When I received notification in my email that these quarterly results have been emailed, I take a deep breath, exhale, pray to God for good news and then I click on the link (I’m physically shaking, by the way, during this process) and wait for the nearly instantaneous download. I read with trepidation and fear and hope to find enough familiar positive-sounding conclusions/assessments from the doctors. At this juncture, I am usually on my own. Dina is often working at a local barn caring for a damaged horse and my doctors are not exactly waiting on hold for my reaction, ready to answer any questions. When I am lucky enough – to have my warranty extended, so to speak, after receiving the results with which I can live, I am reminded of “Mad Magazine” and Alfred E. Newman: “What me worry?” So much to do about nothing. “What a waste of worry,” I say to myself. Let me assure you, waiting for cancer-related results is hardly nothing. In fact, it is the subject for which worry was invented. I wish there was another way to get through this quarterly ordeal, but I’m afraid, on many levels, there isn’t.

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

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

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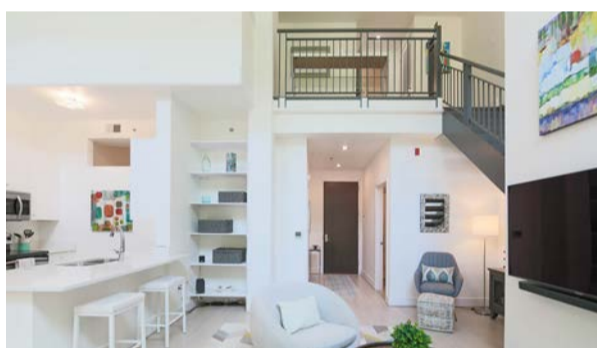
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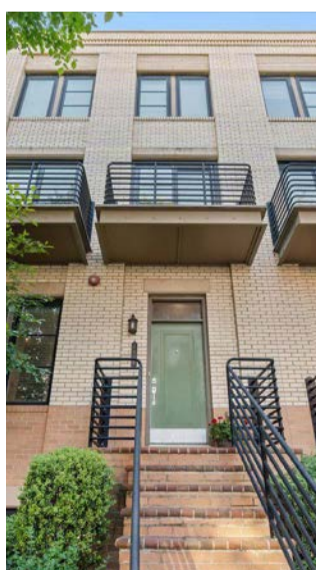
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