



‘Remembering Is Resistance’ Memorial for Benjamin Thomas

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

It’s important to remember the lynchings of Joseph McCoy and Benjamin Thomas on the dates the lynchings occurred, said Rabbi David Spinrad of Beth El Hebrew Congregation, a member of the Remembrance Planning Committee, at Shiloh Baptist Worship Center.

The 2024 remembrance for Benjamin Thomas, 16, who was lynched in Alexandria on Aug. 8, 1899, was different than previous years, Spinrad noted. “The challenge is not to just let it become rote and become a lifeless observance. One of the ways we continue the remembrance is to evolve into more educational opportunities,” he said. To that end, the speaker at the event was Rachel Laser, an educator on racism who heads up Americans United for the Separation of Church and State.

At the remembrance event Laser gave a speech entitled, “Why the Parental Rights Movement is Anti-Civil Rights.”

Covid restrictions and requirements “spurred an anti-governmental sentiment that merged with the backlash, or maybe we should call it a ‘whitelash’ against Black Lives Matter movement and LGBTQ rights movement, and especially the Trans rights movement,” Laser said. “And it coalesced into what we call the parental rights movement.”

That movement is connected to White Christian Nationalism and its broader attack on public education, Laser said. It claims to be about protecting parents rights, but in fact is only interested in some parents rights and some students rights.

Laser said it’s important to “fight for the free and
SEE ‘REMEMBERING IS RESISTANCE’. PAGE 2



Shiloh Baptist Church’s Reverend Dr. Taft Quincey Heatley (far left) sits with city officials at the remembrance memorial for Benjamin Thomas, victim of a lynching in Alexandria on Aug. 8, 1899.



Remembering Is Resistance.



Guest speaker Rachel Laser talks with remembrance planning committee member Rose Dawson, while Pastor Quardricos Driskell looks on.



Members of the Shiloh Mass Choir joined with Alexandria Community Remembrance Project Interfaith Group and audience in singing “We Shall Overcome” in Shiloh Baptist Church.



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Non-auditioned
choirs for adults 55+!

ENCORE CHORALE OF FAIRFAX

Starting September 3

Tuesdays

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Burke United Methodist Church
6200 Burke Centre Pkwy, Burke

ENCORE CHORALE OF ALEXANDRIA

Starting September 9

Mondays

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Church of the Good Shepherd
100 W. Luray Ave, Alexandria

encorecreativity.org



A guest at the remembrance memorial talks with guest speaker Rachel Laser.



Guest speaker Rachel Laser, President, Americans United for Separation of Church and State.



Sheriff Sean Casey thanks Rachel Laser for her presentation remembering the lynching of Benjamin Thomas in Alexandria on Aug. 8, 1899..

‘Remembering Is Resistance’

FROM PAGE 1

equal society that America promises all of us.”

Find hope, she said, pointing to the gathering that evening as a reason for hope.

Remember:

On Tues. Aug. 8, 1899, Benjamin

Thomas, a native Alexandrian, 16-years-old, was lynched in Alexandria at the corner of Fairfax and King Streets after being dragged a grueling half mile from the jail on Princess and St. Asaph Streets. Accused by his next door neighbor’s seven-year-old daughter of assault and arrested on the child’s testimony alone, Thomas never wavered

in his assertion of his innocence. In the aftermath, both Black and white Alexandrians believed he was innocent. News of his murder, after local Black leadership warned authorities of a threat to lynch him, caused work stoppages around the region.

On Mon. Aug. 28, 1899, more than 600 people attended a

mass meeting at Shiloh Baptist Church for two reasons, to memorialize Benjamin Thomas and to protest his lynching. At the packed event, leaders from churches in Alexandria and the District called for an economic boycott of any business associated with those who took part in the mob.



Public Notice

Updated weight limits on Virginia bridges and culverts

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

Jurisdiction	Fed. Dist. ID	Route #	Route Name	Structure	Effective Date
SCOTT	16713	827	COPPER CREEK ROAD	CREEK	7/25/2024
SCOTT	16734	636	COWAN GAP TUNNEL R	COWANS BRANCH	7/11/2024
FRANKLIN	7920	713	POWER DAM ROAD 713	220 BP	7/10/2024
BOTETOURT	3537	T1003	2ND. AVE./T1003	TINKER CREEK	7/8/2024
LEXINGTON	20473	0	LIME KILN ROAD	WOODS CREEK	7/3/2024
FRANKLIN	7833	613	NAFF ROAD 613	MAGGODEE CREEK	7/3/2024

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

For a full listing of all bridge and culvert weight restrictions with detailed information about specific structures, including location data and actual weight limits, visit vdot.virginia.gov and navigate to Traffic and Travel/For freight operators/Truck restrictions. This page references a posted structures report and a GIS map tool that contain detailed information about restricted structures in Virginia. To receive email notifications regarding new or updated weight restrictions for structures statewide, complete the sign-up form on the web page.

Notices regarding bridges and culverts with new or updated weight restrictions are published monthly by VDOT. For additional information or questions, please contact haulingpermits@vdot.virginia.gov or the Load Rating Program Manager, Manjil Devkota 804-786-4064.

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

Fall Kick-Off

Join Councilman Chapman to
kick-off the fall season and
ramp-up his campaign for
Alexandria City Council.



RSVP

<https://bit.ly/JTCLaunchEvent>



Bronze: \$25 Silver: \$50 Gold: \$100 Platinum: \$250

SATURDAY
31 AUG 2024

TIME
12:00PM - 3:00PM

618 N. Washington St.
Alexandria, VA 22314

Authorized by Friends of John Taylor Chapman

John 'Jack' Sullivan

Environmental crusader tackled sewer outfalls.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Jack Sullivan was destined to be involved in community affairs. Born John H. Sullivan in Toledo, Ohio, he observed his father, a dentist, get involved in helping the middle-class neighborhood where he was raised.

"My father was very much a civic activist," Sullivan said. "I was paying attention to him and what he was doing. I learned from him the difference that one can make in a community."

Educated in parochial schools, Sullivan served in the U.S. Air Force Reserve and Ohio Air National Guard from 1959 to 1965. He began his professional career in 1959 as a newspaper reporter for the Springfield Ohio Sun and the then Milwaukee Sentinel. He moved to Washington in 1961 as an aide to U.S. Rep. Clement J. Zablocki of Wisconsin and joined the Foreign Affairs Committee as a staff consultant in 1969.

"For 20 years I worked on Capitol Hill," Sullivan said. "For a time I was the youngest on the Hill – I was maybe 22 years old."

Sullivan was active in legislative initiatives of the 1970s, including heading the House staff on SALT I arms control legislation, economic aid to wartime Vietnam, implementation of the Sinai Accords, and passage of the War Powers Act. In 1976 he was named Deputy Chief of Staff of the Committee.

Sullivan served as a member of the U.S. delegation to the United Nations General Assembly session in 1973, and in 1976 was with the first Congressional staff group to visit China.

In 1977 he was chosen by the newly-elected Carter Administration to manage the transition process at USAID and subsequently selected to head its Bureau for

Asia and the Pacific. In 1978 he was awarded the Agency's Superior Honor Award for "outstanding leadership in the areas of equal opportunity and affirmative action," for his appointment of women and minorities to executive positions.

Following his tenure with the Carter Administration, Sullivan turned to consulting, which al-

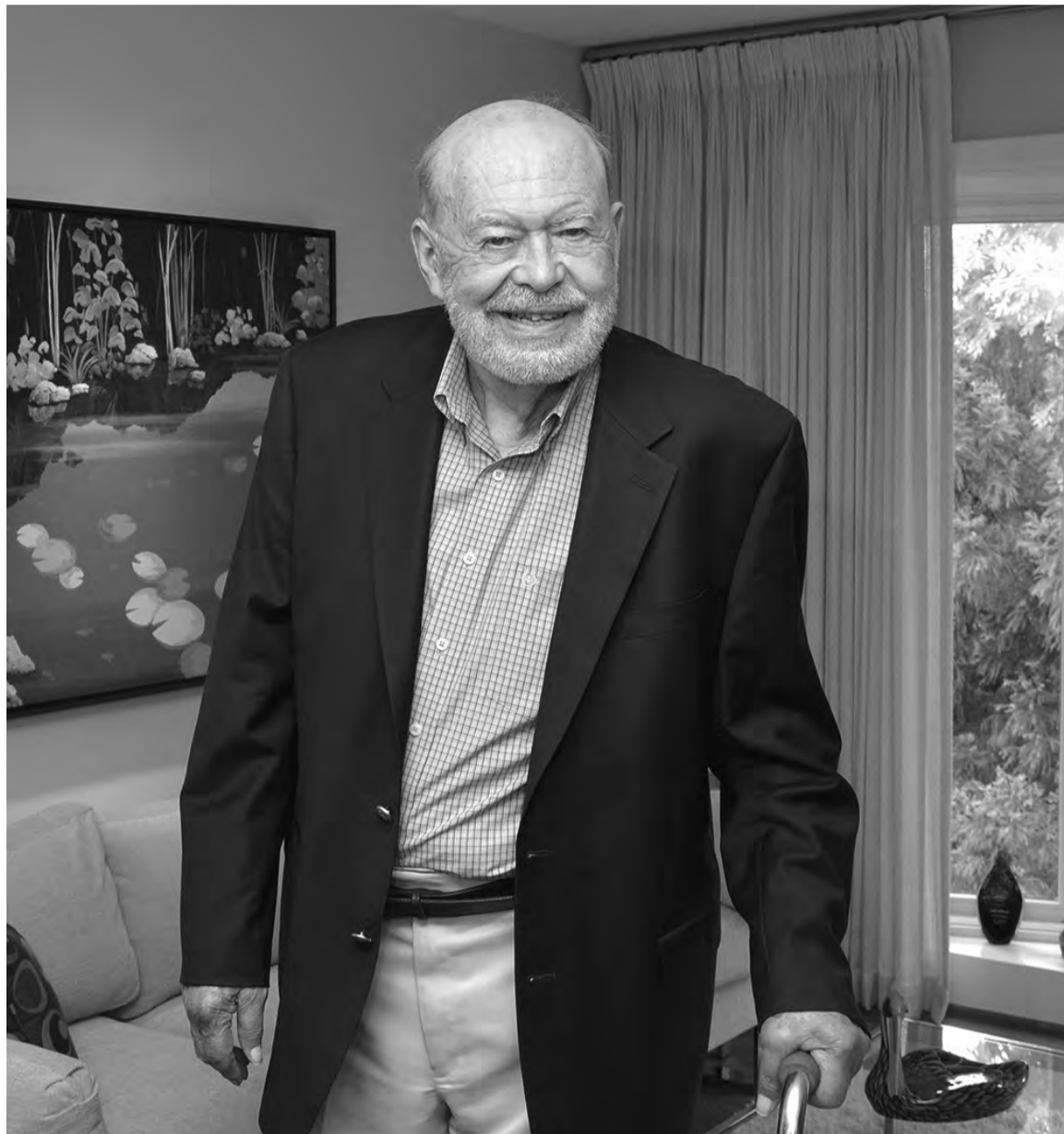


PHOTO BY STEVEN HALPERSON/TISARA STUDIOS

Jack Sullivan was selected as a 2023 Living Legend of Alexandria.

lowed him more time to focus on issues closer to home in Alexandria.

"I can think of no one else who has made as many exemplary contributions to our community than Jack Sullivan," said Carter Flemming in nominating Sullivan as a Living Legend. "For more than 40 years, Jack has tirelessly advocated to educate and involve his fellow residents on issues of importance. He has set a high bar for others to follow."

Sullivan served as chair of the Cable Television Commission, where he widened public affairs broadcasts to cover important city meetings that are now taken

for granted, such as the Planning Commission meetings. This had not been done previously and Sullivan's vision brought new transparency to city government.

He served on the HIV-AIDS Taskforce in the 80s and also chaired the committee to select Alexandria's first Poet Laureate in 2007. He has served on 11 various boards and commissions.

Sullivan was a volunteer curator and cataloguer for the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum's collection of artifacts and served as a volunteer cataloguer and transcriber for a Civil War diary for the Alexandria Library. A long-time member of the Seminary Hill Association board, Sullivan twice served as president and was treasurer for many years. He also served as a member and co-chair of the Alexandria Federation of

Civic Associations.

Of his many accomplishments, perhaps the two most impactful have been centered on environmental issues: The creation of Boothe and Brenman parks, and the expansion of the Combined Sewer Outfalls project.

Sullivan was a member of the Citizen Advisory Group on the Conversion of Cameron Station from 1988-1995. While the city focused on the potential revenue to be gained by adding more than a thousand housing units on the site, Sullivan and Col. Ben Brenman focused on the need to provide open space for the new residents. They obtained concessions from the original plan to create both Boothe and Brenman parks.

In 2017, Sullivan was appointed as a member of the Combined Sewer System Stakeholder Advi-

sory Group II to consider the state mandate that the city cease polluting the Potomac River with sewage overflow when it rains.

While the state originally mandated that Alexandria remediate three of the city's four outfalls, and the Advisory Group recommended that plan to City Council, Sullivan wrote a minority report which argued that the fourth outfall at Oronoco Bay, which is the largest source of pollution into the river, should be included in the project to end the pollution that has been discharging into the Potomac for over a century.

"The major outflow in Old Town was not going to be fixed," Sullivan said. "Every year we were dumping the equivalent of 200 tanks of raw sewage into the Potomac. This outfall in Old Town was the equivalent of the other three – we were basically only fixing half the problem."

Sullivan's report caught the attention of Virginia State Senator Scott Surovell, who brought it to the state legislature.

"The state passed a bill mandating that the city fix all four outfalls by 2025," Sullivan said. "At that point the city had no option but to include the Old Town outfall in the project."

Said Flemming, "Future generations of Alexandrians will enjoy a clean and safe Potomac River, and we owe Jack Sullivan a huge debt of gratitude for guiding us to the correct decision."

As a result of this effort, Sullivan was given the Ellen Pickering environmental award in 2022.

Sullivan holds B.A. and M.A. degrees in journalism from Marquette University and a doctorate in international relations/political science from the American University. The university bestowed its Distinguished Alumni Award on him in 1976 and again in 1979.

A resident of Alexandria for more than 55 years, Sullivan and his wife Paula recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. They have two sons, John and Brian, and one granddaughter. He is an active member of Our Lady Queen of Peace Church in Arlington. He retired professionally in 2015 at the age of 80.

"I think I have done some positive things," Sullivan said looking back on his community activism. "I hope I made a difference over the years."

"I hope I made a difference over the years."

— Jack Sullivan

Chamber Honors Community Champions



Fire Department Honors Kristian Holt & Blake Jones.



ACPD Life Saving Award recipient Erik Elam addresses the audience.

PHOTOS BY LEED OLIVERIA OF JASON DIXSON PHOTOGRAPHY
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The Chamber ALX's 2024 Community Champions Honors, presented by Inova Health System, were presented Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2024 at the National Industries for the Blind headquarters. The event featured Breakfast and Awards Ceremony, with catering by Flavors Catering.

New Awards for 2024:

- ❖ Educator of the Year: Tiffany Lee-Clarke of Naomi L. Brooks Elementary School
- ❖ Government Employee of the Year: Rick Myllenbeck of National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency
- ❖ Hospitality Employee of the Year: Justin Fox of Port City Brewing Company
- ❖ Medical Professional of the Year: Udeme Ekong of Alexandria Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center
- ❖ Senior Provider of the Year: Myong "Bruce" Park of Woodbine Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center
- ❖ Utility Employee of the Year: Peter Kulcsar of Virginia American Water

Life Saving Awards

- ❖ Master Deputy James Gwaltney of Alexandria Sheriff's Office
- ❖ Captain Patrick Evans of Alexandria Fire Department
- ❖ Firefighter Blake Jones of Alexandria Fire Department
- ❖ Firefighter Scott Springston of Alexandria Fire Department
- ❖ Firefighter Isaac May of Alexandria Fire Department
- ❖ Firefighter Moriah Anderson of Alexandria Fire Department
- ❖ Firefighter Francis Penny of Alexandria Fire Department
- ❖ Paramedic Remi Howell of Alexandria Fire Department



Hospitality Employee of the Year, Justin Fox of Port City Brewing Company, addresses the audience.



Senior Provider of the Year, Myong Park of Woodbine Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center stands at the podium with his award.

From left, Chamber Board Member Jatrice Martel Gaiter of Volunteers of America, Medical Professional of the Year Honoree Udeme Ekong of Alexandria Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center, Chamber CEO Joe Haggerty



Inova Alexandria Hospital's President Dr. Rina Bansal applauds this year's honorees.



Honorees Officers Helsa & Erik Elam smile while looking at the event program.



Educator of the Year recipient Tiffany Lee-Clark stand at the podium.

PHOTOS BY LEED OLIVERIA OF JASON DIXSON PHOTOGRAPHY
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The Virginia American Water Team smiles with their team member Peter Kulcsar (center,) recipient of Utility Employee of the Year.

Chamber Honors Community Champions


FROM PAGE 4

- ❖ Firefighter & EMT Will Augustine of Alexandria Fire Department
- ❖ Captain Joshua Turner of Alexandria Fire Department
- ❖ Firefighter & Paramedic Johnathan Malia of Alexandria Fire Department
- ❖ Firefighter & EMT Kristina Holt of Alexandria Fire Department
- ❖ Firefighter & EMT Luis Vasquez of Alexandria Fire Department

- ❖ Firefighter De'Angelo Bowman of Alexandria Fire Department
- ❖ Officer Erik Elam Alexandria Police Department
- ❖ Officer Helsa Elam of Alexandria Police Department
- ❖ Officer William Griscom of Alexandria Police Department
- ❖ Sergeant Ben Saks of Alexandria Police Department
- ❖ Public Safety Communications Officer Calvin Moore of Department of Emergency & Customer Communications.



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At the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's®, we're fighting for a different future. For families facing the disease today. For more time. For treatments.

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2024 WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S

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Sep. 29	Reston, VA	

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Tiger swallowtail butterfly on thistle



Cabbage white butterfly



Common buckeye butterfly



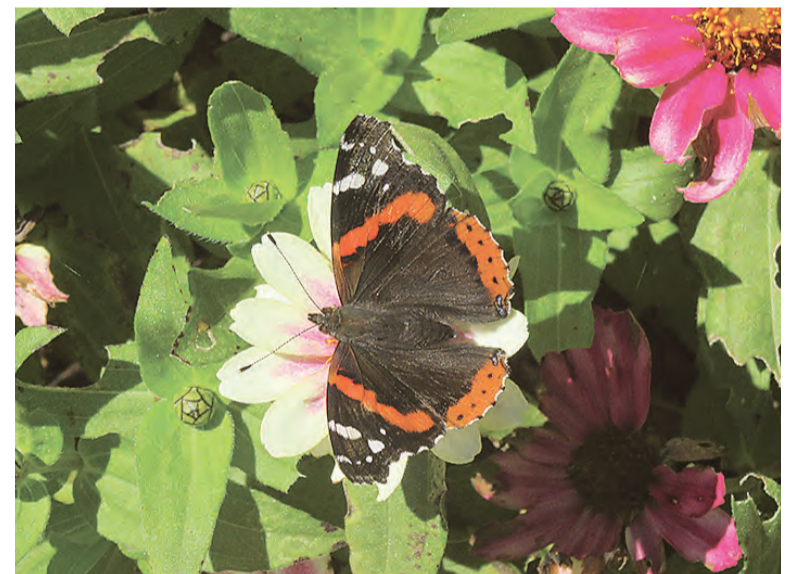
Black swallowtail butterfly



Giant swallowtail butterfly



Pipevine swallowtail butterfly



Red admiral butterfly



Question mark butterfly

Butterflies May Be in Trouble

BY GLENDA C. BOOTH
CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

PHOTOS BY GLENDA BOOTH

This summer's heat and drought have not only taken a toll on humans, they may also be affecting the butterfly population. Some local naturalists believe there are fewer butterflies this summer in the region, but definitive conclusions cannot be reached until the season's end in late fall.

Though Hurricane Debby brought some welcomed rain to Virginia, the drought could persist. Virginia had the driest June on record since 1895 according to Drought.gov.

And other factors may be involved. Larry Meade conducts an annual butterfly survey and maintains, "Lower numbers are likely because of the heat and dry conditions. These are harsh conditions for caterpillars and there seem to be fewer flowers in the field than usual."

Alexandrian Rod Simmons has also seen fewer butterflies this year than in past years.

Butterflies need plants for all of their life stages. The National Wildlife Federation explains, "The insects need places to lay eggs, food plants for their larvae (caterpillars), places to form chrysalides and nectar sources for adults ... many butterflies and native flowering plants have co-evolved over time and depend on each other for survival and reproduction." If plants dry up and die, the caterpillars and butterflies have less food.

Other factors can affect them too, like habitat loss, the ubiquity of non-native plants and pesticides that kill all exposed insects, not just the target insects. On mosquito spraying, for example, Elizabeth Train and Elizabeth Martin wrote in a recent article, "Pyrethroids, the main chemicals that mosquito services use to kill mosquitoes in residential yards, are a class of broad-spectrum insecticides that are acutely toxic to terrestrial invertebrates, including pollinators such as bees and butterflies. Mosquito sprays kill all insects, including the caterpillars that birds rely on to feed their young throughout the breeding season. Nearly all terrestrial birds (96 percent), even seed eaters, feed their nestlings insects." <https://www.nvbirdalliance.org/news/to-spray-or-not-to-spray>



Monarch butterfly on milkweed



Monarch butterfly caterpillar



Monarch butterfly nectaring on milkweed

How to Help

Plant native milkweed and nectar plants. See <https://www.pollinator.org/monarch/monarch-resources> for appropriate plants.

Create a monarch waystation, <http://www.monarchwatch.org/waystations/>.

EVENTS

The Friends of Dyke Marsh butterfly walk, Aug. 17, www.fodm.org
Annual butterfly survey, Sept. 15, led by Larry Meade, www.nvbirdalliance.org



Pesticides like these kill all insects exposed to the chemicals, including butterflies and caterpillars.

Meade is optimistic about this year's butterflies, offering, "I think butterflies can bounce back. Insects are resilient, so with better conditions next year, they may well do better."

Migration Miracle Is Underway

In late summer and early fall, monarch butterflies zigzag through the area en route to Mexico, joining millions to overwinter on oyamel fir trees at 9,000 to 11,000 feet. Observers estimate the size of the population by measuring the area of the forest occupied by overwintering monarchs.

The monarch is the only butterfly to regularly undertake a two-way migration. Monarch expert, the late Dr. Lincoln Brower called it "one

of the most extraordinary annual migrations on our planet, an amazing migration that eludes explanation." A western monarch population winters in California.

These orange and black butterflies, weighing 598 milligrams or one-fifth the weight of a penny, have evolved to lay their eggs on only one plant species, milkweed, called their host plant. English colonists named the insect for its colors, which reminded them of British royalty, the prince of Orange, later King William III.

When spring temperatures rise in Mexico and nectar sources become available, monarchs mate, head north and females lay eggs. The eggs become adults (see below for cycle) and this new generation flies north.

University of Wisconsin-based Journey North tracks migrations and reported in February, "This past overwintering season was the second lowest on record but reports this spring and summer have been promising."

On Aug. 4, Chip Taylor with Monarch Watch emailed, "I can't tell you how big the migration will be. A lot depends on how many eggs were laid over the last 2.5 weeks north of 40 degrees latitude and then the forthcoming temperatures as that generation develops."

For details, visit <https://monarchwatch.org/blog/>.

The Monarch Cycle
Butterflies have four life stages. Females lay eggs on a leaf. After the egg hatches, the larva or caterpillar fattens up by eating leaves. That's all they do -- eat milkweed. A monarch outgrows its outer skin or exoskeleton several times and attaches itself to a support by a silky adhesive substance and becomes a pupa, a green, bag-like chrysalis that dangles delicately and transforms into a butterfly. When the adult butterfly inside is fully formed, the chrysalis splits open,

Stress

Jim Waggener leads butterfly surveys in Northern Virginia and observes, "We're certainly seeing far fewer monarchs than usual. In the areas we're surveying, monarchs are on track to have a very bad year, possibly — without a great pickup from fly-ins in the fall — a record bad year."

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Under

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the butterfly pumps fluid into its wing veins, basks in the sun to dry, hardens its wings and takes flight.

Monarchs lay eggs exclusively on milkweed plants. Adult monarchs nectar or feed on a variety of plants. Nectar is especially important for fueling the fall migration.

Virginia has over 170 species of butterflies, reports the Department of Wildlife Resources.

ENTERTAINMENT



FLEETING MOMENTS 2024 STREET PHOTOGRAPHY AT THE ATHENAEUM

Fleeting Moments: Street Photography II can be seen now thru Sept. 22, 2024 at the Athenaeum in Alexandria.

WEDNESDAYS THROUGH SATURDAYS

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

NOW THRU SEPT. 22

Fleeting Moments: Street Photography II. At the Athenaeum, Alexandria. Artist Reception: Sunday, August 18, 4 - 6 p.m. Artist Talk, Sunday: September 22, 2:30 p.m. Fleeting Moments features photographs that capture candid moments, revelatory interpretations, and brilliant reflections of the mundane - work commonly referred to as "street photography."

34TH SEASON OF THE LYCEUM CHAMBER SERIES

The Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association (WMPA) announces the 34th season of its Lyceum Chamber Series, under the guidance of Music Director Laureate Ulysses James. Hosted at the Alexandria History Museum at The Lyceum, located at 201 South Washington Street in Old Town Alexandria, this series promises to offer an array of exceptional weekly performances throughout the summer. All concerts are at 3 p.m.; no tickets required. Suggested donation \$25.

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Ulysses James, Music Director Laureate, Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic

Alberto Rodriguez, Music Director, Washington Metropolitan Youth Orchestra

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

Caroline Mousset, Executive and Artistic Planning Director

MUSIC SCHEDULE

August 25: Samuel Runolfson, Cello

September 1: Michael De Sapio, Violin
September 8: Hai Jin, Piano
September 15: John Sutherland Earle: Piano & Friends

JUNE 1 TO AUG. 31

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

MOUNT VERNON NIGHTS Friday and Saturday evenings at 7:30 p.m.

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

AUGUST

23 Deanna Bogart (Blues, R&B)
30 Melissa Qinn Fox (Country/American)

AT WORKHOUSE ARTS CENTER
9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton
Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.

AUGUST

24 The U.S. Army Band Country Roads (Country)

AUG. 2-31

"The Science of Our Surroundings" exhibit at Del Ray Artisans gallery features art that draws inspiration from science and math, with a focus on diagrams, cutaways or cycles that the artist or creator may find particularly fascinating. View at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria VA. Opening Reception: Friday, August 2, 7-9pm. Open Thursdays 12-6pm, Fridays 12-9pm, Saturdays & Sundays 12-6pm (Closed September 1). Details at DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits

AUG. 16-25

Alexandria Restaurant Week.

Throughout neighborhoods in Alexandria, including Old Town, Del Ray, Carlyle, Eisenhower and the West End. For 10 days and two weekends, dozens of restaurants in Alexandria, Virginia, will offer a \$27.50, \$40 or \$50 in-person dinner for one during Alexandria Restaurant Week, August 16-25,

2024. The special \$27.50 offer is a playful nod to Alexandria's 275th anniversary. Find additional special offers and discounts at fast casual restaurants throughout Alexandria during Alexandria Restaurant Week. Alexandria Restaurant Week showcases the inventiveness of local chefs and international cuisine in neighborhoods throughout the city, including Old Town, Del Ray, Carlyle and Eisenhower and the West End. In early August, guests will find a digital flip-book of menus at participating restaurants on AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com.

FRIDAY/AUG. 23

Summer Concert Series. The U.S. Air Force Band returns to the Air Force Memorial in Arlington. Free and open to the public.

Friday, Aug. 23 at 7:30 p.m. - Airmen of Note

Friday, Sept. 13 at 7:30 p.m. Air Force Birthday Concert.

SATURDAY/AUG. 24

Around the World Cultural Food Festival. 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. At Oronoco Bay Park, 100 Madison Street, downtown Old Town Alexandria. Come and enjoy delicious foods from around the world while watching a diverse folk show with singers and dancers from different countries, then take a break and go shopping from the ethnic artisans and crafters participating in the festival.

SEPT. 6-28

The "Fascinating Fiber, Alluring Fabric" Exhibit. At Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. Features art that is either created with fiber or fabric or depicts fiber or fabric as its subject. Opening reception on Friday, September 6, 7-9 p.m. Gallery hours are Thursdays 12-6 p.m., Fridays 12-9 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays 12-6 p.m. (Closed on Sunday, September 29). Details at DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits

FRIDAY/SEPT. 6

Something Country. 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. At Electric Palm Restaurant, 12745 Sea Ray Lane, Woodbridge. Rockin' country that gets you dancing.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 7

Sidewalk Sale. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Experience a delightful day of shopping and dining at Belle View



Alexandria Restaurant Week takes place Aug. 16-25, 2024 throughout Old Town Alexandria, Del Ray, Carlyle, Eisenhower and the West End.

Shopping Center, 1632 Belle View Boulevard, Alexandria. Get ready for the Fall season by exploring the unique stores and savoring delicious meals at the local restaurants. More than 30 merchants will be offering exclusive deals and special offers throughout the day. Discover fantastic bargains at popular spots like Top It Off Outlet, Pampered Pet, LIGHT, and Virginia Florist, with sales tables set up both inside and outside. To add to the festivities, Revel and UnWined will be hosting a wine tasting from 2 to 5 p.m., either indoors or outdoors depending on the weather.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 7

Find Your Ancestors! 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. At Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Attend this conference featuring one of America's most popular genealogical lecturers. John Colletta will discuss how historical research can help to understand the day-to-day lives of our ancestors. Lively discussions will follow. Cost: \$40. Email: contact-us@mvgenealogy.org. Website: <https://mvgenealogy.org/store.php?sid=7>

SATURDAY/SEPT. 7

Used Book Sale: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria. 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 hardbacks and large paperbacks, and 25 cents for mass market paperbacks. Visit <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-sherwood-regional>.

SEPT. 17-23

Fall Book Sale. The Friends of the Beatley Central Library will hold their Fall Book Sale from Tuesday, September 17, 3:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. (\$15 memberships available at the door); Wednesday, September 18, 10:00 a.m.-7:30 p.m., Thursday, September 19, 10:00 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; Friday, September 20, 10:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Saturday, September 21, 10:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sunday, September 22, Half Price Day, 1:00-4:30 p.m.; Monday, September 23, \$10 Bag Sale, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.. \$4 or less, unless specifically marked: hardbacks, pa-

perbacks, children's books, and media. All genres. Charles E. Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke Street, Alexandria; info: 703-746-1702; www.beatleyfriends.org.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 25

"Life in Alexandria's Civil War Prisons Lecture. 7 p.m. At The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington Street, Alexandria. The Alexandria Historical Society is pleased to announce its upcoming lecture, "Life in Alexandria's Civil War Prisons." Local historian Madeline Feisterstein will present her research on the five military prisons of Alexandria during the Civil War. Her lecture will provide an in-depth look at life within these institutions for both Confederate and Union prisoners, examining how their presence disrupted the daily lives of Alexandria residents. Additionally, Madeline will explore the medical treatment of jailed soldiers and prisoners of war at hospitals such as Grosvenor Branch, which was the confiscated Lee-Fendall House. Attendees will gain insight into first-hand accounts from individuals who experienced imprisonment within Alexandria's city limits, from the earliest days of battle to the beginnings of Reconstruction. For more information, contact David Heiby, Treasurer of the Alexandria Historical Society, at davidheiby@gmail.com or 703-869-0872.

SAVE THE DATE

Yacht Haven Garden Club's 40th annual Fashion Show, Silent Auction and Luncheon, "American Beauty" October 16, 2024 at the Mount Vernon Country Club in Alexandria. Fashions will be provided by Sara Campbell.

THE BIRCHMERE

At 3701 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. All shows are at 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted. Tickets available at Ticketmaster.com. Contact The Birchmere at 703-549-7500 or www.Birchmere.com.

AUGUST

Fri. 23: Marcus Miller \$69.50
Sat. 24: Kim Waters \$35.00
Sun. 25: Sandi Patty \$59.50
Thu. 29: Dave Alvin & Jimmie Dale Gilmore with The Guilty Ones w/ Jon Langford & The Bright Shiners \$45.00
Fri. 30: Raheem DeVaughn \$85.00
Sat. 31: Raheem DeVaughn \$85.00

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American Horticultural Society Gala at River Farm

The 2024 American Horticultural Society Gala at River Farm will be Sept. 21, co-hosted by Skipp Calvert, member of the AHS Board of Directors, and Lauren Bishop, award-winning realtor at McEneaney Associates. The annual soirée not only highlights the vibrant culture of gardening and horticultural practices but also raises vital funds to support AHS's outreach and educational programs and the stewardship of River Farm, headquarters of the AHS.

This year's event will present Marcia Zech with the AHS Gold Medal. A long-time dedicated member of the AHS Board of Directors, Zech has played a pivotal role in championing the society's mission, ensuring its financial sustainability, and safeguarding its historic River Farm headquarters.

The AHS will also posthumously honor Jim Nau, the 2024 recipient of the AHS's highest accolade, the

Liberty Hyde Bailey Award, for his lifetime contributions to the field. A revered figure in the horticultural world, Nau dedicated his entire 37-year career to the Ball Horticultural Company, where he excelled as a plant expert, writer, speaker, historian, and garden designer. He passed away in June 2023.

The event at River Farm, located at 7931 E. Boulevard Dr., Alexandria, Virginia 22308, will be held Saturday, Sept 21, 6 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. The gala will feature cocktails, dinner, dancing and mingling set amongst River Farm's stunning gardens on the Potomac River. Attire is black-tie. Individual tickets are \$375 each, and sponsorships start at \$1,250.

For more information about the gala and sponsorships, contact AHS Director of Development and Engagement Katie Tukey at ktukey@ahsgardening.org / (713) 768-5700 ext. 144. Visit www.ahsgardening.org/2024gala to purchase tickets and sponsorships.

Tons of Trucks

The popular City of Alexandria event "Tons of Trucks" returns on Saturday, Sept. 21, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Chinquapin Park, 3210 King St. This event will occur rain or shine.

Attendees of all ages are invited to explore and get behind the wheel of their favorite City vehicles, meet the staff who help build, maintain, serve, and protect the community, and learn about the vehicles they use. Other activities include an art project with the City's Mobile Art Lab, giveaways, photo opportunities, and food truck vendors.

Visitors are invited to take free DASH Bus transportation or use Capital Bikeshare to

get to the event. Onsite valet services will be provided to attendees looking to park their bikes, scooters, and strollers.

Visit alexandriava.gov/GO-Alex for more information on alternative transit options.

Driving to the event? Parking is available at Alexandria City High School, 3330 King St.; the First Baptist Church, 2932 King St.; and Oakland Baptist Church, 3408 King St.

New this year and in celebration of the City's 275th anniversary, admission is now FREE. The City will also provide a sensory-friendly hour for the first 60 minutes of the event, 10 a.m.-11 a.m.

For additional information, visit alexandriava.gov/rpca/tons-of-trucks-2024.

Conclusion of PetSmart PetsHotel Investigation

Animal Rescue League of Alexandria's Animal Services team investigated complaints against the PetSmart PetsHotel at Potomac Yard that originated on July 1 with the death of the dog named Clark.

AWLA relied on forensic testing, informa-

tion from the parties involved, veterinary records, care logs, video, and other evidence.

Clark's necropsy report showed there was a serious medical issue (bacterial pneumonia related to an E. Coli infection with possible sepsis) present in Clark's body, which – due to the severity of infection – was likely

present prior to his stay at the boarding facility.

According to the veterinarian who performed the necropsy, Clark's illness was advanced with bacteria in his lungs, thymus, liver, spleen, thyroid gland, adrenal gland, kidneys, heart, bladder and brain, and the

prognosis for survival would have been poor regardless of where or how he was being cared for. The level of bacteria present in Clark's body was highly unlikely to have occurred in the time frame in which Clark was in the custody of the PetSmart PetsHo-

SEE CONCLUSION OF, PAGE 11

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Via Veneto LLC trading as Via Veneto, 1309 Shenandoah RD, Alexandria, Fairfax County, Virginia 22308. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Restaurant, Beer and Wine and Mixed Beverage and Specialty Liqueurs, On and Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Sarai Navarrete, Owner. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or (800) 552-3200.

CALENDAR


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Obituary

IN MEMORIAM



KITTY L. RAY

August 26, 1952
August 20, 2022

You are always on our minds and in our hearts, and your name is often spoken. As time passes, fond memories of your love, kindness, joyfulness, grace and spirit are easing our grief. Gratitude for having had you in our lives is relieving our feelings of loss, as you would have wanted.

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Fatal Police Shooting Incident Update

The Alexandria Police Department in collaboration with the regional Critical Incident Response Team has identified the deceased man in the police shooting incident that occurred on Aug. 12, 2024, at 5101 Maris Avenue, as 61-year-old Paul Gabriel Behan Jr.

On Monday, Aug. 12, 2024, Alexandria Police Officers responded at approximately 10:46 p.m. to a 911 call from a man asking police to check on the well-being of one of his co-workers. The caller said the co-worker had made very concerning statements about harming himself and advised he was armed with at least two guns.

Officers, including those with specialized crisis intervention and negotiation training according to the police report, responded within three minutes, and located the man in his Maris Avenue apartment. Police said that the man exited his apartment into a common area stairwell while holding a gun. The police describe the man as a white male in his 60s.

According to the report released by Alexandria police, the officers negotiated with the armed man for more than 35 minutes, while attempting to de-escalate the situation. Through the course of the negotiation, the officers asked the man numerous times to drop his weapon. In response to what police described as a threatening action, at approximately 11:21 p.m., one APD officer discharged their service weapon, striking the man. The man was pronounced dead at the scene. No other weapons were discharged, including the man's weapon.

The APD officer, a nine-year veteran and current member of the department's Special Operations Team, has not been identified. The officer has been placed on administrative leave while an investigation is being conducted by a regional Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT), made up of investigators from other regional law enforcement agencies independent of APD.

The investigation will be conducted in two parts, according to police. First, CIRT

will conduct a criminal use-of-force investigation.

Then the APD Office of Professional Responsibility will conduct an administrative inquiry monitored by the Office of the Alexandria Independent Policing Auditor and will coordinate a review of the results of the investigation with Alexandria's Independent Police Review Board.

The CIRT was established by Northern Virginia localities in 2021 to investigate critical incidents involving law enforcement officers. At the completion of its investigation, the CIRT may present evidence to the Commonwealth's Attorney Office or other prosecuting authority for review. The Alexandria Independent Policing Auditor was also at the scene and will monitor the APD's administrative investigation once the CIRT investigation has concluded.

Anyone with information is asked to call the APD non-emergency line at 703-746-4444

Source: Alexandria Police Department

Dream On



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Apparently, when you reach a certain age (older age) you don't sleep so well or so long. But last night was different. So much so that when I woke up this morning, I immediately and enthusiastically commented on it to my wife, Dina. Moreover, I had the longest dream, with the most detail of any I've had in forever. If I hadn't been woken by my wife's phone alarm, I'd still be sleeping.

Typically, my sleep is average. With so many cancer-related thoughts and concerns locked up in my compartmentalized vault, it's no wonder that occasionally anxiety seeps out and I'm ever more cognizant of my somewhat tenuous life expectancy. Not last night though. No seepage. Just REM sleep. So relaxing and so refreshing that I'm looking forward to bedtime tonight. But I imagine; what's the positive version of lightening striking twice, well, whatever it is, I doubt it will 'strike' me/the same person on consecutive nights.

And as unpredictable as a lightning strike is, for a cancer patient who lives everyday with the "terminal" prognosis I was given 15 and almost six months ago exactly (late Feb. '09), my life is pretty unpredictable too. A random pain here. A disappointing lab result there. A problematic PET scan everywhere. It doesn't take too much for a cancer survivor - still undergoing treatment, to fret and when negative results, values, miscellaneous diagnostics, et cetera, rear their ugly head, it's difficult to take it all in stride. I mean, your life seems stable, but maybe it's actually hanging in the balance for all you know so your reality is never far from your day-to-day existence. Nevertheless, the longer I live, the luckier I feel. Unfortunately, there's few guarantees in life, especially if you're an oncology patient.

With all this underlying fear and worry front and center, back and to both sides of your brain, falling asleep is not always an easy task. As hard as you try, getting away from your reality, as a cancer patient undergoing treatment; it's just not possible, the vault notwithstanding. All you can do is try not to be bogged down mentally by your less-than-ideal circumstances. After all, I was given a "13 months to two-year" prognosis way back when. Yet here I sit, pen in hand, writing about those 15 and a half years. Still, my overwhelming concern remains the same: "Am I further from the beginning or closer to the end?" I have no doubts that trying to fall asleep with cancer thoughts/life expectancy in your head is a sure-fire sleep inhibitor.

But what if you received some good cancer news? Would your sleep be affected? To quote any number of regulars and guest stars from the old "Laugh-in" series: "You bet your sweet bippy." And you might even have the kind of dream that I had last night. Almost as if my subconscious didn't have a care in the world. For a cancer patient originally diagnosed as "terminal," 'almost' is plenty good enough to help you get a good night's sleep. That is, as long as I wake up.

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

10th Anniversary Cemetery Memorial

The tenth anniversary of the dedication of the Contrabands and Freedmen Cemetery Memorial, 1001 S. Washington St. will be celebrated Sept. 6 and 7, 2024. This year's remembrance will honor the late Lillie Finklea and her work with her friend Louise Massoud to create the Friends of Freedmen's Cemetery.

The memorial honors the hundreds of African Americans who died in Alexandria during the Civil War. Many were refugees from bondage in Maryland and Virginia, who were seeking protection under Union soldiers. In the early years of the Civil War, those who escaped to freedom in areas under Union control were called contrabands. Originating from the term "contraband of war," this protected their refugee status and prevented their return to the Confederacy.

The site of the memorial, Freedmen's Cemetery, was established by Union military authorities in 1864 in response to a health and humanitarian crisis in Alexandria. More than 1,700 freed and formerly enslaved African Americans were buried in the cemetery during and just after the war. The cemetery fell into disrepair and nearly faded from memory before being restored and rededicated in 2007.

The Contrabands and Freedmen Cemetery Memorial opened in 2014 on the site

of the cemetery, to honor the memory of the Freedmen, the hardships they faced, and their contributions to Alexandria.

Saturday, Sept. 7, 8 p.m. Candlelight vigil and wreath laying at Freedmen's Cemetery, Free and open to the public

Shuttle service from Lee Center starting at 7:30 pm.

Friday, Sept. 6, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.: Bus Tour of Pre-Civil Era Historic African American Churches and Sites of Alexandria

Visit historic African American churches in downtown Alexandria that grew and flourished before and during the Civil War, learning their stories from the congregations. This tour which begins and ends at the Alexandria Black History Museum will also drive by other important African American sites. Box lunch will be provided. Cost is \$50 per person. Tickets online. <https://shop.alexandriava.gov/Events.aspx>

Saturday, September 7

❖ 12 p.m.: 10th Anniversary Luncheon
Celebrate and commemorate the 10-year anniversary of Contrabands and Freedmen Cemetery Memorial over an outstanding lunch with speakers honoring the preservation of African American history. The key-

note speaker for the luncheon is Pastor Michelle Thomas, a leading figure in Loudoun County for her work with the NAACP, uncovering her area's lynching history and her preservation of historic Black Cemeteries. Held at the award-winning Hotel AKA. Cost is \$75 per person. Tickets online <https://shop.alexandriava.gov/Events.aspx>

❖ 3-5 p.m.: Bus Tour to Arlington House

Over the 60 years leading up to the Civil War, Arlington House was home to at least 100 enslaved African Americans who lived and labored on the estate. Enslaved people at Arlington House lived difficult lives of forced labor. However, they found small ways to resist, in addition to building families and close connections with each other. The National Park Service interprets the history of the Lee and Custis families and the stories of those enslaved by them, including the Syphax, Burke, Parks, Branham, and Gray families, to present a more complete story of life at Arlington House.

Presentation and discussion will be led by Steve Hammond, Genealogist, Family Historian, and Syphax descendant and National Park Service guides. This event begins and ends at the Hotel AKA. Cost is \$50 per person. <https://shop.alexandriava.gov/Events.aspx>

This event requires some walking. Hour tour will be self-guided.

Conclusion of PetSmart PetsHotel Investigation

FROM PAGE 9

tel. Furthermore, according to the veterinarian, the onset of physical symptoms related to the illness would have been sudden and worsened rapidly.

Two other dogs who died were cremated, and so AWLA was not able to perform necropsies on Blu or Lily. In Lily's case, however, her cause of death could be attributed to her advanced age, AWLA said.

"While we do not believe the care provided at the PetsHotel during the time Clark, Blu, and Lily boarded was of an exceptional caliber due to the high number of animals in

relation to care staff (100-160 animals to 4-5 care staff), on review of this case with the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office, it was determined that since Clark had a pre-existing medical condition and that medical care was sought by PetSmart staff for Clark, there is insufficient evidence to charge PetSmart or any of its staff with a violation of the Virginia animal care codes and no criminal proceedings will be filed in this matter," the AWLA report states.

"We will be making strong recommendations to the PetSmart PetsHotel to consider increasing staff or limiting the number of

animals in the facility based on current staffing levels.

Pet boarding industry standards recommend having an animal-to-staff ratio of one person to every 15 animals in order to provide the highest level of care. We also strongly recommend that PetSmart have a licensed veterinary technician on staff to monitor animal health and/or require boarding facility staff receive regular and recurring training on how to quickly recognize and respond to medical concerns in the animals kept at the facility."

Source: AWLA

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OPEN SUN, 8/25 1-3

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OPEN SAT, 8/24, 12-2

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Old Town

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