

Alexandria Gazette Packet

SERVING ALEXANDRIA FOR OVER 200 YEARS • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

JULY 17, 2025

Happy Birthday Alexandria!

Thousands turn out for 276th birthday celebration.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

The City of Alexandria marked its milestone 276th birthday July 12 with a celebration that culminated in a fireworks display over the Potomac River following a day of festivities at Oronoco Bay Park.

Alexandria's Town Crier, Ben Fiore-Walker, welcomed attendees to the festivities, which included a reading by Alexandria Poet Laureate Maria Cristina Donoso and distribution of birthday cupcakes by Mayor Alyia Gaskins, city officials and members of City Council.

"The Department of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities was proud to host an unforgettable celebration for Alexandria's birthday this past Saturday, drawing more

SEE THOUSANDS, PAGE 8



Deputy City Manager Yon Lambert, left, and Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities Director Hashim Taylor hand out cupcakes at the 276th birthday celebration July 12 at Oronoco Bay Park.

"This is an annual tradition for us."

— Resident Jennifer Walker



PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

Fireworks light up the sky over the Potomac River as part of the City of Alexandria's 276th birthday celebration July 12 at Oronoco Bay Park.



Wells Cramer with mom Claire Cramer await the fireworks July 12 at Oronoco Bay Park.



Guest Maestro John Devlin leads the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra during the 276th birthday celebration July 12 at Oronoco Bay Park.



Our Alexandria, Virginia Communities:

Cogir of Alexandria Fillmore

Offering Assisted Living

5100 Fillmore Ave
Alexandria, VA 22311

CogirOfAlexandria.com

(571) 630-3985

Cogir of Old Town

Offering Assisted Living & Memory Care

400 North Washington Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

CogirOfOldTown.com

(571) 506-7089

Cogir of West End Alexandria

Offering Assisted Living & Memory Care

5550 Cardinal Place
Alexandria, VA 22304

CogirOfWestEnd.com

(571) 586-9009

CALL TODAY
FOR OUR
MOVE-IN
OFFERS!!

Exceptional Care, Meaningful Connections & Vibrant Experiences Await.



Dave Ostrander talks about his 1944 World War II Army Jeep with an attendee at the 81st D-Day commemoration June 1 at Market Square.



Edward Wu and Ming Kim sit in a World War II Jeep at the 81st D-Day commemoration June 1 in Market Square.

Operation Overlord

City marks 81st anniversary of D-Day invasion.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

It was 81 years ago that the largest seaborne invasion in history took place. On June 6, 1944, 156,000 American, British and Canadian forces landed on the beaches of Normandy, France, starting the epic battle known as D-Day in an offensive to take back Europe from Nazi occupation during World War II.

Code named Operation Overlord, the fighting was fierce with over 4,900 soldiers, sailors, airmen and coastguardsmen killed, missing or unaccounted for. Commanded by

General Dwight D. Eisenhower, the battle is seen as the turning point in WWII and leading to an Allied victory the following year.

On June 1, the city commemorated the 81st anniversary of D-Day with a ceremony at Market Square. Featured were WWII reenactors and displays recounting the historic battle.

"These are the items that a soldier would have carried on D-Day," said Steve Hayes, who displayed items typical of the 29th Division

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Regiment. Retired Army officer Dave Ostrander had his 1944 Willys Army Jeep on display.

The D-Day invasion of Nazi-occupied France was unprecedented in scale. It was the largest-ever coalition of ships, troops, planes and vehicles to attack Adolf Hitler's defenses in western Europe.

More than 2,500 Americans

"We hope to have a plaque erected next Memorial Day to honor those lost in WWII and Korea."

— VFW Post 609 Commander
Gerald Krueger

were killed on D-Day itself with another 73,000 Allied forces killed in the ensuing Battle of Normandy. At least four local soldiers were among those casualties and are buried at the American Cemetery in Normandy.

Northern Virginia soldiers killed in action and interred in Normandy include Sgt. Charles Couse, SSgt. Clyde H. Harris, and William E. Lumsden. Pvt. William H. Fisher,

SEE D-DAY, PAGE 5



Members of the U.S. Coast Guard Honor Guard perform a demonstration drill as part of the 81st D-Day commemoration June 1 at Market Square.

‘Immigrants Are Action Heroes’

Schwarzenegger welcomes new citizens at Mount Vernon.

By JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Former California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger celebrated Independence Day by welcoming 100 new citizens on the grounds of George Washington’s Mount Vernon Estate with remarks that praised the immigrant spirit and recounted his own journey along the path to U.S. citizenship.

“When I came to this country 57 years ago, not in my wildest dreams — and I had wild dreams — did I think that one day this immigrant would be asked to place a wreath at the tomb of George Washington and to give the keynote address at this very important ceremony,” said Schwarzenegger, an Austrian who became a U.S. citizen in 1983. “To the 100 people who have just become American citizens, I say thank you for sharing this day and your journey with me.”

Schwarzenegger’s remarks were the centerpiece of the annual naturalization ceremony held on the

SEE ‘IMMIGRANTS’, PAGE 6



PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

More than 100 new U.S. citizens from 95 countries celebrate at the naturalization ceremony July 4 at Mount Vernon Estate.



Former California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger delivers remarks at the July 4 U.S. naturalization Ceremony at Mount Vernon Estate.



New U.S. citizens recite the Pledge of Allegiance July 4 at Mount Vernon Estate.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET



Jessica Krueger and VFW Post 609 Commander Gerald Krueger at a display honoring Alexandria veterans during the 81st D-Day commemoration June 1 in Market Square.

81st Anniversary Of D-Day

FROM PAGE 3

also killed in action, is among the names on the cemetery's Tablet of the Missing.

Gerald Krueger, Commander of VFW Post 609, was on hand with a display honoring Alexandria's soldiers from WWII and Korea.

"There is a monument at the train station honoring those who have died in battle but it was erected in 1940," said Krueger, whose father was among the first to land on Omaha Beach on D-Day. "As such there is no plaque memorializing the names of those who died in WWII. We are hoping to raise funds to have a plaque erected next Memorial Day to honor those lost in WWII and Korea. We

want to make this right."

The event marks the 15th annual celebration, planned and executed by the Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee. The city of Caen, in western Normandy, was the center of some of the heaviest fighting after the Allies landed on the nearby beaches that marked the beginning of the end of World War II.

In addition to reenactors, the day features a 1940s jazz band, swing dancing, and a commemorative ceremony.

Sponsors of the event included Alexandria Toyota, Doug and Wendy John, Alexandria Radio Club, and Alexandria Restaurant Partners.



Steven Hayes talks with an attendee at the 81st D-Day commemoration June 1 in Market Square.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

The Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria (SAPCA) thanks these retailers for helping to prevent underage drinking in our community.

Thank You!

24 Express Food Store
4007 Mt. Vernon Ave.

7-Eleven
800 Franklin St.
1025 W. Glebe Rd.
3412 Mt. Vernon Ave.
3023 Duke St.
331 S. Whiting St.

ALDI
4580 Duke St.

Walgreens
1517 Mt. Vernon Ave.

CVS
1680 Duke St.
5101 Duke St.
503 King St.

Food Star
206 W. Glebe Rd.

Jano Mart
4105 Duke St.

Liberty Gas
1066 W. Glebe Rd.

Mart 11
301 N. Ripley St.

Safeway
500 S. Royal St.

Virginia ABC
4349 Duke St.
4604 Duke St.
3161 Duke St.
3678 King St.

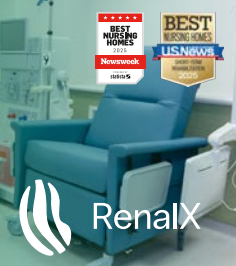
Wegmans
150 Stovall St.

These businesses passed June 2025 alcohol compliance checks by Alexandria Police. Businesses selling to underage customers can result in fines up to \$2,000 and loss of an ABC license under Virginia law.

Learn how you can support efforts to prevent youth substance use at PreventItAlexandria.org



Your future.
Your care.
Our focus.



Introducing our onsite Hemodialysis Unit, in partnership with Nova Dialysis, providing advanced care and personalized services to meet all of your dialysis needs.

Clinical Capabilities

IV Antibiotics
Vent and Trach Dialysis
Short-Term Dialysis Management



Comprehensive Services Include

- Consultative Visits by On-Staff Nephrologists
- On-Site Cardiology & Pulmonary Rounding
- Health Coaching & Dietary Education
- Routine Medical Management of Co-Morbidities
- RenalX Monthly Support Group
- Dialysis Wing
- Dedicated Transport Aides
- Full Case Management Services
- 24/7 Guest Service



2729 King St, Alexandria, VA 22302
WoodbineRehab.com / 703.836.8838



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET
Individuals from 95 countries await the ceremony to become U.S. citizens July 4 at Mount Vernon Estate.

Arnold Schwarzenegger gives the keynote address welcoming 100 new U.S. citizens July 4 at Mount Vernon Estate.

‘Immigrants Are Action Heroes’

FROM PAGE 4

grounds of Mount Vernon. Prior to the ceremony, Schwarzenegger placed a custom designed wreath at Washington’s tomb, praising the Founding Father as “America’s first action hero.”

“Whatever motivated you to make your way here, to want to be a citizen of the United States, let me explain what it tells me about you,” Schwarzenegger said. “I know something about action heroes. You don’t need the special

effects of Hollywood to be an action hero. Immigrants are action heroes. It took action to get here. It took struggle to get here. And today your feet are firmly planted in America.”

The naturalization ceremony,

welcoming new citizens from 95 different countries, was part of a full array of historical events and activities at Mount Vernon in celebration of America’s 249th birthday.

“As we welcome guests to Mount

Vernon for An American Celebration and fireworks, it’s important to remember that July 4th is more than a date in history,” said Doug Bradburn, President and CEO of Mount Vernon. “Independence Day

SEE ‘IMMIGRANTS’, PAGE 7



George Washington congratulates America’s newest citizens July 4 at Mount Vernon Estate.



Martha Washington listens to remarks at the U.S. Naturalization ceremony July 4 at Mount Vernon estate.



The National Anthem is sung to open the naturalization ceremony July 4 at Mount Vernon Estate.

'Immigrants Are Action Heroes'

FROM PAGE 6

is the embodiment of the ideals that George Washington fought to secure. As Commander in Chief of the Continental Army and the first President of the United States, Washington helped turn the dream of independence into a lasting democracy. His courage, leadership, and unwavering commitment to liberty continue to inspire our nation every Independence Day."

Mount Vernon, the home of George Washington, is owned and operated by the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association, the oldest national historic preservation organization in the United States. The estate includes the Mansion, a museum and education center, gardens, tombs, a working farm, a functioning distillery, and a gristmill. It also includes the George Washington Presidential Library at Mount Vernon.

Telling the crowd that "I owe everything to this country," Schwarzenegger encouraged the new citizens to not only pursue their dreams but to also give back in their new communities.

"The day I raised my right hand and became an American citizen was, without a

doubt, one of the greatest days of my life," Schwarzenegger said. "To be here 43 years later, standing at the home of one of my heroes to welcome more new citizens, is giving me a great gift – a gift to be part of this very meaningful ceremony. But I also ask you to think about what you would do for America as you receive America's many blessings. I hope that you accept the responsibility to give something back, to give of yourself to something beyond yourself."

Schwarzenegger praised the newest citizens and encouraged them to hold on to and share their culture and even their accents.

"The accent is nothing to be ashamed of,"

Schwarzenegger said in his trademark thick German accent. "It is a memory of your past, it is telling a story."

He repeatedly expressed his gratitude for the "limitless opportunities" America afforded to him but also stressed the importance of holding on to each individual culture.

"America needs your story. America needs your strong immigrant spirit," Schwarzenegger said. "You are the people that America needs right now, with your accent, with your memories of your homeland and with your dreams. You don't just deserve to be an American, you are needed here."

"America needs your story. America needs your strong immigrant spirit."

— Arnold Schwarzenegger, former governor of California



ALEXANDRIA YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2025

The Alexandria Youth Leadership Conference empowers emerging young leaders by providing training opportunities and connecting them to resources in their community. Registration is open to all rising 9th-12th grade students in Alexandria.

Young Voices, Powerful Choices

DATES

- AUGUST 12 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- AUGUST 13 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- AUGUST 14 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

LOCATION

DEL PEPPER COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER
4850 Mark Center Dr.
Cafeteria / 1st Floor

REGISTRATION

REGISTER BY AUGUST 8

Click or scan the QR Code to register for this event!

Questions? Contact Maggie.Ryan@alexandriava.gov.
For reasonable disability accommodation, contact christina.damhuis@alexandriava.gov, or call 703.746.5694, Virginia Relay 711.

THE CHAMBER ALX

Looking for networking events, business updates, and advocacy support in 2024? Join The Chamber ALX now at thechamberalx.com

Public Notice

Updated weight limits on Virginia bridges and culverts

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

Jurisdiction	Fed Struc Id	Route #	Route Name	Crossing	Posted Date
BOTETOURT	3537	T1003	2ND.AVE./T1003	TINKER CREEK	7/1/2025
FLOYD	7506	221	FLOYD HWYS 221	BR OF DODD CREEK	6/3/2025

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 at 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.

Thousands Turn Out for 276th Birthday Celebration

FROM PAGE 1

than 15,000 people to Oronoco Bay Park and the waterfront,” said RPCA Director Hashim Taylor. “The energy was electric as residents and visitors came together to celebrate the heart of our community. A huge thank you to the businesses, vendors, and partners who helped bring this day to life for the people of Alexandria.”

Under the direction of guest conductor John Devlin, the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra took to the stage to perform a selection of patriotic music culminating with a performance of Tchaikovsky’s 1812 Overture. Cannons by the U.S. Army Presidential Salute Battery completed the performance as a fireworks finale lit up the sky.

“This is an annual tradition for us,” said Jennifer Walker, who attended with friends Katelyn Ken and Molly Theobald. “The three of us try to come every year. We’re so happy to be here.”

Orange County, California, resident William Douglass was in town visiting family, saying, “They said I had to be here because it’s the best ever event.”

Alexandria dates its founding to July 13, 1749, with the start of an auction selling the first lots to the public. Earlier that year, a



PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET
Jocelyn Haun, 1 ½ years old, after enjoying her chocolate birthday cupcake.

young George Washington acted as a surveyor in laying out the town into 84 lots along 10 streets around a central market square.

SEE THOUSANDS, PAGE 9



A family awaits the start of the city’s fireworks display July 12 in Oronoco Bay Park.



Chelsea Ross with Kline July 12 at Oronoco Bay Park.



A family enjoys their birthday cupcakes July 12 at Oronoco Bay Park.



Foster Dankwah and Jamil Wells share dinner at the city's 276th birthday celebration July 12 at Oronoco Bay Park.

Thousands Turn Out for 276th Birthday Celebration

FROM PAGE 8

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

"We're already gearing up for next year's historic milestone — the 250th anniversary of the United States and our city's 277th

birthday," Hashim said. "Mark your calendars for Saturday, July 11, 2026 — the Department of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities is planning something truly extraordinary!"

SEE MORE PHOTOS, PAGE 10



PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

Greg Golubin, left, and Cindy Golubin, right, gather with friends at their annual city birthday celebration July 12 at Oronoco Bay Park.



Mayor Alyia Gaskins, left, hands out cupcakes during the July 12 birthday celebration in Oronoco Bay Park.

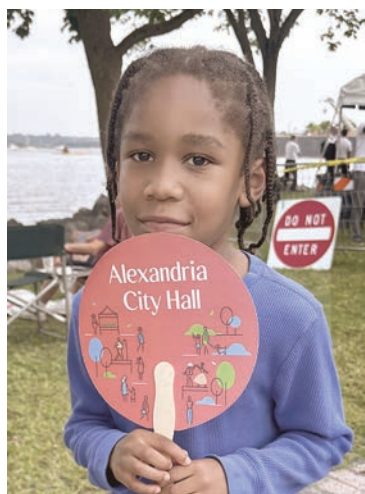


A city employee enjoys the birthday celebration July 12 at Oronoco Bay Park.



Alexandria Poet Laureate Maria Cristina Donoso reads a poem celebrating the city's 276th birthday as Mayor Alyia Gaskins looks on

Thousands Turn Out for 276th Birthday Celebration



FROM PAGE 9

Orange County, California resident William Douglass, second from left, celebrates with his family July 12 in Oronoco Bay Park.

John Taylor Chapman II enjoys the city's 276th birthday celebration July 12 at Oronoco Bay Park.

PHOTOS BY
JANET BARNETT
GAZETTE PACKET



The Gaiblet family enjoys the birthday celebration in Oronoco Bay Park.



Jennifer Walker, Katelyn Ken and Molly Theobald gather to celebrate the city's 276th birthday celebration July 12 in Oronoco Bay Park.

City of Alexandria Annual Youth Leadership Conference

High school students can register now register for the 12th Annual Youth Leadership Conference, to be held Aug. 12-14 at the Del Pepper Community Resource Center (4850 Mark Center Drive). Eligible students must register by Aug. 8. <https://www.research.net/r/YouthLC2025>

This year's conference theme is "Young Voices, Pow-

erful Choices!" Open to rising 9th through 12th graders residing in the City of Alexandria, the conference empowers emerging young leaders by connecting them to resources in the community and through interactive workshops on how to engage, lead, and advocate for issues.

To facilitate youth-adult partnerships, the conference will include an afternoon networking session with community lead-

ers, including City of Alexandria Council and school board representatives, City board and commission leaders, non-profit executives, and City staff. The networking session will provide a forum in which organizations can connect with the City's youth leaders to share volunteer and leadership opportunities and recruit youth who have the necessary skills to participate in a leadership position on a board

or commission. Community leaders interested in the networking session must register by Aug. 1. <https://www.research.net/r/AlexandriaVa-YLC-2025-Networking-Fair-Registration>

Students who attend the conference in its entirety are eligible to receive a \$20 gift card. Youth will also receive updates throughout the year about internships, volunteer and leadership opportunities, and other ways to get

involved.

In addition to skill-building, the Youth Leadership Conference strengthens the 40 developmental assets young people need to succeed. These assets include a sense of feeling valued by their community, self-esteem, recognizing themselves as a resource to others, and planning and decision-making.

New Legislative Director

Dr. Wendy Ginsberg is the new Legislative Director for the City of Alexandria. A long-time Alexandria resident and nationally-recognized government leader, Dr. Ginsberg brings nearly two decades of experience in legislative strategy, public service, and federal policy development to the City.

Ginsberg most recently served as Director of Congressional Affairs at the National Archives and Records Administration. She has held leadership roles on Capitol Hill, including Director of Subcommittees for the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability and Staff Director for late Representative Gerald E. Connolly. Her work in those roles led to the passage of several impactful pieces of legislation.

Ginsberg played a critical role in securing an unprecedented \$1 billion investment in federal IT modernization to ensure communities and families could access the resources they needed from the federal government, including Social Security benefits, Internal Revenue Service returns, and Department of Agriculture grants. In addition, Ginsberg led teams of diverse stakeholders to legislative achievements that included putting the U.S. Postal Service on firm financial ground and providing WMATA resources.

"Wendy brings a great combination of experience, policy insight, and a deep personal connection to Alexandria," said City Manager James Parajon. "Her understanding of how government works means she'll be a powerful advocate for our city's interests in Richmond and Washington."

As Legislative Director, Ginsberg will oversee the City's intergovernmental affairs; advocate for state



Dr. Wendy Ginsberg

and federal funding and policy priorities; and collaborate closely with City Council and City departments to advance Alexandria's legislative goals.

Ginsberg holds a Ph.D. and an M.A. in Political Science from the University of Pennsylvania and a B.A. from Rutgers University.

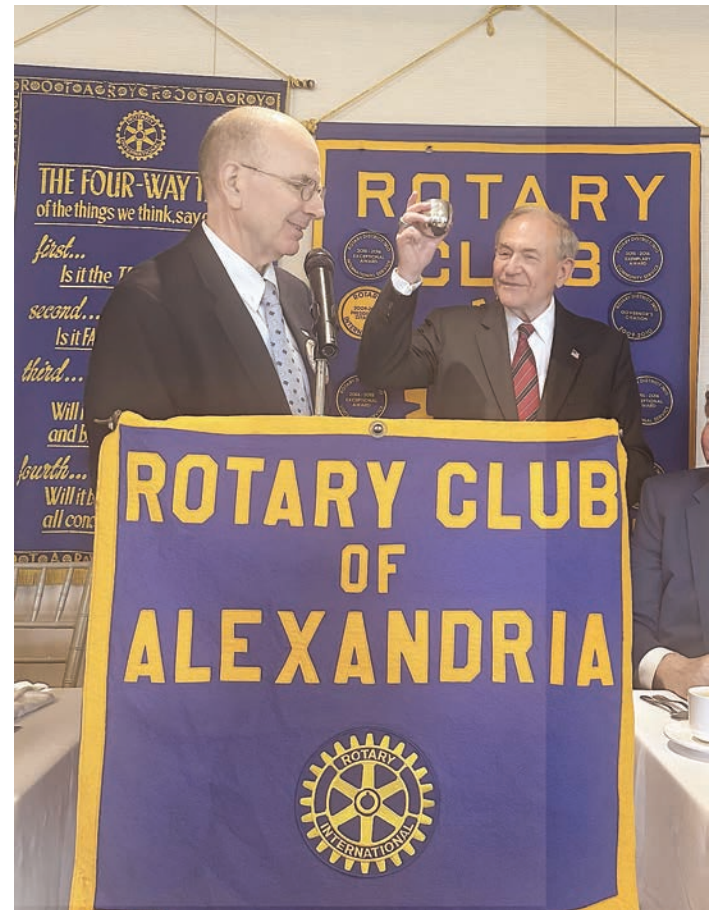


PHOTO BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

FORMER VIRGINIA GOVERNOR and U.S. Representative to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Jim Gilmore, right, receives a Jefferson Cup from Alexandria Rotary president Jack Fannon as appreciation following a presentation by Gilmore at the organization's July 8 luncheon at Belle Haven Country Club. Gilmore spoke about the current state of politics and worldwide conflict.

www.connectionnewspapers.com/advertising

THE CONNECTION
Newspapers & Online

Alexandria Gazette Packet

Mount Vernon Gazette

Potomac ALMANAC

Turn to the Connection Newspapers digital and print advertising options to reach customers in your community!

- EMAIL BLASTS
- DIGITAL BILLBOARDS
- FRONT PAGE SHOUTOUT
- SOCIAL MEDIA
- SPONSORED CONTENT

Target the right audience.

For Advertising: Call 703.778.9431 or Email sales@connectionnewspapers.com

**Same Company, Same Employees,
Same Great Value - Now Celebrating 20 Years!**

TWO POOR TEACHERS

Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling



- Electrical (ELE)
- Gas Fitting (GFC)
- Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVA)
- Plumbing (PLB)
- Residential Building (RBC)

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed
Since 1999



Free Estimates 703-999-2929

Check if your contractor is licensed at the state level
<http://www.DPOR.virginia.gov>

Visit our website: www.twopoorteachers.com

ENTERTAINMENT

ONGOING

Revolutionary War Exhibit. At the National Museum of the U.S. Army, Alexandria. The National Museum of the United States Army has opened a special exhibition, Call To Arms: The Soldier and the Revolutionary War. The two-year exhibition commemorates this year's 250th Birthday of the U.S. Army and next year's 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. This 5,000 square-foot exhibition features a rare collection, specially curated by the Museum, that includes Revolutionary War artifacts from the original colonies, England, France and Canada. Among the exhibit's highlights are a pair of General George Washington's pistols, the original flag of the 1st Rhode Island Regiment carried by the Army's first African American Soldiers, and a complete Loyalist uniform—one of the rarest items in the collection. The sword of British General Charles Lord Cornwallis, presented to Washington at the surrender at Yorktown, Virginia, will also be displayed for a limited time.

NOW THRU JULY 30

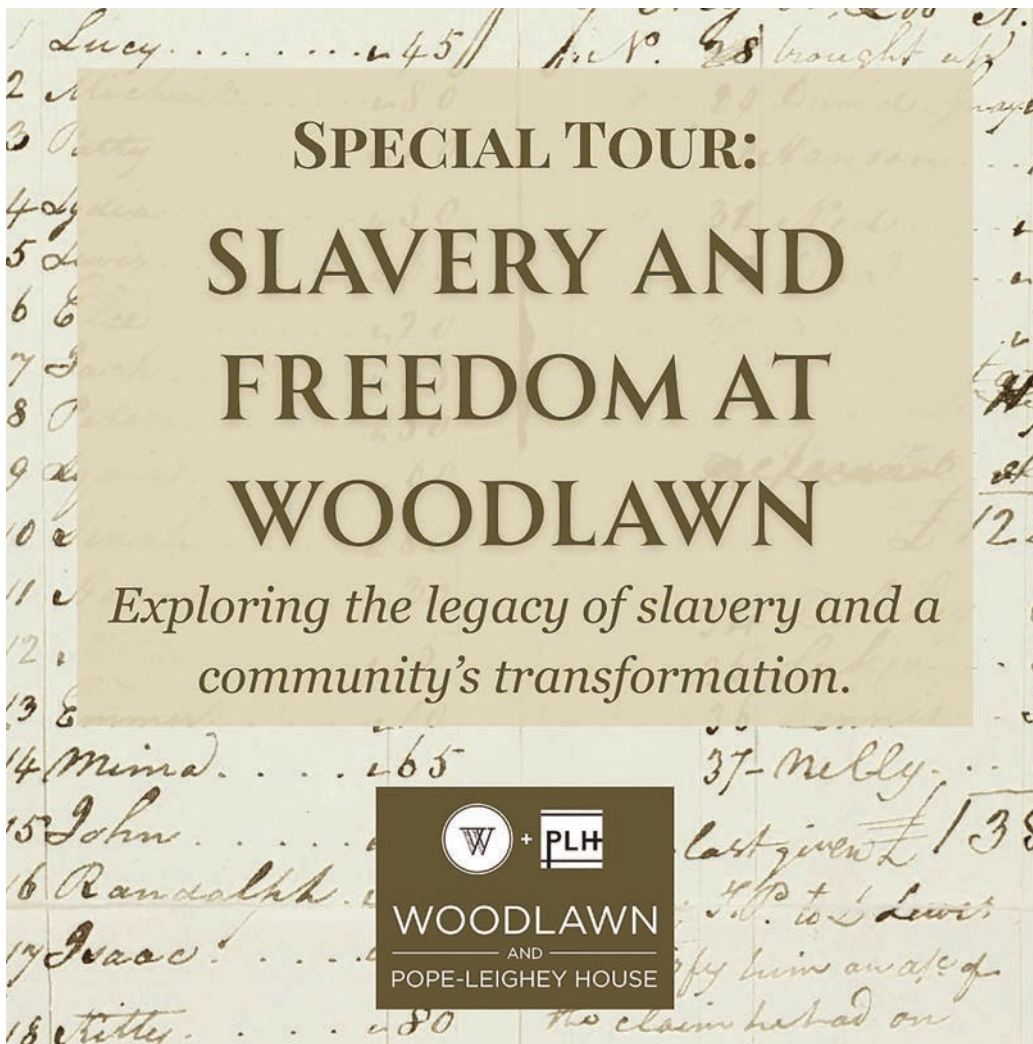
Freedom of Expression Exhibit. At Van Landingham Gallery, Torpedo Factory, 105 North Union Street, Alexandria. The Torpedo Factory Artists' Association presents a group exhibition that showcases a stunning array of jewelry, paintings, photography, mixed media work, hand pulled prints, and more during the month of July. Participating Artists: Victoria Barnes, Lynn Chadwick, Andrea Cybyk, Sheila Flanders, Samuel Gylunazarian, Jon Kandel, Camille Kouyoumdjian, Michal Mitak Mahgerafteh, Anna Nazaretz Radjou, Rebecca McNeely, Diana Papazian, Karine Sapondjian, Antonio Scott, Samantha L. Shelton, Ana Tkabladze, Dixon Vergaray, Estelle Vernon, Dina Wise, and Guido R. Zanni.

NOW THRU AUG. 3

Small Stories Exhibit. At Multiple Exposures Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union Street, Alexandria. This unique exhibition features 14 frames from 14 photographers, with each frame containing three or more photographs that together tell a "small story." These thoughtfully composed groupings offer a glimpse into intimate moments, layered narratives, and visual connections that reveal more than a single image alone. Exhibition Artists: Russell Barajas, Stacy Smith Evans, Soomin Ham, Eric Johnson, Irina Dakhnovskaia-Lawton, Francine B. Livaditis, Maureen Minehan, David Myers, Guillermo Olaizola, Van Pulley, Sarah Hood Salomon, Alan Sislén, Tom Sliter, and Fred Zafran.

NOW THRU AUG. 31

Creative Summer Programs is a series of workshops exploring the arts. Learn techniques in collage, drawing, mixed media, photography, bead embroidery, and more from local artists. Delve into creative exploration solo or with friends. For children and/or adults, free and paid programs are offered. Sign up for what inspires you! Held at Del Ray Artisans (2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria VA) unless noted. Details: DelRayArtisans.org/creative-summer



Learn about Slavery and Freedom on Saturday, July 26, 2025 at Woodlawn & Pope-Leighey House in Alexandria.

NOW THRU AUG. 17

Potomac Valley Watercolorists "The Painted Garden" 2025 Art Exhibition and Sale. At Green Spring Gardens Horticultural Center, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. This annual fine art show spotlights many of our region's most highly-skilled and well-known water media artists, and features more than 100 original framed works on display and available for purchase. Special Event: Artists Reception – Sunday, July 13 from 1-3 p.m.

JULY 1-31

Mozzarella Fest. At Cheesetique in Del Ray, 2411 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. This month-long homage to Italy's most beloved cheeses, salumi, wine, and spirits, features a limited-time Mozzarella Fest menu, curated tasting events and classes, and an Italian Wine Expo.

Highlights include:

❖ July 22 – Meet the Wines of Tuscany (in-person): A curated tasting of five Tuscan wines, each paired with a flavorful small bites.

JULY 14-18 OR JULY 21-25

Art Camp 2025. Del Ray Artisans invites youth ages 8-12 to Art Camp 2025 for a week of professional art instruction! Campers will have an immersive creative journey: painting, sculpting, journaling and more. During nice weather, campers will have outdoor time to get fresh air, unwind, and replenish their creative energy. All art supplies are provided. Choose July 14-18 or July 21-25 (9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily). \$350/child; scholarship support available. Registration at delrayartisans.org/art-camp-2025

THURSDAY/JULY 17

Art + Wine + Cheese Reception. 6-7:30 p.m. At the Nepenthe Gallery at Hollin Hall, 7918 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. 4th Annual Student Art Anthology. The favorite evening of the year! High school and college students from all over the DMV area are invited to submit up to three images of original artworks of any medium to our Curators, who select 15 of the submitted works to be featured at this annual event. This exhibit will be up at Nepenthe until Wednesday, July 30th.

FRIDAY/JULY 18

UNC Men's Rugby. 6-8 p.m. At the Nepenthe Gallery at Hollin Hall, 7918 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Whiskey Tasting Reception. Nepenthe Gallery and UNC's Men's Rugby are sponsoring an evening of whiskey tasting, fellowship, rugby tales, and special prizes. The USA Men's and Women's Eagles rugby teams play a double-header the following day at Audi Field in Washington, DC—players and visitors will be here from England and Fiji. Donations to the UNC Men's Rugby Club will be accepted!

SATURDAY/JULY 19

Write Like a Woman Networking Workshop. 1 p.m. At the Athenaeum, Alexandria. Enjoy an afternoon of engaging conversation and writing! Facilitated by poet, author, and Athenaeum Poet in Residence, KaNikki Jakarta, this workshop welcomes amateur to professional women writers ages 18-100. Each workshop centers on uplifting and inspiring through writing and allows participants to enhance their writing styles. Space is limited,

please RSVP to greatpublishing@yahoo.com.

SATURDAY/JULY 19

Old Town Civil War Roundtable Historical Civil War Talk. 10 a.m. At Murphy's Grand Irish Pub (2nd floor), 713 King Street, Alexandria. Don Hakenson and Chuck Mauro will be discussing their new books, "A Tour Guide and History of Col. John S. Mosby's Combat Operations in Central Virginia" and "A Tour Guide and History of Col. John S. Mosby's Combat Operations in Southern Virginia and Other States." The host is Mark Tooley.

SUNDAY/JULY 20

Farmers/Artisans Market. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. At Casa Chirilagua Community Center, 4109 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Experience fresh foods, native plants, artisan crafts, music and community at Four Mile Run Farmers & Artisans Market in the heart of Arlandia outside the Casa Chirilagua Community Center, Sundays 9-1.

THURSDAY/JULY 24

Coffee & Connections. 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. At George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy., Mount Vernon. The Chamber ALX's Professional Women's Network July Coffee & Connections. A morning of networking behind the scenes at historic George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate. Enjoy coffee and conversation with some of the most dynamic women (and men) from around the region. Tammy Eddy, a Senior Corporate Engagement Officer at George Washing-

ton's Mount Vernon, an accomplished fundraiser and inspiring leader, will share a glimpse at the world of fundraising and the path that led her to success.

THURSDAY/JULY 24

Art + Wine + Cheese Reception. 6-7:30 p.m. At the Nepenthe Gallery at Hollin Hall, 7918 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Featured Artist: Anne Meagher-Cook, who is an en plein air painter who, in her own words, "...aims to express the essence of a place and moment in time—reflecting the light, colors, mood and feel." This exhibit will be up at Nepenthe until August 20th.

SATURDAY/JULY 26

Watercolor Workshop – Orchids. 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. (16-Adult) Some subjects just scream to be painted in watercolors and orchids are one of those subjects. Taught by botanical artist Dawn Flores, plan and execute an orchid-inspired painting. Information on orchid anatomy, lessons on color, and a variety of watercolor techniques and transfer practices are presented. Orchid owners may bring in their own specimen provided by the instructor. This class is appropriate for any skill level. A supply list will be emailed before class. Bring a lunch. \$112 per person. Register online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes> or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173. Code 893.6Y10

SATURDAY/JULY 26

Floral Design Workshop – Summer Garden Design. 10:30 a.m. - noon. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. (16-Adult) Create an eye-catching summer vase arrangement with Green Spring horticulturist Parker Jennings. Using florals from the garden, mix balance, scale, proportion and contrast to create a summer design. Please register for the program and \$45 supply fee. \$46 per person. Register online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes> or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173. Code GUS.MRK6

SATURDAY/JULY 26

Finding Art Through Intentional Play with Leanne Fortney. 1-3 p.m. At the Athenaeum, Alexandria. Step into a welcoming space where creativity flows freely, perfection is left at the door, and your inner voice takes center stage. In this hands-on, heart-centered workshop, Finding Art Through Intentional Play, they'll use mixed media techniques and reflective prompts to explore self-compassion, grace, and personal growth themes. You'll be gently guided through an intuitive art-making process designed to reconnect you with your creative spark. No experience necessary—just bring your curiosity, a willingness to explore, and an open heart.

SATURDAY/JULY 26

Slavery and Freedom. 12-1 p.m. At Woodlawn & Pope-Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Highway, Alexandria. Explore the lives of the people enslaved at Woodlawn and the property's transformation from a plantation to an antislavery

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

ENTERTAINMENT

community. Cost is \$25. Visit the website: <https://www.woodlawnpope-leighey.org/upcomingevents>

SUNDAY/JULY 27

Green Spring Past and Present. 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria.. (Adult) Learn about Green Spring's 18th century origins, its early owners and the enslaved people who once lived and toiled here. Hear fascinating stories of past residents of the 1784 Historic House and discover how Green Spring became a horticultural and historical resource for visitors today. \$42 (lecture + tea); \$18 (lecture only).

THURSDAY/JULY 31

Art + Wine + Cheese Reception. 6-7:30 p.m. At the Nepenthe Gallery at Hollin Hall, 7918 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Featured Artist: Nancy Bruce. Nancy will be at Nepenthe to discuss her dynamic and unique collage works. Her art is fantastic, and Nancy is, too! She will get you thinking and keep you laughing at the same time. Nancy is a mixed media artist who works primarily with recycled materials—things she has found, saved, or been given. The pieces are on canvas or panels and are in various sizes. This exhibit will be up at Nepenthe until August 27th.

AUG. 1-30

"Lovely As a Tree" Art Exhibit. At Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Del Ray Artisans members explore all the ways in which trees impact our lives and the earth and bring



The Wright at Twilight event will be held Friday, Aug. 8, 2025 at Woodlawn & Pope-Leighey House in Alexandria.

aspects of this natural phenomenon to artistic life. Join them for the Opening Reception on Friday, August 1, 7-9pm. Gallery hours are Thursdays 12-6pm, Fridays 12-9pm, Saturdays & Sundays 12-6pm. Details at [DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits](https://www.delrayartisans.org/exhibits)

SATURDAY/AUG. 2

First Saturday Used Book Sale: 10

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

FRIDAY/AUG. 8

Wright at Twilight. 6:30 to 9 p.m. At Woodlawn & Pope-Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Hwy., Alexandria. Enjoy the iconic Pope-Leighey House, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. Sit back with complimentary snacks and a glass of wine, and watch the changing light bring out the architectural details. Visit the website: <https://www.woodlawnpopeleighey.org/upcomingevents>

THE BIRCHMERE

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

JULY

Thu. 17: OMAR with special guest Tabi Bonney \$45.00
Sat. 19: Tell Me Lies – The Fleetwood Mac Experience \$35.00
Sun. 20: Hubert Laws \$55.00
Thu. 24: Hiroshima \$59.50
Fri. 25: The Bacon Brothers w/ Pernikoff Brothers \$69.50 SOLD OUT!
Sat. 26: The Bacon Brothers w/ Pernikoff Brothers \$69.50 SOLD OUT!
Sun. 27: Judy Collins \$59.50
Tue. 29: Three Dog Night \$95.00 2nd Night Added! (7/2 is Sold Out!)
Wed. 30: Sheila E. & The E-Train \$69.50
Thu. 31: Dave Koz And Friends Summer Horns 2025 featuring Dave Koz, Marcus Anderson, Jeff

Bradshaw, Leo P and Evan Taylor, plus Marcel Anderson \$95.00
AUGUST
Fri. 1: Lyfe Jennings – The Adventures of Lyfe \$75.00
Sat. 2: The Extraordinary Card Magic of JASON LADANYE \$65.00
Sun. 3: Vincent Ingala & Lindsey Webster \$45.00 SOLD OUT!
Tue. 5: Nick Lowe & Los Straitjackets \$49.50 SOLD OUT!
Fri. 8: Who's Bad – The Ultimate Michael Jackson Experience \$39.50
Sat. 9: 1964: The Tribute \$45.00
Sun. 10: SWITCH \$49.50
Fri. 15: JAZZ FUNK SOUL featuring Everette Harp, Jeff Lorber, Paul Jackson, Jr. \$49.50
Sat. 16: TOAST – The Ultimate BREAD Experience! \$59.50
Sun. 17: MAYSA's 59th Birthday Concert Party! \$79.50
Tue. 19: Robert Earl Keen w/ Henry Conlon \$65.00
Wed. 20: Robert Earl Keen w/ Henry Conlon \$65.00
Thu. 21: Robert Earl Keen w/ Henry Conlon \$65.00
Fri. 22: Magical Mystery Doors – Beatles, Zeppelin, Doors Tribute \$35.00
Sat. 23: Eric Roberson \$69.50
Sun. 24: Eric Roberson \$69.50
Thu. 28: SHALAMAR featuring Howard Hewett, Jeffrey Daniel, Carolyn Griffey \$75.00
Fri. 29: DANNY GATTON Birthday Celebration featuring Bill Kirchen, The Mighty Redd Volkaert, John Previti, Dave Elliot, David Chappell, Tommy Lepson, Anthony Pirog, Big Joe Maher, & more! \$39.50
Sat. 30: Raheem DeVaughn (band) w/ Wes Felton (trio) \$85.00
Sun. 31: Raheem DeVaughn (band) w/ Wes Felton (trio) \$85.00



A special free event benefiting the Freedom House Museum Rehabilitation Project.

'Freedom House, Morrison House and Spite House'

One of a kind event on Sunday, July 20.

A special free event benefiting the Freedom House Museum Rehabilitation Project will take place at the Morrison House Hotel on Sunday, July 20, from 1-3 p.m., featuring historical discussions about Freedom House and readings from 'Spite House,' a modern day mystery set in Old Town Alexandria. Reserve tickets online. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/let-freedom-house-ring-a-literary-fundraiser-tickets-1396834211729>

"Three historic houses of Old Town — Freedom House, Morrison House and Spite House — are combining for a one-of-a-kind event where history, community, and story telling will come together," said Gretchen Bulova, director of the Office of Historic Alexandria, who will share the history of

Freedom House and the latest information on its important rehabilitation.

The event will feature readings by celebrated actor and retired jurist William T. Newman; WETA Classical announcer and producer Nicole Lacroix; Old Town Crier Ben Fiore-Walker; and John Wasowicz, author of the popular 'Spite House' mystery. Brendan O'Leary, owner of the Prince Street spite house used as a model in the modern mystery, will also participate in the program.

Be part of this special event at Morrison House, 116 S. Alfred Street, at 1 p.m. Copies of Spite House will be available for sale; forty percent of the proceeds from book sales will be donated to the Freedom House restoration project.

Old Town Run Club Hosts July Charity Fundraiser

Food, Drinks, and Community Support for 9/11 Commemorative Run.

The Old Town Run Club invites the community to a special Meet & Greet Charity Fundraiser on Saturday, July 26, 2025, at Union Street Public House in Alexandria. This event brings together runners, supporters, and local residents for an evening of camaraderie, delicious food, and drinks — all included with your ticket.

Event Details:

What: Old Town Run Club Meet & Greet | Charity Fundraiser

When: Saturday, July 26, 2025, 4 pm – 7 pm

Where: Union Street Public House, Whiskey Bar & Regatta Room, 121 S Union St, Alexandria, VA 22314

Tickets: Admission includes food and drink

Honoring 9/11 Heroes and Supporting a Meaningful Cause

This year's event is dedicated to supporting the Old Town Run Club's annual 9/11 commemorative run, which honors the memory of September 11th by connecting the three major 9/11 sites through community-driven athleticism and remembrance. Funds raised will benefit the Tunnel to

Towers Foundation, which supports first responders, veterans, and Gold Star families.

"Our July event is more than just a gathering—it's a chance to honor our heroes, support a vital cause, and build lasting connections in our community," said the Old Town Run Club organizers.

Enjoy Food, Drinks & Community Spirit
Food and drinks are included for all attendees, making this a perfect opportunity to relax, connect, and give back.

Meet fellow runners and supporters, learn more about the upcoming 9/11 commemorative run, and discover ways to get involved.

About the Tunnel to Towers Foundation
Founded in memory of firefighter Stephen Siller, the Tunnel to Towers Foundation provides mortgage-free homes to Gold Star families and builds smart homes for catastrophically injured veterans. All proceeds from the event will go directly to supporting these life-changing initiatives.

For tickets, questions, or more information:

Email: oldtownrunclubalx@gmail.com

Follow Old Town Run Club at oldtownrunclub.org for updates and future events.



CALL TODAY FOR A
FREE INSPECTION!
1-877-614-6667

20% OFF + **10% OFF**
Your Entire Purchase* Seniors + Military



++ We offer financing that fits your budget!†



Promo: 285

* See Representative for full warranty details. *One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. †Subject to credit approval. Call for details. AR 366920923, AZ ROC 344027, CA 1035795, CT HIC 0671520, FL CBC056678, IA C127230, ID RCE-51604, LA 559544, MA 176447, MD MHIC111225, MI 262300173, 262300318, 262300328, 262300329, 262300330, 262300331, MN IR731804, MT 226192, ND 47304, NE 50145-22, 50145-23, NJ 13VH09953900, NM 408693, NV 86990, NY H-19114, H-52229, OR 218294, PA 179643, 069383, RI GC-41354, TN 10981, UT 10783658-5501, VA 2705169445, WA LEAFFNW822JZ, WY WV056912.

**SAVE \$350 when you transform
your patio into an outdoor oasis.**

SunSetter
America's #1 Awning

- Instant shade—at the touch of a button.
- Enjoy more quality time with family and friends.
- Up to 10-Year Limited Warranty.



Call 1-844-746-2332 now to
SAVE \$350 TODAY!

America's #1 Awning!



**DON'T GIVE
CAR THIEVES
A JOY RIDE**

Thieves will have a field day with your unlocked car! Find out how you can prevent auto theft and report suspicious activity at **HEATreward.com**.



TO ADVERTISE IN THIS PAPER, CALL BY MONDAY 11:00 AM 703-778-9411

Obituary



Barbara Jean Pryse Trumbo, 95, passed away on June 16, 2025, at her home in Stuarts Draft, Virginia. She was born on May 19, 1930, near Bethesda, Maryland to Edna Mae Dodson and William Taylor Pryse, Sr., and grew up in Maryland and Washington, D.C. Barbara graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School and attended Southern Seminary.

Barbara met her beloved husband John Walter Trumbo in Washington, D.C. in Bible study, and they married on September 10, 1949, in the Navy Communication Chapel. After moving to Georgia and Texas for military service, they settled in Alexandria, Virginia and became co-owners of an IGA grocery store in Alexandria and later in Stuarts Draft, Virginia. She was the bookkeeper for the business. She enjoyed tennis and travel; was known as an excellent seamstress, gardener and cook; and looked forward to hosting numerous large family gatherings. Barbara was active in Plymouth Haven and later Stuarts Draft Baptist churches. She spent many years arranging flowers for Sunday services. At Plymouth Haven she also led the children's Sunbeam program. She was a longtime volunteer for Augusta Medical Center.

Barbara will be greatly missed by her sister Claudia; daughter Anne (Erick), son Steve (Sue); grandsons David (Shannon), Andrew, Matthew (Kat), Keith, Will (Amanda) and Nathan; and great-grandchildren Gavin, Blakeley, Brooklyn, Elsie, Henrietta and William Baker, Jr. She was predeceased by her husband John Walter Trumbo, son George Thomas Trumbo II and brother William Taylor Pryse, Jr. The family is grateful for the wonderful caregivers and housekeeper who cared for Barbara, and for all those who made visits and calls and sent cards these last few years.

A graveside service for the family will be held on August 8th at 11 am at Fairview Cemetery, Culpeper, Virginia and a memorial service to celebrate Barbara's life will be held on August 9th at 11 am at Stuarts Draft Baptist Church, 2517 Stuarts Draft Hwy.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Barbara's memory to the George Thomas Trumbo Scholarship at VMI, P.O. Box 932, Lexington, VA 24450 or to the Muscular Dystrophy Association (<http://www.mda.org>).

Condolences may be given at clore-english.com. Arrangements have been entrusted to Clore-English Funeral Home, 11190 James Monroe Hwy., Culpeper, Virginia.

Obituary

Obituary

Daniel Beiro

January 25, 1968 - June 22, 2025

Daniel Lee Beiro (57) passed away unexpectedly of chronic disease on June 22, 2025 at his home in Alexandria, Virginia. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Rita Catholic Church (3815 Russell Road, Alexandria, VA) on July 7, 2025 at 12:30 p.m., followed by interment at Mt. Comfort Cemetery (6600 S. Kings Highway, Alexandria, VA). In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to <https://edgehillrecovery.org/> in Winchester, VA or the <https://www.alexandrialittleleague.org/>, which the Beiro family has supported for over 40 years.

Be a part of our:

Wellbeing pages, the first week of every month.

Delight in our **HomeLifeStyle** sections, the second week of every month. Peek at the top real estate sales, glimpse over-the-top remodeling projects, get practical suggestions for your home.

Celebrate students, camps, schools, enrichment programs, colleges and more in our **A-plus: Education, Learning, Fun** pages, the third week of every month.

Senior Living, fourth week of every month.

Questions?

E-mail sales@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9431



**Let us know
about an
upcoming event**

connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar

The Bath or Shower You've Always Wanted IN AS LITTLE AS 1 DAY



\$1000 OFF*

\$1500 OFF when financing
with remodelingloans.com OR **0% Interest**
For 18 Months**

OFFER EXPIRES 9/30/2025

Military & Senior Discounts Available



CALL NOW!

(844) 945-1631

*Includes labor and product; bathtub, shower or walk-in tub and wall surround. This promotion cannot be combined with any other offer. Other restrictions may apply. This offer expires 9/30/2025. Each dealership is independently owned and operated. **Third party financing is available for those customers who qualify. Participating dealers only. See your dealer for details. ©2025 Bath Concepts Industries.



You're A Grand Old Flag

Elan Medina, 5, salutes the American flag at the Flags for Heroes Display at Cedar Knoll Restaurant. The display is a project of the Alexandria Rotary Club to honor heroes and raise funds for local charities. www.alexandriarotary.org

PHOTO BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria Gazette Packet

www.AlexandriaGazette.com

Twitter @AlexGazette

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

NEWS DEPARTMENT:
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher

Mary Kimm
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
@MaryKimm

Jeanne Theismann
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
@TheismannMedia

Janet Barnett, John Bordner,
Mark Mogle

Contributing Photographers
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Shirley Ruhe
Contributing Photographer and Writer
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Eden Brown, Bridgette Adu-Wadier,
Glenda Booth
Contributing Writers
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Hope Nelson
Food Writer
hope@kitchenrecessionista.com
@kitchenrecess

Michael Pope
Senior Reporter
michaelpope@gmail.com
@michaelpope

ADVERTISING:
For advertising information
sales@connectionnewspapers.com
703-778-9431

Debbie Funk
Display Advertising/National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunc@connectionnewspapers.com

David Griffin
Marketing Assistant
703-778-9431
dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

Classified & Employment
Advertising
703-778-9431

Publisher
Jerry Vernon
703-549-0004
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Art/Design:
Laurence Foong
Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

"Ripped from the Headlines"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

"Dun, Dun." "Can you watch my baby?" (On the streets of New York City, no less.) Said the young mother to me as we sat outside a New York City cafe. She was fussing with her baby's carrier on the adjacent seat to mine trying to secure it in some way when she looked at me, helplessly almost, and asked if I could watch her baby; she just needed "to walk inside" the cafe, she said, and grab her coffee to go. (It was apparent that there was no wait staff for the outside.) And almost before I nodded my assistance, she thanked me and quickly walked the 15 feet or so inside the cafe to grab her coffee. Sure enough, she was back in a relative flash but that didn't stop my mind from wondering. After all, I was caught, sort of, holding the baby while the mother disappeared.

Having watched hundreds of episodes of "Law & Order," from the original to the current remake and all the offshoots as well, I've seen this episode - many times; the one where the innocent patsy, is left holding the bag so to speak. Though, in this instance, the bag was a baby - but I was holding him/watching him anyway. That's when I hear the famous "Dun, Dun" known to Law-and-Order fans everywhere. I was half anticipating that a police car would drive up alongside the sidewalk where I was sitting and catch me holding the baby and drag me off to the local police precinct where I would vehemently (or would I calmly characterize this episode as a total misunderstanding? I was just holding the baby for a minute as the mother went inside the cafe to get her coffee, I'd say) deny their accusations. Then the police would respond with some version of the baby had been reported as stolen and how was it that I was sitting there holding him. I was just doing a young woman a favor, I would stammer. Then the police would counter that there was no woman at the cafe missing a baby, and there I sat, with someone else's baby and I couldn't account for the fact that a woman, who the police said didn't exist, had asked me to hold her baby. I said, "ask my wife and my father-in-law. We were all sitting together. Did you speak to them," I pleaded? The police assured me they would speak to everybody involved. In the interim, it was me and the baby and the long arm of New York law. Innocence as I've seen played out many times on "Law & Order" was not necessarily a sure-fire defense.

Sure enough, and thankfully so, the baby's mother (yes, she was real, married to a Norwegian man which accounted for the baby's rather unique name: Haaken or something, I didn't really understand. Though the mother was American, the baby's given name was a Norwegian one, she explained) returned coffee in hand and sat herself down next to me and the baby where she then waited for a friend - who, as it soon turned out, was as happy to see her and the baby as I was to no longer be responsible for said baby's welfare. Despite all's well ending well, as in there was no incident involving me and the police, I still couldn't help feeling as if I had somehow dodged a bullet, thankfully not literally, though I was in New York City, which again, if you've watched as many episodes of any of the 'Law & Order' franchise as I have, seems to happen occasionally, at least according to their writers. (I do realize that what happens on "Law & Order," as it scrolls "the following story is fictional and does not depict any actual person or event" has nothing to do with my life.) Nevertheless, as a dedicated television watcher, I do take the story lines somewhat seriously, though I'd like to think I can still separate fact from fiction. But the beyond-a-reasonable-doubt fact in this instance: it was me and the baby, and the baby wasn't mine.

Though I am exaggerating for affect, New York City can do that to you. It's been my experience after many visits to New York City that when a city never sleeps, all sorts of irregular-type only-in-New-York things happen. And what appears on television as a drama is often drawn from some of those things that actually happen. And for a few minutes on this Friday afternoon, I felt as if I might be one of those 'things' that happen only in New York City. It was a bit stressful while it happened. But it's been even funnier now that it didn't. Still, I hear it: "Dun-Dun."

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

Housing 2040 to Discuss Housing Affordability Targets on July 30

Members of the community are invited to join the Alexandria Housing Affordability Advisory Committee (AHAAC) for a virtual discussion on Housing Affordability Targets and Considerations for the Housing 2040 Master Plan on Wednesday, July 30 starting at 7 p.m. The June 5 presentation on the topic is available on the Housing 2040 website. https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/2025-06/housing_2040_-_housing_targets_06.05.25.pdf

This meeting will be held virtually. Please use the following Zoom registration link to attend online: <https://zoom.us/webinar/WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM>

register/WN_C-MJcXoQOuWwBJ2C-z89g. For interpretation services, please contact Christopher.Do@alexandriava.gov / 703.764.3084 by July 24.

For reasonable disability accommodations, please contact Gabriella DiLena at 703.746.3089, Virginia Relay 711, or gabriella.dilena@alexandriava.gov.

BACKGROUND: The 2013 Housing Master Plan established principles, goals, and strategies to address Alexandria's housing needs through 2025. In collaboration with the community and local partners, the City is undertaking an update to the HMP through 2040.

Presentations and recordings of the Housing 2040 meetings, including the March Principles and Goals Community Meeting, April Preservation Panel Discussion, and Housing 2040 Topics, are available at alexandriava.gov/HousingPlan.

Starting with the Housing Needs Assessment, the Housing 2040 process will establish new housing affordability goals and examine housing policies, programs, and tools to support all Alexandria residents and workers.

For updates on the Housing 2040 process, in addition to eNews, please visit the Housing 2040 website <https://www.alexandriava.gov/HousingPlan>

corcoran

MCENEARNEY

OPEN SUN 7/20, 1PM-4PM



Waverly Hills/Willett Heights

4610 17th Street N

\$2,875,000 | New 5-bedroom, 5.55-bath Spring Street home with 2-car garage, large level lot, Accessory Dwelling Unit, and screened porch that converts to year round use.

Betsy Twigg : 703.967.4391
BetsyTwigg.com.com

OPEN SAT 7/19, 1PM-4PM



Williamsburg Village

5900 35th Street

\$2,799,900 | New 5/6-bed, 6.5-bath home with 2-car garage on 11,000 square foot lot in Discovery, Williamsburg, Yorktown pyramid. Front porch, screened porch, quality throughout.

Betsy Twigg : 703.967.4391
BetsyTwigg.com.com

OPEN SAT 7/19 1-3PM & SUN 7/20 2-4PM



Old Town

103 Franklin Street

\$1,695,000 | 4-bedroom, 4.5-bath townhome with hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces, custom moldings. Open floor plan with chef's kitchen & deck access. Flagstone patio & 2 parking spaces.

Babs Beckwith : 703.627.5421
OldTownAlexandriaLiving.com

OPEN SUN 7/20, 2PM-4PM



SE Quadrant Old Town

918 S Saint Asaph Street

\$1,455,000 | Stunning, updated 1940's stone-front townhouse Deeded parking, NO HOA, and boasting a generous layout with 1,000 sq ft, 2-story addition!

Janet Catterson Price : 703.622.5984
JanetPriceHomes.com



Collingwood Estates

1112 Neal Drive

\$1,250,000 | Super charming complete renovation in Waynewood school district! 5 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2-car garage on large flat lot! No detail has been left undone!

Janet Catterson Price : 703.622.5984
JanetPriceHomes.com

OPEN SAT 7/19, 2PM-4PM



Laurel Hill

8423 Reformatory Way

\$869,900 | Like-new 3-bed, 4-bath townhome with 2-car garage, roof deck, gourmet kitchen, hardwoods, new carpet, luxe primary suite. Community features pool, gym, playground, and shops!

The Lynn Team : 703.973.8170
TheLynnTeamRE.com

OPEN SUN 7/20, 2PM-4PM



Belle Haven on the Green

1906 Duffield Lane

\$815,000 | Light-filled, updated townhome with garage, 3 bedrooms, 2.55 Baths, and situated close to 495, 2 lights to Old Town Alexandria, and 12 minutes to Fort Belvoir rear gate!

Janet Catterson Price : 703.622.5984
JanetPriceHomes.com

OPEN SAT 7/19, 12PM-2PM

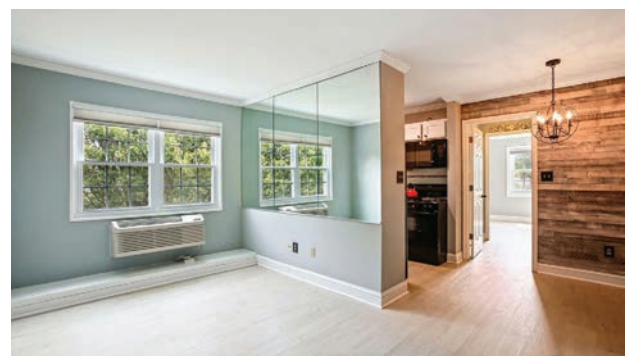


Potowmack Crossing at Old Town

1624 W Abingdon Drive #102

\$290,000 | This 1-bed, 1-bath unit offers a comfortable and inviting atmosphere right in Old Town! Easy access to public transportation and airport.

Jillian Hogan Homes : 703.951.7655
JillianHoganHomes.com



Huntington Metro

2237 Farrington Avenue #301

\$184,000 | New Price! Top-floor, bright corner, 1-bed condo near Huntington Metro and Old Town. New windows & floors, in-unit laundry, and 2 months condo fee included as closing credit.

Richard McGuire : 703.627.1985
RichardMcGuire.net

live who you are

Proudly Serving Virginia, Washington, DC, Maryland, and West Virginia

Corcoran McEneaney | 109 S. Pitt Street | Alexandria, VA 22314 | 703.549.9292 | corcoranmce.com

©2025 Corcoran Group LLC. All rights reserved. Corcoran® and the Corcoran Logo are registered service marks owned by Corcoran Group LLC. Corcoran Group LLC fully supports the principles of the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Opportunity Act. Each office is independently owned and operated.

ACM ATLANTIC COAST
MORTGAGE