

Alexandria Gazette Packet

25 CENTS

SERVING ALEXANDRIA FOR OVER 200 YEARS • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

OCTOBER 3, 2024

Breaking Ground Inova begins work on new hospital facilities.

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Northern Virginia marked the groundbreaking of two new state-of-the-art hospitals Sept. 30, including the Alexandria location on the West End site of the former Landmark Mall.

“The replacement of Inova Alexandria Hospital on these two sites continues Inova’s legacy of providing exceptional healthcare to Alexandria and the broader region, a tradition that has spanned more than 150 years,” said Dr. J. Stephen Jones, President and CEO of Inova Health System. “Inova’s commitment to providing greater access to world-class care runs deep, as we invest billions back into the community to enhance healthcare services and ensure that our neighbors have access to the care they need for generations to come.”

In addition to Alexandria, a groundbreaking was held to establish a new Inova location in Franconia-Springfield. Together the two facilities will replace the existing Inova Alexandria Hospital.

Mayor Justin Wilson was joined at the Landmark location by city officials, healthcare leaders and community stakeholders.

“Inova’s re-investment in the City of Alexandria is both substantial and transformative,” Wilson said. “These projects will spur redevelopment and economic growth opportunities in the West End for the first time in decades. Alongside the world-class healthcare care for our residents, it’s truly a win on multiple fronts.”

The current Inova Alexandria Hospital, which opened on Seminary Road in 1962, will ultimately be replaced by three interconnected projects: the new Inova Alexandria Campus, which will include a cancer center and an outpatient services facility; the Franconia-Springfield Campus, which will complement the existing emergency and outpatient services of the adjacent Inova Franconia-Springfield Health Center; and a new Inova Health Center – Oakville. Located in the Potomac Yard-National Landing corridor, the Oakville facility is slated to open in November. It will feature

an emergency room, outpatient services, ambulatory surgery center and physician offices.

“These new facilities represent a new physical identity that reflects Inova’s commitment to clinical excellence and compassionate care,” said Dr. Rina Bansal, President, Inova Alexandria Hospital. “These buildings will seamlessly blend beauty with functionality, creating spaces that enhance the experience for our patients, visitors, and team members alike.”

The Inova Alexandria Campus will anchor the redevelopment of the former Landmark Mall site. The new facility will have 192 beds in fully private rooms and offer expanded services including advanced cardiac and neurosciences care, comprehensive women’s health services, specialized cancer care and a trauma center.

The Inova Franconia-Springfield Campus will feature a 110-bed facility equipped with advanced emergency care, surgical services, and specialized inpatient care. Located off Beulah Street in Fairfax County, the project will link to the current HealthPlex there.

SEE BREAKING GROUND, PAGE 11



Alexandria Mayor Justin Wilson, right, is joined by members of City Council and Inova Health System officials at the groundbreaking of the new Inova Alexandria Hospital Sept. 30 on the site of the former Landmark Mall.



Dr. Stephen Jones, President and CEO of Inova Health System, speaks at the groundbreaking of the new Inova Alexandria Hospital Sept. 30 at the site of the former Landmark Mall.



Staff from Clark Construction pose for a photo at the groundbreaking of the new Inova Alexandria Hospital Sept. 30 at the site of the former Landmark Mall.

All Creatures Great and Small

Trinity UMC holds Blessing of the Animals.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

The annual Blessing of the Animals was held Sept. 28 at Trinity United Methodist Church with Rev. Grace Han welcoming families and their pets from across the region.

“We host this at Trinity Church as a recognition that the animals that bless our families and our homes are very much a part of who we are and who our families are,” Han said. “They’re the loyal companions that live with us every day, that give us support when we are down, that agree with us and laugh with

us, and that have been a support for us.”

The annual event is held in memory of Saint Francis of Assisi. Known for his patronage of animals, churches around the world hold ceremonies blessing animals on recognition of his feast day in early October.

“I remember during the COVID season so many people talking about how their animals became such an integral part of their lives,” Han said. “We couldn’t physically connect with others so our animals were the ways that we were able to connect. We think it’s important to offer a blessing in recognizing the importance of pets in our lives.”

“We host this as a recognition that the animals that bless our families and our homes are very much a part of who we are and who our families are.”

— Rev. Grace Han

Han said a prayer prior to offering individual blessings with attendees. All pets were welcome and photos of pets unable to attend were included in the ceremony that included certificates for each of the blessed animals.



Rev. Grace Han offers a blessing at the annual Blessing of the Animals Sept. 28 at Trinity United Methodist Church.

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

ELECTION NOTICE - CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

General Election - Tuesday, November 5, 2024

VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The Voter Registration Deadline for this Election is
Tuesday, October 15, 2024

Eligible citizens who will be 18 or over by November 5, 2024 may apply to register to vote (or update an address) online, by mail, or in person.

Online at <https://vote.elections.virginia.gov>, prior to 11:59 pm on **October 15, 2024**.

By Mail, download an application at alexandriava.gov/elections or call 703.746.4050. Applications must be postmarked by **October 15, 2024**.

In Person at the following sites, prior to 5pm on **October 15, 2024**:

Voter Registration Office 132 North Royal St, Suite 100 Alexandria, Virginia 22314 Monday thru Friday, 8am to 5pm 703.746.4050	Division of Motor Vehicles 2681 Mill Road, Alexandria, VA 22314 Please contact the DMV for hours.	For voting information, including sample ballots and list of acceptable ID go to: alexandriava.gov/elections
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Same-Day Registration is available to individuals who missed the standard registration period. Go to AlexandriaVa.gov/Elections for more information.

EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

All registered voters are eligible to request a by-mail ballot or vote early.

To vote in-person, early: Office of Voter Registration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm • Evenings and weekend hours available; see website below. Beatley Central Library (beginning October 21, 2024) George Washington Middle School (weekends starting October 26, 2024) Minnie Howard Campus (weekends starting October 26, 2024) For complete absentee hours at all locations, check alexandriava.gov/elections Deadline for in-person, early voting: Saturday, November 2, 2024 at 5pm <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; font-size: x-small;"> Special Services: Requests for reasonable accommodation due to a disability should be made with at least a 48-hr notice. TTY number for hearing impaired persons: 703.838.5056. </div>	To vote by mail: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply online: https://vote.elections.virginia.gov; or • Download an absentee application from alexandriava.gov/elections; or • Call 703.746.4050 to request an application. Return the application by mail, fax, or email. Deadlines for voting by mail: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absentee ballot applications must be received by 5pm on October 25, 2024. • Mailed Ballots must be received by 7pm on November 5, 2024 or postmarked by election day and received by Noon on Friday, November 8, 2024. • A secure outdoor drop box is available outside the Office of Voter Registration. This box will be under video surveillance and available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Ballots must be deposited by 7pm on November 5, 2024.
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City of Alexandria Office Voter Registration and Elections
 132 North Royal St, Suite 100
 Alexandria, Virginia 22314
 Office: 703.746.4050 ; Fax: 703.746.4540
 Website: alexandriava.gov/elections ; Email: voters@alexandriava.gov



Rocky, left, and Brooklyn from Frederick, Md., attend the Blessing of the Animals Sept. 28 at Trinity United Methodist Church.



Rev. Grace Han, left, chats with Nell and Dave Mercer after blessing Scout during the Blessing of the Animals Sept. 28 at Trinity United Methodist Church.

‘In Darkness There Is Light’

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

APD dedicates suicide awareness plaque.

By JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

A ceremony was held at Alexandria Police Department Headquarters Sept. 25 to unveil a plaque dedicated to officers who have died by suicide as part of a recognition of National Law Enforcement Suicide Awareness Day, which was the following day.

It was one year ago that the APD Suicide Memorial was dedicated in front of APD headquarters. The names of Jason Kline and Steven Pagach IV, best friends who served together on the force, are etched on the granite slab located next to the APD Fallen Officers Memorial.

Kline died in 2004 and Pagach in 2011.

The recent dedication was for a plaque installed near the rear entrance to the building used daily by APD personnel.

“We want this to be a reminder that there is hope and there is help,” said Lt. Tara Delio May of the

“We want this to be a reminder that there is hope and there is help.”

— APD Lt. Tara Delio May

plaque inscribed with the words “In darkness there is light.”

May did a presentation on officers Kline and Pagach while attending the National FBI Academy in 2022 and conceived the idea of a memorial in Alexandria.

“The emotional path of our profession is often challenging,” May said. “I along with others within the APD have struggled with the sudden loss of officers and friends to suicide. I recognized the need to remove the stigma often attached to the mental health struggles of our profession.”

National Law Enforcement Suicide Awareness Day aims to reduce the stigma associated with reaching out for help and support those who protect and serve.

According to the National Institutes of Health, police and other law enforcement officers are more likely to experience mental health issues. Worldwide one in every seven police officers suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder, and one in 10 struggles from other mental illnesses.

“With the addition of the awareness plaque I wanted to remind those women and men who serve the City of Alexandria that first and foremost we are a family with-



APD honor guard members place a wreath at the memorial to law enforcement officers who have died by suicide during a Sept. 25 ceremony commemorating National Law Enforcement Suicide Awareness Day.



Interim Police Chief Raul Pedroso, left, and Alexandria Police Foundation board chair Charlotte Hall unveil a plaque dedicated to law enforcement professionals who have died by suicide at a Sept. 25 ceremony at APD headquarters.



Lt. Tara Delio May reads the inscription on the plaque dedicated to officers.

in these walls and there is help when it’s needed,” May said. “It’s my vision that this will serve as a daily reminder to the brave women and men of our department and that we never have to inscribe another name on the memorial that honorably stands out front of our headquarters.”



Interim Police Chief Raul Pedroso, third from left, stands before the plaque dedicated to law enforcement professionals who have died by suicide during a ceremony Sept. 25 at APD headquarters. With him are, from left: Airports Authority Lt. Tim Blayman, City Manager Jim Parajon, Undersheriff Robyn Nichols, Chief deputy Dave Cutting, Assistant Chief Tina Laguna and Deputy City Manager Yon Lambert.

FALL FUN

It's Fall Y'all

Pumpkin Patch, Art on the Avenue top list of things to do.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

It's that time of year again with crisp air, pumpkin lattes and leaf-peeping upon us. While bidding farewell to flip flops and barbecues, the change in seasons brings out some of the most beloved Alexandria traditions the city has to offer.

The nationally acclaimed Art on the Avenue in Del Ray makes its return Oct. 5. Along with the annual Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill Pumpkin Patch on Seminary Road, the two lead any list of top things to do to make the most of the season in Alexandria.

Held the first Saturday of October on Mount Vernon Avenue between Hume and Bellefonte Avenues, Art on the Avenue showcases hundreds of local artists against the backdrop of the vibrant Del Ray community. The event, considered one of the top arts events in Northern Virginia, is entirely volunteer-run, with support from the Del Ray Business Association and the local business community.

In addition to the artists and craftsmen, four entertainment stages feature live music from Blues to Bluegrass, Irish, Country and Rock and Roll.

Alexandria is also home to the region's largest Pumpkin Patch as Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill operates its month-long fundraiser to support local charities.

In addition to pumpkins, also for sale are gourds, home-made soups and baked goods, and autumn-Halloween-themed crafts. All Patch profits go to more than 25 local, national and international charities that directly support feeding, housing, educating and caring for vulnerable communities.

In Alexandria, supported organizations include Carpenter's Shelter, ALIVE!, Senior Services of Alexandria, Community Lodgings, and Child and Family Network Centers among others. The pumpkins are grown on the Navajo Indian Reservation in New Mexico and are distributed and consigned to Immanuel and over 1,300 other churches of various denominations throughout the country. These partnerships support over 300 jobs on the reservation and the programs of participating churches nationwide.

Visit both to kick off a colorful fall season then join in a variety of

events to enjoy all Alexandria has to offer.

10 Things to See and Do this Fall

29th Annual Art on the Avenue - A multicultural arts and music festival for and by locals. Entertainment, art activities and a pie-baking contest along with 350 artisans displaying and selling their work. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Oct. 5 on Mount Vernon Avenue between Hume and Bellefonte Avenues. www.ArtontheAvenue.org.

31st Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill Pumpkin Patch fundraiser for charity is going on now through Oct. 31. The pumpkin patch offers all sizes of pumpkins grown by Navajo farmers, from small handheld "spookies" to large pumpkins for jack-o-lanterns; prices start at \$1 and go up based on size. 3606 Seminary Road

Paws in the Park - Join the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria at Alexandria's biggest fall festival for animal lovers Oct. 13 at Oronoco Bay Park from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Paws in the Park brings together shopping and vendors, live music and entertainment, food and drink,



PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

Maya and Ashton Ratwani select pumpkins Sept. 29 at the Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill Pumpkin Patch. Benefitting local charities, the pumpkin patch is open daily through Oct. 31.

kids' activities, and adoptable animals. The event is free to attend and leashed, well-behaved dogs are welcome. Event proceeds benefit the Animal Welfare League of

Alexandria (AWLA). www.pawsintheparkva.com.

Arts Safari - Free hands-on arts and crafts activities for children. Oct. 13 from noon to 4 p.m. at

the Torpedo Factory Arts Center. Children will enjoy the Clay Experience, Arts Safari Painting, Fabric Collage, Origami Art, Giant

SEE PUMPKIN PATCH, PAGE 5



Remi Dave, 1, with mom Ruby Parikh and grandmother Rina Parikh Sept. 29 at the Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill Pumpkin Patch.



An assortment of gourds and autumn crafts is available at the Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill Pumpkin Patch.

FALL FUN

Pumpkin Patch, Art on the Avenue Top list of Things to Do

FROM PAGE 4

Paper-Mache Animal, and more. Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. www.torpedofactory.org.

Think Pink! – Ninth annual Walk to Bust Cancer Oct. 20 at Fort Hunt Park. Sponsored by the National Breast Center Foundation. www.walktobustcancer.org

28th Annual Del Ray Halloween Parade - Join in the fun Oct. 27 at 2 p.m. by either participating or just watching the decorated strollers and costumed kids, adults and pets parade along Mount Vernon Avenue for this annual tradition. Sponsored by the Del Ray Business Association, they also collect and distribute costumes to children in need. www.visitdelray.com.

18th Annual Alexandria Film Festival - Explore the world without leaving town. Set to be held Nov. 7-10, the festival will show an eclectic collection of films from a handful of countries around the globe. At locations throughout the city. www.AlexFilmFest.com

Fall Harvest Family Days - Mount Vernon Estate welcomes the autumn season with Fall Harvest Family Days Oct. 19 and 20 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wagon rides, wheat



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Art on the Avenue takes place Oct. 5 in Del Ray.

treading in the 16-sided barn, 18th-century dancing demonstrations, apple-roasting, corn husk dolls demonstrations and ear-

ly-American games and music. www.MountVernon.org.

Del Ray Turkey Trot - A Thanksgiving Day tradition for 49 years, the Nov. 28 race will also feature a food drive for the Alive! food bank. www.visitdelray.com/turkeytrot

See a Show – Just in time for Halloween the Little Theatre of Alexandria debuts the award-winning musical Jekyll and Hyde. Loosely based on the 1886 novella The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr. Hyde by Robert Louis Stevenson, the production features music by Frank Wildhorn, and a book by Leslie Bricusse. Oct. 19 - Nov. 9. www.thelittletheatre.com



The Torpedo Factory will host its annual Arts Safari Oct. 13.



Paws in the Park supports the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. It will be held Oct. 13 at Oronoco Bay Park.



The Walk to Bust Cancer will be held Oct. 20 at Fort Hunt Park.

Commission on Women Celebrates 50 Years

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

The City of Alexandria commemorated 50 years of the Commission on Women with a Sept. 24 celebration in the Vola Lawson Lobby of City Hall.

Past and present members of the commission were joined by city officials and stakeholders as remarks were made beneath a portrait of Vola Lawson, the former City Manager who founded the commission in 1974.

women employees of the city, a comment also echoed by past chair Susan Kellom.

“One of the things we moved along was the recognition of women in the city in regard to employment,” said Kellom, who served for many years on the commission in the late 1990s and early 2000s. “It’s not that there was an overwhelming prejudice against women it’s just that you had to work a little bit harder and you had to do a little bit more to really be considered equal. We’re almost equal now but still have work to do.”

“One thing that continues to surprise me is the prejudice that you see against women. I really don’t understand why it exists.”

— Jane Flinn, past Commission on Women chair

“I’ve witnessed time and time again just how important it is and how powerful it can be to build community locally, to approach gender justice with intersectionality and to get involved at all levels for the change you wish to see in our lives and communities,” said commission chair Lexi White.

Joining White for the celebration were past commission chairs, including Jane Flinn, a member of the commission when it was first founded in the 1970s.

“Women had different expectations back then,” said Flinn, an associate professor of psychology at George Mason University. “I guess I was interested in leveling the playing field.”

Flinn said she was most proud of the progress the commission made when it comes to pay equality for

Flinn agreed that things have improved but still sees an underlying prejudice against women.

“Things have changed very much for the better,” Flinn said. “But one thing that continues to surprise me is the prejudice that you see against women. I really don’t understand why it exists. I guess it’s a question of power and right now if women and men are competing for jobs, it’s twice as hard for men to get that job.”

Vice Mayor Amy Jackson read a proclamation from the city commemorating the commission on 50 years of advocacy for women.

White touted the progress the commission has made on several fronts, particularly maternal health care, support for survivors of domestic and intimate partner violence and sexual as-



Members and supporters of the Commission on Women gather to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the commission Sept. 24 at City Hall.

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET



Commission on Women chair Lexi White, left, poses for a photo with past chairs Mary Catherine Hart, Elizabeth Johnson and Susan Kellom (seated) at the 50th anniversary celebration of the Commission on Women Sept. 24 at City Hall.



Vice Mayor Amy Jackson reads a proclamation commemorating 50 years of the Commission on Women Sept. 24 at City Hall. Above her is a portrait of former City Manager Vola Lawson, who founded the commission in 1974.

sault, access to affordable housing and transportation and public health needs.

“There’s no shortage of work

to do ahead and as we honor 50 years of the commission’s service to the city of Alexandria,” White said. “I’m so inspired by the won-

derful leaders on the Commission for Women today who will continue to lead us into a more just and equitable future for all.”

ALEXANDRIA NEWS BRIEFS

Fall Festival on Saturday, Oct. 5

The City of Alexandria’s Department of Community and Human Services annual Fall Festival is on Saturday, Oct. 5, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 5067 Seminary Rd. A day of entertainment and community spirit is planned with live music, a variety of food trucks, and several market vendors.

Families can enjoy kid-friendly games, exciting activities, and the chance to win raffle prizes throughout the day. This festival is an opportunity to connect with neighbors.

Attendees are encouraged to wear orange to show support for Hunger Free Alexandria.

Cybersecurity Awareness Month

The 21st Annual Cybersecurity Awareness Month is a collaborative effort among businesses, government agencies, 6 ❖ ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE PACKET ❖ OCTOBER 3-9, 2024

colleges and universities, associations, nonprofit organizations, tribal communities, and individuals committed to educating others about online safety.

Emerging technologies have benefits but they come with new opportunities for bad actors. Here are four easy steps for more safety in digital activities: :

- ❖ Understand the benefits of using a password manager and dispelling existing myths around password manager security and ease of use.
- ❖ Turn on multifactor authentication on personal devices and business networks.
- ❖ Recognize and report phishing – still one of the primary threat actions used by cybercriminals today.
- ❖ Install updates on a regular basis and turn on automated updates.

City of Alexandria supports this online safety awareness initiative, led by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and the National Cybersecurity Alliance.

For more, visit cisa.gov/cybersecurity-awareness-month and staysafeonline.org/cybersecurity-awareness-month/.

Related local events:

❖ The City’s Office of the Arts (a division in RPCA) in partnership with the Commonwealth Cyber Initiative (CCI) and Virginia Tech, will hold an art exhibition on Cybersecurity at the Torpedo Factory Art Center from Oct. 5 - Jan. 19. A reception will occur Oct. 18 from 6-8:30 pm with limited free tickets for the public. Ticket RSVPs will be available here. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cci-cyberarts-opening-reception-tickets-1004787776287>

❖ Hosted by City IT Commission and Computer CORE, “Secure Your Digital Life” Saturday, Oct. 26 from 10 am-12 pm. It will be at the Del Pepper Community Center MCD 1305 A, B, and C rooms. See <https://apps.alexandriava.gov/Calendar/Detail.aspx?si=57939>

Join the Eco City Academy

The Eco-City Academy is a six-week program where participants learn about the City’s environmental policies and how to lead sustainability efforts in their neighborhoods.



The Alexandria Sportsman's Club honored its Athletes of the Month Sept. 18 at the Old Dominion Boat Club. Honored were: Alpha Jalloh, Football, Alexandria City High School; Claire Hanley, Girls Tennis, St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School; Lawson Marshall, football, Episcopal High School; Lydia Navitsky, Girls Cross Country, Episcopal High School; Lelah Forbes, Field Hockey, Alexandria City High School; Kaz Penkiunas, Football, St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School; Drew Madden, Boys Soccer, Bishop Ireton High School; and Kate Hare, Field Hockey, Bishop Ireton High School.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Alexandria Sportsman's Club president Ryan Fannon, left, moderates the roundtable discussion of the city's varsity high school football coaches Sept. 18 at the Old Dominion Boat Club. With Fannon are, from left: Rodney Hughey, Alexandria City High School; Bernard Joseph, Bishop Ireton High School; Kadeem Rodgers, Episcopal High School; and Vashon Winton, St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School.

ASC Kicks off Football Season

HS student athletes honored.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

The Alexandria Sportsman's Club kicked off the fall 2024 sports season with its annual High School Football night Sept. 18 at the Old Dominion Boat Club.

A roundtable with the varsity head coaches from each of the city's high schools shared team insights and expectations, provided the inside scoop, and answered questions on all things Alexandria football.

ASC president Ryan Fannon moderated the roundtable, which included Rodney Hughey of Alexandria City High School, Bernard Joseph of Bishop Ireton High School,

Kadeem Rodgers of Episcopal High School, and Vashon Winton of St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School.

In addition to the roundtable, the organization honored eight student athletes with Athlete of the Month recognition. Each was presented a plaque as part of the ceremony.

Honored as September Athletes of the Month were: Alpha Jalloh, Football, Alexandria City High School; Claire Hanley,

Girls Tennis, St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School; Lawson Marshall, football, Episcopal High School; Lydia Navitsky, Girls Cross Country, Episcopal High School; Lelah Forbes, Field Hockey, Alexandria City High School; Kaz Penkiunas, Football, St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School; Drew Madden, Boys Soccer, Bishop Ireton High School; and Kate Hare, Field Hockey, Bishop Ireton High School.

www.alexandriavasports.org

ALEXANDRIA NEWS BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 6

The academy offers the opportunity to learn from experts, build connections, and make a difference in shaping Alexandria's future.

The program is open to Alexandria residents aged 17+ who apply online by Nov. 8. Spaces are limited, so apply soon. The program begins on Thursday, Jan. 9, 2025, and runs for 6 weeks, with classes held every Thursday from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm, concluding on Feb. 13, 2025. Dinner will be provided, and the sessions will be conducted in-person in English. Contact Eco-CityAlexandria@alexandriava.gov. If you prefer communication in another language, free interpretation and translation services are available to you, email LanguageAccess@alexandriava.gov or call (703) 746-3960

Overnight Double Shooting

Alexandria Police officers responded to a double shooting at N. Fayette and Wythe Streets.

At approximately 2 a.m. Sept. 28, officers of the Alexandria Police Department responded to the 1100 block of Wythe Street for the report of shots fired. Two male juveniles were located inside a vehicle, both having suffered apparent gunshot wounds. The two males were transported to the hospital, www.connectionnewspapers.com

one in critical condition and the other in stable condition.

Detectives are continuing to investigate this incident. If you have any information about this incident, please call Detective Jason Marable of the APD Criminal Investigations Division at 703-746-6883. Tips can be submitted anonymously.

Exploring Civil Rights in Alexandria

A Symposium on the 60th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act will reflect on civil rights history and its modern impact. On Friday, Oct. 18, 2024, Historic Alexandria will host the Alexandria Forum. This day-long symposium focuses on the interpretation of civil rights history and its relevance today. Taking place at the Virginia Theological Seminary's Lettie Pate Whitehead Room (3737 Seminary Rd.), this year's event will explore how to better engage audiences in truth-telling and racial reconciliation.

Timed to coincide with the 60th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Forum will delve into the evolution of civil rights in Alexandria and beyond, reflecting on the powerful legacy of the American Revolution in Virginia – a Revolution of Ideas that continues to shape the struggle for

equality and justice.

Highlights of the symposium include:

- ❖ Keynote Address: Dr. Krystyn Moon, Professor at the University of Mary Washington, will present "Housing Activism in Mid-Twentieth Century Alexandria," a critical examination of local housing activism efforts that shaped the city's landscape.

- ❖ Lectures, Short Films, and Panel Discussion: Throughout the day, attendees will engage with a variety of lectures and short films highlighting ongoing research into Alexandria's civil rights history. The event will culminate in a panel discussion with scholars and activists focused on promoting historical truth and fostering racial healing.

- * Networking Opportunities: The day will conclude with a networking happy hour at 4:30 p.m.

The Alexandria Forum will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with a continental breakfast and boxed lunches provided. Tickets for the event are \$65, with a discounted rate of \$45 for Historic Alexandria members and students.

Tickets can be purchased online.

For additional information and to secure your spot, please visit Historic Alexandria's website www.alexandriava.gov/Historic.

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ENTERTAINMENT

ONGOING

Alexandria Ghost Tours and

Haunted Pub Crawls. Alexandria Ghosts offers guided ghost tours and adults-only haunted pub crawls nightly that highlight the city's dark history and unique local lore highlighting Alexandria's haunted history. The tours feature stories from historic sites and iconic locations like the Carlyle House, Ramsey House, and the infamous Wilkes Tunnel. Each experience transports you to the city's eerie past, a time before it was a trendy place to live, work, and play. Alexandria has a tragic history so disturbing it's often hidden from tourists who descend upon the city daily.

The Four Terrifying Tour Experiences of Alexandria Ghosts:

1. Alexandria Ghosts: Phantoms of the Potomac: Explore Alexandria's haunted history as you follow in the ghostly footsteps of George Washington and other restless spirits in this colonial city.
 2. Alexandria Ghosts Boos and Booze Haunted Pub Crawl: Combine history, hauntings, and a lively pub crawl in Alexandria's haunted bars.
 3. Alexandria Ghosts Ultimate Dead of Night Haunted Ghost Tour: A deep dive into Alexandria's eerie past, from Native American history to Civil War hauntings.
- ❖ Meeting Locations: 323 Cameron St, Alexandria, VA 22314 (Phantoms of the Potomac); 138 N Royal St, Alexandria, VA 22314 (Pub Crawl & Ultimate Dead of Night Tour); 301 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 (Washington's Footsteps). Visit <https://alexandriaghosts.com>.

WEDNESDAYS THROUGH SATURDAYS

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

GROW WITH YOUR GARDEN AT GREEN SPRING GARDEN TALKS

The Park Authority is here to help gardeners this fall with a plant-tastic lineup of Green Spring Garden Talks, 4603 Green Spring Road in Alexandria. Learn some tips and techniques that will spruce up your plants and other "soil-mates" with the help from fellow gardeners, VCE Master Gardeners and naturalists. All events are held at Green Spring Gardens and are \$12 per person. Additional fees apply for out-of-county residents.

Alternatives for Invasive Plants. Friday, Oct. 11, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Discover the different plants you can grow to avoid other bullying plants from taking over your yard.

Make a Backyard Sanctuary for Wildlife. Saturday, Oct. 26, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Learn gardening techniques for attracting pollinators, birds



Old Town Cocktail Week takes place Sept. 26 to Oct. 6, 2024 at locations throughout Alexandria.

and other native insects into your garden to improve habitat loss. **Composting Made Simple.** Friday, Nov. 8, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Learn the value that comes with putting compost into your yard and garden instead of your trashcan.

Adapt & Thrive with Climate Change. Saturday, Nov. 16, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Extension Master Gardeners share ways to adapt your garden practices to changing climate patterns through plant selection, water management and more!

NOW THRU OCT. 27

Alexandria Plein Air. At The Athenaeum, Alexandria. Six artists began regular outdoor painting sessions in and around Alexandria, VA to help cope with the pandemic. They have continued the practice and this exhibit displays their interpretations of local sites, natural and man made, in a variety of seasons. Featuring: Mary Anne Cochran-Fox, Calina Franzosa, Seana Gallagher, Renee Lachman, Theresa Miller and Karen Thuerner.

SEPT. 26 TO OCT. 6

Old Town Cocktail Week. At locations throughout Old Town Alexandria. Old Town Cocktail Week will feature spirited events, workshops and activities at shops and restaurants around Old Town. The festivities kick off at Art on the Rocks at the Heron Hotel on September 26 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Guests can sample up to ten unique cocktail and appetizer pairings and vote for their favorite pairing while enjoying imaginative artwork, live music and more.

OCT. 4-6

Fall Wine Festival & Sunset Tour. 6-9 p.m. At George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy., Mount Vernon. Taste unlimited samples from Virginia wineries after hours at George Washington's estate. Bring a blanket and relax on the east lawn overlooking the Potomac River, and enjoy concessions available for purchase from the Mount Vernon Inn Restaurant. Note that the Mansion will not be open during this event. Visit mountvernon.org.

OCT. 4-26

The "Artificial or Intelligence?" Art Exhibit. At Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Features art that explores what the future might look like with AI and whether machine learning feels artificial or intelligent at the present moment. Opening Reception: Friday, October 4 from 7-9 p.m. Open Thursdays 12-6 p.m., Fridays 12-9 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays 12-6 p.m. (Closed October 27). Details: DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits

SATURDAY/OCT. 5

29th Annual Art on the Avenue. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. At Mount Vernon Ave. between Hume Ave. and Bellefonte Ave., Alexandria. The 29th Annual Art on the Avenue festival held in Del Ray features more than 300 juried artists, from quilters to card-makers to cartographers, displaying their one-of-a-kind wares. Arrive with an appetite and grab a bite from dozens of food vendors while soaking up live music (Irish, folk, rock-n-roll, country and more) along the avenue. Plus, kids activities abound with pumpkin painting, screen art weaving and more. Please note parking is extremely limited. Trolley transportation will be available from the Braddock Road Metro.

SATURDAY/OCT. 5

Fairy House Festival. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. At woodlawn & Pope-Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Highway, Alexandria. Build your own tiny fairy house using materials found in nature. Special activities will take place throughout the day including story times and crafts on the grounds of the Pope-Leighey House. The Pope-Leighey House was designed by architect Frank Lloyd Wright as a small, affordable home that was built in harmony with the nature around it. Perfect for children, families, and nature lovers of all ages!

SATURDAY/OCT. 5

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 hard backs and large paperbacks, and 25 cents for mass market paperbacks. Visit <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-sherwood-regional>

SUNDAY/OCT. 6

Chamber Music Series. 6 p.m. At Alexandria History Museum at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington Street, Alexandria. Presenting The President's Own United States Marine Band. Free.

SUNDAY/OCT. 6

Candidate Forum. 1:30-4 p.m. At Charles E. Beatley Jr. Library, 5005 Duke Street, Alexandria. The League of Women Voters is hosting a candidating forum in Alexandria. Each candidate will sit at a separate table, and voters will have 10 to 15 minutes with each candidate to ask questions. Once the 15 minutes is up, voters will rotate to a new table until all voters have had a chance to meet the candidates. This means you'll have direct access to the candidates to talk about the issues you care about the most. Questions? Email at lwvarlington@gmail.com.

OCT. 9-10

Flower Show: "The Chemistry of Fall." Wednesday, 2 to 5 p.m.; Thursday 8-11 a.m. At River Farm, 7931 East Boulevard Drive, Alexandria. The 19 garden Clubs in District II from Northern Virginia are holding a flower show titled "The Chemistry of Fall" at River Farm." The public are invited to view the local horticulture grown by the garden club members as well as the beautiful designs and photography they have created. District II is one of the 4 districts in the National Capital Area Garden Club organization. There are currently 60 garden clubs with over 2,100 members in our area that covers northern Virginia, southern Maryland and the District of Columbia. Contact Anne Dremeluk at yachthavengardenclubva@gmail.com.

FRIDAY/OCT. 11

Book Signing. 7 p.m. At the Athenaeum, Alexandria. Depression Made Me Write This, by C. Alexan-

dria-Bernard Thomas. Join in an inspiring book signing event with poet, orator, and teaching artist, C. Alexandria-Bernard Thomas, the author of the powerful new work, Depression Made Me Write This. At first glance, the title might suggest a narrative of glorifying struggle, but Thomas's writing takes an entirely different path. Instead, this book invites readers to see themselves as a collection of experiences, each shaping the landscape of their lives.

SATURDAY/OCT. 12

Designing American Living. 3-4:30 p.m. At Woodlawn & Pope-Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Hwy., Alexandria. Woodlawn & Pope-Leighey House provide a unique opportunity to put two American styles of architecture - separated by over a century - in conversation with one another. Take a close look at both houses to examine what it was that the architects who built these homes were trying to convey about the people who lived here, the period they lived in, and what they thought the future held. Visit the website: <https://www.woodlawnpopeleighey.org/upcomingevents/2024/10/12/designing-american-living>

SUNDAY/OCT. 13

The Carpenter's 20th Anniversary Cook-Off. Noon to 3 p.m. At The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Indulge in an afternoon of food and fun while supporting Carpenter's Shelter! Attendees will enjoy tastings from 20 area restaurants, bid on hot ticket items during the live and silent auctions, and listen to live music. Restaurants to Date: Hard Times Café, Hen Quarter, Nando's Peri Peri Chicken, The Majestic, The Royal, What the Chef, Mystic BBQ & Grill, Bittersweet Catering, Landini Brothers, Misha's, The Warehouse, The Wharf, Pork Barrel BBQ. General Admission (Now until October 11): \$75 Adults, 25 Children (12 and under). At the Door Tickets (on October 13): \$100 Adults, \$30 Children (12 and under). All proceeds from this event will support Carpenter's Shelter, which now operates two homeless shelters in Alexandria, VA and serves 909 people total—248 children, 67 families and 500 single individuals experiencing homelessness.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 16

Yacht Haven Garden Club Benefit. Yacht Haven Garden Club's 40th annual Fashion Show, Silent Auction and Luncheon fundraiser "40 Years of Friendship, Fashion and Flowers," will be held at the Mount Vernon Country Club in Alexandria. Fashions will be provided by Sara Campbell. Tickets are \$60.00. Deadline is October 9. For reservations, contact: Joyce Tami at yachthavengardenclubva@gmail.com.

SATURDAY/OCT. 19

Aware. 1-3 p.m. At the Athenaeum, Alexandria. Join in a family friendly, free event curated by the Athenaeum's Poet in Residence, KaNikki Jakarta. Aware is a community-based collaboration with a mission to entertain and inform

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 11
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

ALEXANDRIA NEWS BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 7

City Retains Top Bond Ratings

The country's top credit rating agencies have again given the City the highest bond ratings. In the final week of September, S&P Global Ratings and Moody's Investors Service have reaffirmed the City's top bond ratings of 'AAA' and 'aaa,' respectively, for the 32nd consecutive year, allowing the City to continue achieving low interest rates.

In its credit highlights, S&P Global cited "well-embedded, robust policies that govern Alexandria's budgeting and reporting practices, and a culture of long-term planning."

Moody's credit analysis attributes the stable outlook to "comprehensive fiscal policies" and a high likelihood that the City will maintain its strong financial position given growing revenues and conservative budgeting practices supported by the local economy.

The ratings help the City pay low interest rates on bonds issued to fund major projects. Later this year, the City will issue \$116.5 million of tax-exempt general obligation bonds to fund capital improvement projects. Significant projects include the renovation of George Mason Elementary School, the next phase of the Waterfront Improvement Project, the initial work to renovate Alexandria City Hall, and infrastructure improvements for the redevelopment of the West End, previously Landmark Mall.

SOURCE: [HTTPS://WWW.ALEXANDRIAVA.GOV/NEWS](https://www.alexandriava.gov/news)

BULLETIN BOARD

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

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

<cal2>Alexandria Families for Safer Streets - Executive Assistant to AFSS Board of Directors. The agency is seeking an executive assistant to help coordinate a diverse group of tasks necessary to keep us on track and moving forward. Someone with office manager skills would be the

ideal candidate. www.volunteeralexandria.org
ALIVE! Volunteers are needed to assist with multiple programs relating to their Food Program, ALIVE! House, and Alexandria Eviction Prevention Partnership Program will distribute food at Mobile Pop-ups and Truck to Trunk events, etc. <https://www.volunteeralexandria.org/ALIVE>
Assistance League of Northern Virginia is an all-volunteer non-profit organization that feeds, clothes and provides reading assistance and books to children in need. Assistance League's programs touch the

lives of hundreds of children in Fairfax and Prince William Counties and the City of Alexandria. There are many volunteer opportunities for community members to contribute to helping those in need. To learn more, email info@alnv.org, or visit www.alnv.org.
Join Friends' Board. Those who care about mental health, the Alexandria community, and collaborating with fellow residents to make sure the City's most vulnerable residents have a chance to thrive, then consider joining the Board

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 11



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Let us know about an upcoming event

connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar

Legals

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10 Duke (It Out), LLC trading as Cooper Mill, 10 Duke ST, Alexandria, Alexandria city, VA, 22314-0000. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Restaurant, Wine, Beer, Mixed Beverages, Consumed On and Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Noe Landini, Owner/Member. 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.

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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 8

the community. Twelve (12) pre-selected poets, musicians, and storytellers will provide awareness artistically that focuses on important topics bringing forth their knowledge, personal experiences, and perspectives using the Power of Words and Voice to focus on such topics as: What it means to be Brave, Running Towards Love, Women's Mental and Physical Health, Kidney and Liver Health, Cancer, Musical Self-exploration, and more! Space is limited and RSVP is required. RSVP to greatpublishing@yahoo.com

SATURDAY/OCT. 19 9th Annual Tour de

Mount Vernon. TDMV Ride 8:30 a.m.; Youth and Family Ride at 9 a.m. Starting and ending at Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton. Early bird special! Register for the 9th Annual Tour de Mount Vernon by August 31 for a discounted rate and be guaranteed a pair of Tour de Mount Vernon socks! #TdmV2024 Register now: <https://buff.ly/46VNVtx>

OCT. 24 TO DEC. 21

"A Focus on Nature." At Coldwell Banker Realty, 310 King Street, Alexandria. Opening reception Oct. 24 from 6-7:30 p.m. Art exhibit featuring the nature-themed photographs of Steven Halperson and mosaics of Nina Tisara. Steven Halperson, Tisara Photography, has



"A Focus on Nature" can be seen Oct. 24 to Dec. 21, 2024 at Coldwell Banker Realty in Alexandria.

over 30 years' experience in portrait and event photography. For this exhibit, he is returning to his roots in fine art photography and making use of digital camera software to create strikingly beautiful images. Nina Tisara retired from the photography studio in 2007 and began creating intricate mosaics which are now widely exhibited and collected. Nina is the founder of Living Legends of Alexandria. A portion of all sales will be donated to the Coldwell Banker Realty Cares Foundation, a program that helps support selected nonprofits in Alexandria and throughout the Mid-Atlantic region. For additional information, contact Rachel Carter, RCarter@

cbmove.com or Nina Tisara, Ninat@ninatisara.com.

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.

OCTOBER

Wed. 2: Victor Wooten & The Wooten Brothers \$55.00
Thu. 3: The Lone Bellow: By Request Only Tour, with Taylor Ashton \$45.00
Fri. 4: Phil Vassar "Hits & Heroes Tour" with Melissa Quinn Fox \$55.00

Sat. 5: Raven's Night: Alchemy \$39.50
Sun. 6: Ottmar Liebert & Luna Negra \$39.50
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Sat. 12: TUSK - The World's #1 Tribute to Fleetwood Mac \$45.00
Sun. 13: Both Sides Now: The Music and Lives of Joni Mitchell and Leonard Cohen Starring Danielle Wertz and Robbie Schaefer \$39.50
Mon. 14: An Evening with Larry Wilmore: Comedy, Magic, and 'Merica \$35.00
Wed. 16: Debbie Gibson - Acoustic Youth: Songs and Stories from The Electric Youth Era \$59.50
Thu. 17: Yächtley Crëw \$45.00
Fri. 18: The Whispers \$95.00
Sat. 19: The Whispers \$95.00
Sun. 20: Boney James \$95.00 SOLD OUT!
Wed. 23: Private Event
Thu. 24: AJ Ghent & His Singing Guitar \$35.00
Fri. 25: William Clark Green with Erin Kinsey \$29.50
Sat. 26: Tom Paxton & The Donjuans with sp. guest Noel Paul Stookey of Peter, Paul & Mary \$49.50
Sun. 27: Oleta Adams "Farewell Tour!" \$55.00
Tue. 29: The Robert Cray Band \$59.50

Brotherly Love



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Even though it's my birthday (9/30)- or will have been by the time this column publishes, it is my late brother Richard's birthday (10/28) that I'm thinking about. Unfortunately, as the surviving Lourie of the Athelstane-Road-Louries, birthdays now are much less celebrations and more so recollections.

A little context. My brother and I had been living in the same area (the Metropolitan Washington DC Area) since I matriculated to the University of Maryland in late August 1972. Richard, being five years older than me, had already under-graduated from American University and was planning on attending Florida State University in Tallahassee, Fl. to earn a master's in criminology - which he did. However, Florida didn't take, and Richard returned to Washington DC after graduation where he lived until his extremely unexpected death in early Dec. 2022. Vanessa, his widow and I will never be the same. Richard was so much more than merely a husband and a brother, he was, as we say in the Jewish faith (Yiddish actually), a mensch. There is no higher praise. In short (very short) it means the best of the best. His death is not simply a loss, it's closer to a devastation. It's almost two years since his passing and Vanessa and I are still regularly exchanging memories of him for any number of unforgettable reasons.

As for the substance of this column, I mention Richard - aside from a thousand other reasons, because my birthday is in nine days and Richard won't be here to celebrate it. And that rarely happened while he was living because Richard was a great celebrator of other people's birthdays. Typically, we'd all (Dina and Vanessa of course) go out for a nice dinner with dessert and generous gifts to follow. Whichever date suited me, suited him. He was always available for me. Without my brother alive to share my birthday anymore, it's slowly becoming just another day, or if not just another day, then a very somber one. I used to look forward to my birthday, now I look backward.

And given that I've been a stage IV cancer patient since Feb. 2009 - which calculates to the last 13 years and 10 months of Richard's life, he always made an extra effort to understand, encourage and accommodate the demands of my diagnosis. He was certainly a part of Team Lourie and often attended my infusions (6+hours per treatment) and regularly attended doctor's appointments, especially when there was likely to be a discussion of changing medications, treatments, et cetera. He wanted to be a part of it all and I certainly welcomed it and appreciated his input. He was the type of support system every cancer/seriously ill patients need. He would liaise with the doctors and staff to make sure I was receiving the best care anywhere. If he couldn't attend my appointment, he was to be my first call after to provide any and all details. As much as anything, it gave him an opportunity to reassure me and infuse me with as much positivity as was appropriate. He made a difference in my life, and when you're a "terminal cancer" patient sitting in an infusion center for six to seven hours per treatment, having someone to count on is crucial. I was lucky to have him in my corner. Not having him there anymore is a huge loss.

As difficult as it was for Richard when he was diagnosed with cancer, it gave me the opportunity to help him navigate what was an unfamiliar path form him, but a very familiar one for me. Now he was living the cancer life as I had, and he had questions. As an experienced cancer patient, I had answers. And now I could help him - as he had so often helped me. The juxtaposition brought us even closer together.

The last time I saw my brother alive was on his birthday on Oct. 28, 2022. He had been home about a month after being hospitalized the entire summer. Now, he was rehabbing at home. He wasn't quite ready for prime time, but he was happy for the company at home - and the cake. I tried to be as encouraging and positive as he had always been to me. We had a great evening together. Five weeks or so later, around eight o'clock on a Saturday morning, Vanessa called me in tears. Richard had died sometime during the night. We'll never forget his death. But more importantly, we'll always remember his life.

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

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 7

of Friends of the Alexandria Mental Health Center. The Friends Board is an all-volunteer group of residents that oversees the administration of one of Alexandria's top mental health charities. Friends has no paid staff, so Board members, working on average 10 hours per month, share the day-to-day work needed to accomplish its goals. Interested candidates should email FriendsofAMHC@gmail.com.

STEM Professionals Needed. Help assist K-12 STEM teachers as part of the American Association for the Advancement of Science's STEM Volunteer Program, stemvolunteers.org, during the 2018-19 school year. In the 2017-18 school year, there are 85 volunteers in 6 Northern Virginia school districts. Contact Don Rea at 571-551-2488, or donaldrea@aol.com.

ALIVE! offers numerous programs that aid low-income families in Alexandria that rely on volunteers: monthly food distributions, furniture, houseware and emergency food deliveries, and community food

drives. Individuals, families and groups are encouraged to participate. Students can earn community service hours by participating. Visit www.alive-inc.org/volunteer.htm or contact the Volunteer Coordinator at volunteers@alive-inc.org.

Volunteer Drivers Needed. Drivers needed by the American Cancer Society to take cancer patients to treatment in Northern Virginia. To volunteer, call 1-800-227-2345 or go to cancer.org/drive.

RSVP, a volunteer network for seniors seeking service opportunities in and around Fairfax County, Arlington County and the City of Alexandria, offers a wide array of opportunities for volunteers 55 and older. RSVP volunteers enjoy flexible schedules, free accident and liability insurance while serving, optional mileage and meal reimbursement and are invited to volunteer group projects and social gatherings. To sign up for an upcoming orientation, email Carly Hubicki at chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org or call RSVP at 703-403-5360. To learn more about RSVP, visit www.rsvpnova.org.

Mentors Wanted. Two creative

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

Farmer's Market Volunteers Needed. To volunteer for the Farmer's Markets, email Brian Morreale, brianmorreale@gmail.com

SUPPORT GROUPS

The Parkinson's Disease Support Group of Alexandria meets the 1st Wednesday of each month at 2 p.m. At the Hollin Hall Senior Center, Room 109, 1500 Shenandoah Road. All Parkinson's patients and caregivers are welcome.

Breaking Ground

FROM PAGE 1

The current Emergency Room in the HealthPlex will remain in place until emergency services can move to a larger space in the new hospital. The former ER space will be renovated for other community healthcare services after the move.

Both campuses were designed by Ballinger and Ennead Architects and Clark Construction (Inova Alexandria) and DPR Construction (Inova Franconia-Springfield) will lead the construction efforts, with completion expected in 2028.

When the Alexandria project is completed, the current hospital on Seminary Road will close and be replaced by residential development.

For more information on Inova's eastern region development plans, visit <https://www.inova.org/easternregion>.

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Mary Kern 703.994.5246
www.MaryKernHomes.com



Old Town | \$1,450,000

1 block off waterfront and King Street. This 3-bedroom brick home with 4th bonus space, 3-full, and 2-half bathrooms, features refinished hardwood floors, built-in cabinetry, fireplace, and spacious private patio. 124 Cameron Mews
Darlene Duffett 703.969.9015
www.DarleneDuffettRealEstate.com



Old Town | \$939,000

This light-filled, 2-bedroom, 1.5-bathroom home features a remodeled kitchen, wood-burning fireplace, French doors to a private terrace, refinished hardwood floors, and a large backyard with potential for expansion. 815 S Royal Street
Lauren Bishop 202.361.5079
www.LaurenBishopHomes.com



Hollin Hall Village | \$885,000

Not your average HHV ranch! This 4-bedroom, 3-bathroom, expanded 2-level home has been thoughtfully renovated! Stunning primary suite and open concept main level with the WOW-factor you've been waiting for! 8002 Hamilton Lane
Heidi Burkhardt 703.217.6009
www.RealtorHeidiB.com



Collingwood Estates | \$830,000

With many new updates and thoughtful details, this home is a must see. Located in the idyllic and popular Fort Hunt area, a short walk from Waywood Elementary this lovely home offers 4 bedrooms, and 3 updated full baths. 8317 Fort Hunt Road
Crombie & Olsen 706.575.7926
www.CrombieAndOlsen.com



Lakewood Hills | \$800,000

Long time owner has taken excellent care and is now downsizing. Updates include new roof in 2019; windows, wood floors, kitchen, deck, HVAC. Split level floor plan has 4 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms. Fresh paint and carpet. 9121 Beachway Lane
Gordon Wood 703.447.6138
www.GordonWoodRealtor.com



Rosemont | \$799,900

Charming 2-bedroom, 2-bathroom, all-brick row house with 3 finished levels. Hardwood floors, built-in cabinetry, large dining room, and kitchen opening to patio. Lower level includes office, laundry, and full bath. 34 E Rosemont Avenue
Mary Taylor 703.785.5619
www.MaryTaylorRealtor.com



Hollindale | \$795,000

Charming 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom cottage nestled on a gorgeous landscaped corner lot. Features hardwood floors, built-in bookshelves in the living room and den, separate dining room and a spectacular covered porch. 1600 Hollindale Drive
Robin Stevens Arnold 703.966.5457
Jamie Arnold 703.835.5892



Aquia Harbour | \$575,000

4-bedroom, 2.5-bath expanded Colonial is a chef and entertainers' dream! With a huge gourmet kitchen, beautiful family room addition, expanded primary suite, and relaxing outdoor spaces, there is room for everyone! 1104 Cape Cod Road
Heidi Burkhardt 703.217.6009
www.RealtorHeidiB.com



Logan Circle | \$425,000

Spacious 1-bedroom, 1-bathroom 1st-floor unit features a bright and open floor plan in a pristine building in a prime DC location. Easy access to 3 metro stations, restaurants, cafes, and more! 1111 11th Street NW #104
Wendy Santantonio 703.625.8802
www.WendySantantonio.com



Belle View | \$279,000

Fantastic 1-bedroom, 1-bathroom condo in prime Belle View location. Move-in ready with refinished hardwood flooring, renovated kitchen & bath, brand new HVAC, replacement windows throughout. 6620 10th Street #B-2
Heidi Burkhardt 703.217.6009
www.RealtorHeidiB.com

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