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# Alexandria Gazette Packet



25 CENTS

APRIL 19, 2018

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PHOTOS BY VERNON MILES / GAZETTE PACKET

Eleanor Breen with the recently uncovered Alexandria ships.

## The Old Town Armada

Three new ships uncovered under Robinson Terminal South.

BY VERNON MILES  
GAZETTE PACKET

As long as there's been an Alexandria, there's been a waterfront plan. In the mid-to-late 1700s the bustling port city was on the rise. The city continued to grow and expand west, but what it really needed was more waterfront property. What it had was a collection of derelict ships. The ships were sent to the bottom of the river along the shore, some filled with stones and built into cross-timbers. The old ships past their prime found a



The largest and most intact of the uncovered Old Town ships.

SEE SHIPS, PAGE 25

## 'A Real Joint Effort'

Collaboration yields 93 affordable apartments in West End.

BY DAN BRENDEN  
GAZETTE PACKET

On Saturday, April 14, St. James Methodist Church celebrated the grand opening of 93 affordable apartments, newly constructed on property that it sold for that purpose.

St. James sold the land to AHC, a nonprofit developer, which in turn sold a portion to Craftmark, a market-rate developer. The new affordable units will serve households between \$43,700 and \$65,500.

For perspective, starting salaries

for Alexandria teachers, police and firefighters fall about midway within this range. Private sectors jobs that might fall within this range include administrative assistant, plumber, electrician and auto mechanic, according to the National Housing Conference's Paycheck-to-Paycheck database of occupations by metropolitan region.

When the 93-unit project opened in March, it had a wait list of 2,400.

Craftmark will build 31 market-rate townhomes adjacent to AHC's new building. The Campagna Center, a nonprofit, will also operate

SEE 93 NEW, PAGE 26

## Planning for Mission Impossible

City's sewer control plan nears approval.

BY VERNON MILES  
GAZETTE PACKET

Councilwoman Redella "Del" Pepper said that, a little over a year ago when the state legislation ordered Alexandria to remediate its centuries old sewer system by 2025, it seemed like an impossible task.

"This really looked like mission impossible," said Pepper. "[It looked like] there was no way on God's green Earth."

But one year later, the city is on the verge of approval for a plan that will bring Old Town's four sewer outfalls in line with the state regulatory standards. The plans reduce the flow of bacteria from the outfalls by between 80 and 99 percent.

The recommended plan is Option B+; where one unified tunnel will connect all of the outfalls

SEE CITY'S SEWER, PAGE 25

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# Sidewalk Protests

## National issue yields local confrontations.

BY JAMES CULLUM  
GAZETTE PACKET

**O**n Tuesday, April 10, friends and gun control advocates Amanda Gailey of Lincoln, Neb., and Catherine Koebel Stromberg of Roanoke, Va., met up in Old Town to protest outside of the family home of Chris Cox — the longtime chief lobbyist for the National Rifle Association — and also outside the interior design business co-owned by his wife, Courtney Cox.

The protesters would later file a police report against Courtney Cox and then receive Federal Express letters to their homes from the NRA warning them of prosecution if they should ever step foot on NRA headquarters property in Fairfax, the two women said.

Gailey, president of Nebraskans Against Gun Violence, and Stromberg, a volunteer with the Blue Ridge Coalition Against Gun Violence, appeared in front of Ivy Lane Living at 309 Cameron St. just after noon. They stood on the sidewalk, held signs and handed out fliers calling for a boycott of the business, and wore T-shirts of their new unofficial gun control organization — The Great American Gun Melt.

“I am now intent on organizing a larger protest with a local gun reform organization and having a collaboration protest in Old Town,” Gailey said. “They think they can intimidate people and shut them up, but not us ....”

Gailey and Stromberg claim that Courtney Cox walked out to them while they were protesting, took away Stromberg’s iPhone when she attempted to film the confrontation and received a scratch on her hand in the process.

“She [Cox] stepped in front of me and she started saying, ‘You’re attacking a



**Gun control advocates Amanda Gailey of Lincoln, Nebraska, and Catherine Koebel Stromberg of Roanoke protest in Old Town.**

woman-owned business. This place has nothing to do with the NRA,” Stromberg said. “She reaches out and grabs the phone right out of my hand and scratches me. I was shocked. ... She said I couldn’t record her, and that isn’t true. I can record her on a public sidewalk. She threw the phone down and said we were crazy people.”

Stromberg turned on the video recorder on her phone after the incident, and Cox can be seen walking away while Gailey says, “You make your money off of death. You make your money off of dead children, and you just hit the phone out of a peaceful protester’s hand. You make your money off of the death and misery of Americans ... You’re a parasite.”

Cox then stopped and turned around and said on video, “You are all insane.”

Elizabeth Locke, the Cox family attorney, disagrees with Bailey and Stromberg’s story of the confrontation.

“That description of the confrontation caused by the women harassing Mrs. Cox is false,” Locke said in a written statement. “Mrs. Cox owns and operates an interior decorating business that is not in any way affiliated with the NRA. These non-residents have come to Alexandria to engage in a campaign of harassment of a locally-owned business, to disrupt lawful commerce, to tax our local law enforcement resources, and to publicly shame and harass the wife and family of someone with whom they have a political disagreement. It is despicable behavior.”

Minutes later, Stromberg filmed a black SUV double park and a tall man walked out in khaki pants, boots and a gray blazer. The man was taped walking up to the protesters holding up his cell phone as if filming them, cheerfully saying hello and asking for one of their fliers before walking into the interior design business.

Then, two Alexandria Police Department officers and a plain clothes officer double-parked, walked past and greeted the protesters and into the business. As the officers left shortly thereafter, Gailey and Stromberg told them about the altercation, and were advised they could file a police report. They would do so the following day.

In the meantime, they were hungry and broke for lunch before going back to protesting outside of the Cox residence. They said they were able to find Cox’s address through the BeenVerified online public database. They picketed outside the home for over an hour without incident, and stood with their backs to the home, holding their signs on a prominent and heavily traveled street corner — and said they also saw the

same man in the black SUV who filmed them outside Ivy Lane Living.

THIS ALL OCCURRED a day after the continuance of a court case involving an alleged defacement of Cox’s house. In January, Patricia Hill, a Nebraska resident and acquaintance of Gailey’s, was charged with destruction of property for spraying a red substance on one of the exterior walls of the building. The case was continued to May 21. Additionally, a new warrant has been taken out against Hill for allegedly vandalizing the Cox’s home last October by placing stickers and spraying fake blood on exterior walls.

“Mr. and Mrs. Cox have been targeted over the past few months by repeated acts of criminal and unlawful conduct, including having their home vandalized on two occasions. One of the women who appeared at the Cox’s home this week is a colleague of Patricia Hill — the woman who has been criminally charged with two counts of vandalism of the Cox’s residence,” Locke stated. “The citizens of Alexandria understand that — no matter your political affiliation or beliefs — each one of us has a right to feel safe and secure in our home. These women have clearly crossed the line of civility and human decency.”

On Wednesday, April 12, Gailey and Stromberg filed their police report at the Alexandria Police Department at 3600 Wheeler Ave. While talking with Alexandria police about the incident, they say an officer told them that they might be in violation of a section of Virginia law, which prohibits picketing outside of private residences except in cases of labor disputes. It’s a misdemeanor and the maximum fine is \$500. However, protesting outside private residences has gone unpunished in Alexandria,

SEE PROTESTS, PAGE 29

# Local Youth Rally for Better Gun Safety Laws

BY MARTI MOORE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**A**t high noon Saturday, more than 300 protesters were led by 14 youth to decry gun violence and the nation’s largest gun lobby at its headquarters in Fairfax.

Although most guest speakers are too young to register to vote, they are part of a nationwide movement of youth activists so rankled with indignation about lives lost to gun violence, they want to help clean house at the next midterm election Nov. 6.

Student speakers called upon politicians whose campaigns are backed by the NRA to “stop prioritizing money over lives.” They believe more firearms restrictions — not costly security measures at schools — will prevent future deaths from gun violence.

“There were a lot of kids who wanted to protest at the NRA,” said Martina Leinz, president of the Northern Virginia Chapter

of the Brady Campaign To Prevent Gun Violence. She said Saturday was a perfect opportunity for them to speak.

Leinz claims the grassroots activists who ordinarily organize the monthly protests stepped aside to let the guest speakers — including a survivor of the mass shooting two months ago at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla. — plan the entire event themselves.

Jenny Wadhwa of the Jr. Newtown Action Alliance in Connecticut told the crowd that Dec. 14, 2012 is a day she will never forget because she survived the mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School. She asked why the murder of 26 people was not enough to change the world.

“We must scream the name of every man or woman who died of gun violence,” said the junior at Newtown High School in Sandy Hook, Conn., “We are never going

SEE LOCAL YOUTH, PAGE 20



**Fifth graders from George Mason Elementary School in the City of Alexandria say “We want change” to lawmakers Saturday afternoon as they stand up to the nation’s largest gun lobby at a protest April 14 in Fairfax at the National Rifle Association headquarters on Waples Mill Road.**

PHOTO BY MARTI MOORE/GAZETTE PACKET

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# NEWS

## Chief Reorganizes Police Department

Four bureaus become three.

BY JAMES CULLUM  
GAZETTE PACKET

The Alexandria Police Department has recently undergone a transformation. Police Chief Mike Brown's reorganization of the department went into effect on March 30, and his plan consolidates the number of divisions/bureaus from four to three and takes away and renames the Deputy Chief of Police positions from the ranks. The second-in-command positions are now a civilian assistant director and two Assistant Chiefs of Police.

The move, which was approved by City Manager Mark Jinks and City Attorney Jim Banks, results in the elimination of the Operations Support bureau.

Additionally, the former Deputy Chiefs of Police who chose to remain in the department were reduced in rank to captains, while their previous salaries and benefits remained frozen and they were encouraged to apply for two of the three open positions.

The department previously had four bureaus — Field Operations, Investigations, Operations Support and Administrative Services. The APD now consists of the Field Operations, Investigations and Administrative Services bureaus, the latter of which will be led by a non-sworn assistant director with a salary between \$91,000 to \$162,000 annually. The other two Assistants to the Chief of Police will be captains with an annual salary ranging from \$92,300 to \$167,300.

Brown, who was hired in Janu-

ary 2017, said he was influenced to reorganize the department after reading the 2016 APD staffing study by the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

"One of the things that they noted is that there seems to be an inordinate amount of chiefs in the department. They suggested that it be examined further at some point," Brown said. "There were also problematic things that were not related to the performance of the deputy chiefs, but related to the structured stay-in-your-lane silo kind of approach that we saw on an operational basis. And in some cases it wasn't efficient and oftentimes resulted in things stalling and decisions not being made, and as a result of that I started looking at where do the functions best align."

Deputy Chief Dave Huchler, the former head of the Investigations Bureau and briefly the interim chief after the retirement of Chief Earl Cook in September, recently took a job as the Chief of Police of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.

Field Operations bureau commander Shahram Ward has been reduced in rank to captain and is currently an IACP Visiting Law Enforcement Fellow. Former Patrol Support Division Commander Chris Wemple III chose to remain at the department and is now a captain.

Deputy Chief Diane Gittens, a 29-year APD veteran who led the Administrative Services bureau for four years, chose to retire effective April 1 instead of taking a demotion.

Gittens, who has a Master's Degree in public administration from George Mason University, is the

SEE REORGANIZATION, PAGE 26

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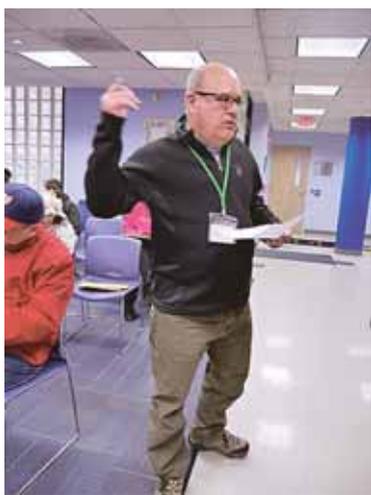
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PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/GAZETTE PACKET

**Miguel Contreras screens clients waiting for tax assistance at the IRS-sponsored free tax clinic on April 7.**



**Chris Sharp, a first-year volunteer with the Virginia Income Tax Assistance program, is assisting a family with a standard 1040 form.**

## Providing Free Tax Assistance

BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**A** bell rings at the Department of Human and Community Services building on Mount Vernon on April 7 as another taxpayer enters the door for free assistance. Miguel Contreras steps forward to act as the screener. His job is to be sure all of the clients have the appropriate documents such as valid social security card, picture ID and proof of income. The client must fall within the income limits of \$55,000 for families and \$35,000 for individuals.

**PEOPLE AT WORK** Then Contreras decides if they can do it. He adds that the volunteers are prohibited by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) from assisting with certain forms such as clients with rental property, with investment income over \$1,000 or a nanny who isn't a resident. "Earlier today I had to turn away a client who forgot his Social Security card."

They have 13-14 booths available for free tax assistance but the number of clients they can serve on any one day depends on the volunteers who show up. Today they have 10 volunteers including four students from Georgetown who come every Saturday. The volunteers spend about 20 minutes with a client on a routine form. After the tax form has been completed, it is reviewed by a quality control team.

A volunteer booth opens up. "What's her number?" It's number 13. "Send her back to a booth. She has to leave early to go to work." It is 10 a.m. and already they have 27 clients who have come in for as-

sistance with their tax forms. Contreras says they were lined up outside the door at 9 a.m. before they opened.

Although the session is scheduled to end at noon and the bell continues to ring, Contreras is forced to cut off the new clients. "We won't be able to do more than this in the next couple of hours." The assistance is also available Wednesday nights from 6:30-8 p.m. "But I've been there until 10 p.m. pretty much the whole season since we began February 3. And we run right up to April 14."

Contreras says it is busier the closer you get to the deadline for filing taxes. But it is also busy in the beginning from people who want to get their refund. Then there is a midseason low. "Then it's like 'oh, I've got to do my taxes.' Some procrastinate until the last day because they have issues like they didn't file for the last two years."

Another booth opens up. "Assign him an advanced counselor. He is self employed. It's more complicated."

Contreras, who is from Del Ray, has been a volunteer in the IRS Volunteer Income Assistance Program (VITA) for 20 years. He says all of the volunteers must take an online course offered by the IRS and be certified to participate. "They have different levels like intermediate and advanced and I assign the appropriate level of volunteer to the clients depending on the complexity of their return." He says he started in Arlington when they needed a translator for the clients. Then he moved to assisting with returns and finally the screener. "It's the best use of my skills."

## Beth El Hebrew Names New Rabbi

**B**eth El Hebrew Congregation of Alexandria has named Rabbi David Spinrad as its new senior rabbi. Rabbi Spinrad will begin his rabinate at Beth El on July 1, when the current senior rabbi, Brett R. Isserow, retires after 16 years as senior rabbi of the congregation.

Rabbi Spinrad is currently associate rabbi at The Temple in Atlanta, Ga. where he is also the director of the Rothschild Social Justice Institute. Among the initiatives he oversees are racial justice, refugee resettlement, Muslim-Jewish relations, gun sense, public education, poverty and homelessness, LGBTQ

equality and inclusivity, women's rights, and the environment.

Julienne Bramesco, president of the congregation, said that she looks forward to Rabbi Spinrad bringing energy and vibrancy to the Beth El community and continuing retiring Rabbi Isserow's legacy of scholarship and commitment to social justice.

Founded in 1859, Beth El Hebrew Congregation is the oldest reform congregation in Northern Virginia and Rabbi Spinrad will be its sixth rabbi. The congregation is located at 3830 Seminary Road. See [www.bethelhebrew.org](http://www.bethelhebrew.org).

## Lawrence Manchio Turns 100 Years Old

**L**ong-time Alexandria resident Lawrence Manchio celebrates his 100th birthday with family and friends on Tuesday, April 24.

The son of an Italian immigrant and the second oldest of eight children, he was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. on April 24, 1918. He remembers selling *The Times Ledger* newspapers on the street as an 11-year-old the day the stock market crashed in October 1929. The Depression set in hard by 1932, and when his father became terminally ill and could no longer work, Manchio dropped out of school to work as a plumber's apprentice, giving his earnings to his mother to help pay for food and clothing for his family.

In 1934, he signed on to work for the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) as part of FDR's public works program where he and others cleared trees and rocks to build Skyline Drive. When the work for CCC ended, the Corps of Engineers in Pennsylvania hired him to help clean up Susquehanna River flood damage. When the project completed in 1937, he relocated to Alexandria to begin construction of National Airport and the Pentagon.

He lived in several boarding houses in the north end of Old Town before settling down on North Columbus Street. He walked four miles to and from National Airport daily to save bus fare. He met his future wife, Diva DiFelice, while attending Sunday Mass at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. They were married at St. Mary's Catholic Church on Jan. 23, 1942.

He joined the Army in February 1943. After basic training at Ft. Belvoir, he joined his unit in Australia and fought with MacArthur's forces through New Guinea, Borneo, Morotai, and the Philip-



**Lawrence Manchio**

ppines before landing in Japan as part of the occupation. Manchio and his unit were charged with guarding the Japanese Imperial Palace before returning home on December 1945.

He was discharged in 1946 and resumed working for the Corps of Engineers. As part of the Aqueduct Division, he specialized in building and developing the water system supply for D.C. and Northern Virginia. By the time he retired in 1973, he was supervising 53 civil servants.

In retirement, Manchio continued to serve his community and neighbors. He took pride in maintaining a meticulously landscaped yard, received numerous awards from the City of Alexandria in the '70s and '80s. In May 2013, his wife of 71 years died, but he continues to enjoy the company and support of his children who live locally. Manchio attributes his longevity and exceptional health to a Mediterranean diet, remaining physically active and drinking a glass of red wine daily. He enjoys reading, keeping up with current events and rooting for the Washington Nationals.

### BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at [ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar](http://ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar). Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

#### SATURDAY/APRIL 21

**Women in Transition Career Conference.** 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 6219 Villa St., Alexandria. Hosted by The Alliance of Creative Professional Women (ACPW). Free conference provides support and resources to women seeking personal and professional growth. It aims to help women

gain the skills and tools necessary to confidently transition careers or conduct a fruitful job search. Visit [www.creativeprofessionalwomen.com](http://www.creativeprofessionalwomen.com).

**Mayor on Your Corner.** 10-11:30 a.m. at Clyde's at Mark Center, 1700 N. Beauregard St. Join Mayor Allison Silberberg for her next monthly coffee, "Mayor on Your Corner." No need to RSVP. No charge to attend. \$5 flat fee for pastries and coffee. See [www.allisonsilberberg.com](http://www.allisonsilberberg.com).

**Resiliency Yoga.** Noon-1 p.m. Join the Sexual Assault Center staff and a certified yoga

SEE BULLETIN. PAGE 27



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## LIVING LEGENDS

# Jason Ellis Reflects Everyday Life in His Plays

BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**A**ct 2, Scene 1, shortly after the red curtains open, the spotlight shines on three white-clad women dancing in front of a church choir. It is opening night of “Not My Baby” at the Richard Kauffman Auditorium in March 2017.

Jason Ellis, creator of the play, says the theme is adoption. On the right-hand side of the stage is the wall of the house where a Caucasian woman adopted two Black children. One of the girls is acting out because she resents that her parents had abandoned her. Despite the efforts of her adoptive mother, she couldn't connect with a Caucasian mother. Another daughter really wanted to connect with her birth mother. “It's about what it means to be a mother — is it birth or the mother who raised you.” Behind the brick wall on the other side of the stage is a couple who couldn't have kids. In the end they surprisingly find they know each other.

This play, like his others, had its seed in someone he knew. “Each show has a component that bridges to another show. That's my nugget.” He says this adoption idea was mentioned in “U Street,” his play about homelessness. It poses the question of homelessness in the greatness of America with all its wealth and resources. “How do we look at a country as being great when this homelessness exists?”

Although most of the plays are set in Alexandria and focus on people who live

there, “U Street” is set in D.C. because it is a socio-political conversation with elements of immigration and race relations. Ellis says he also works hard at recruiting talent from across the bridge. It's good for Alexandria to get people here who don't normally come here.” He says he also makes sure he has youths he works with in the cast. “But I tell them they have to audition like everyone else.”

“Not My Baby” was Ellis' sixth play in Alexandria and first under his nonprofit, Momentum Collective Inc., which he founded to use the arts, to educate, enrich and empower the lives of low-income youth. “I produce one play a year that I write, direct, and choreograph, set design, you name it.” His underlying purpose is “to showcase social themes that you don't usually see in the theatre.”

His first play was “The Berg Diaries” based on stories of people living in public housing. Its purpose was to break the stereotypes of people who live in public housing as having no drive and as being content to live off public assistance. “Some are in college; some are in healthy families.” He says they have the same problems of substance abuse or domestic violence that you would find anywhere. But he explains a lot of people can't afford to live in Alexandria and need some assistance. He took the theme from 15 interviews of Alexandrians and integrated them into characters to make the actual people anonymous.

Currently Ellis is the program manager who oversees the programs for youth and families at Authority for Redevelopment



PHOTO BY STEVEN HAPPERSON/TISARA PHOTO

### Jason Ellis

and Housing Authority (ARHA). The funds raised from the production of the plays are used to fund the after-school programs, summer programs and workshops for kids in public housing projects. “In any given year we touch well over 200 kids.”

He says he had an epiphany in 2009 about not wanting just to entertain but to use his God-given talents with some vision to support a positive impact on the lives of youth. “I saw the need.” The idea for Momentum began with a conversation with the just retired CEO of ARHA. “We had programs for residents on substance abuse, parenting but they were poorly attended and no one paid attention.” I went to the CEO and said I have an arts background. Why not say the same thing on stage? They will come to that.” Do they come? “Absolutely.” They mostly fill the 400-seat theatre. “We have built up a diverse audience.”

It is rewarding to see the changes. He hears, “That sounds familiar” as they see their own stories reflected in the theme of the play. “It's liked a mirror placed in front of them. It provokes a change in their mindset.” He remembers a mother who had seen “U Street.” Her daughter had run away

from home and she never knew why. She saw the situation played out on stage and understood for the first time. “Now she is working hard to mend her relationship with her daughter. It happens pretty often.”

He says these plays are truly a community project. The stories are from local Alexandrians. The cast includes lawyers, doctors, IT specialists with day jobs “who believe in the work I am doing with the kids in the city.” The plays are held in the Richard Kauffman Auditorium donated by Parks and Recreation; he partners with community organizations. Many in the cast are from the City of Alexandria and the modernization staff of ARHA builds the sets.

Ellis has performed since he was 2-years-old. “My parents just had me out there because I loved to be onstage.” Now he writes all his lyrics, which are studio produced. “We try to have them as close to professional grade as possible.” “Not My Baby” features 10 original songs. Ellis started dancing at 10 and joined a Dance Company at 14. He choreographs his own productions and next year will set the choreography for South Pacific for St. Mark's in the District. He adds, “I perform in 3-4 plays a year.”

Ellis explains the point of the plays moves beyond entertainment. Although his musicals have singing and dancing, “they aren't like ‘Cats’ or ‘Fiddler on the Roof.’ They are very heavy on script, having a lot of dialogue.” He says entertainment is the first step to capture the audience but he wants to move beyond that to enrich people's lives and empower them. He wants them to think about the next action step so they can improve their lives.

“I don't tell them how to make homelessness go away or what to do about substance abuse, but I put alternatives in front of them. I encourage people to see themselves and others through the lens of humanity.”

## Living Legends: The Project

The mission of Living Legends of Alexandria is to identify, honor and chronicle the lives of individuals who have contributed to the community in an exemplary and lasting way that has significantly impacted the quality of life in Alexandria and serves as an inspiration to others. For information, to volunteer, become a sponsor or nominate a future Legend, visit [www.AlexandriaLegends.org](http://www.AlexandriaLegends.org) or contact [AlexandriaLegends@outlook.com](mailto:AlexandriaLegends@outlook.com).

## All for a Good Cause

BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**F**or only \$20 and some luck, you could win a nine-day trip to England, Scotland and Ireland, grab a sumptuous appetizer, bid on many fun items in the live auction including a gentlemen's golf outing for seven, a weekend away in Charlottesville with golf and dinner or a Catering by Seasons dinner for 12 — all for a good cause.

The Campagna Center is holding its second annual Bright Futures Benefit on Friday, June 1 at United Way Worldwide at 701 N. Fairfax St. The Sponsor and Host Committee reception will be at 6:30 p.m. with dinner and program highlighting the center's mission at 7:30 p.m. and a cocktail reception with full bar to end the evening.

The Campagna Center was founded in

1945 and now serves over 2,000 children daily with early childhood programs from newborn to five-years-old, before-and after-school programs focusing on small-group activities for children through fifth graders, providing at-risk students with the support and services they need to survive in school and beyond, and offering English classes and services to help immigrants become self sufficient. This event is sponsored by The Junior Friends of The Campagna Center established in 1968 to provide critical fundraising and volunteer support to the Center.

Joy Myers, chief development officer, says, “All of the proceeds raised by the Bright Futures Benefit support our education and enrichment programs for children, youth and adults here in the City of Alexandria.”

Tickets may be purchased at <https://www.campagnacenter.org/events/brightfutures>



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY SARAH MARCELLA

The Campagna Center Bright Futures Benefit from 2017.

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 638 Kings Cloister Circle  
**Donnan C. Wintermute** (703) 608-6868  
<https://bit.ly/2GW7CoQ>



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**Open Sun 2-4** 1615 N Queen St #M602  
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Alexandria | 4/2, 1 | \$779,000  
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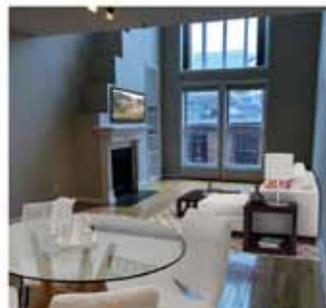
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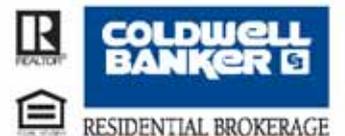


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# OPINION

## Send in Mother's Day Photos

**M**other's Day is Sunday, May 13 this year, and as every year at this time, This newspaper calls for submissions to our Mother's Day photo gallery.

Send photos of mothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers, with children or without children in the photos. Please name everyone in the photo, the approximate date taken, describe what is happening in the photo and include your name, address, email address and phone number. We will not print your full address or contact information.

You can upload photos and information directly to [www.connectionnewspapers.com/mothersday/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/mothersday/) or email to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com).

Mother's Day is just one of many occasions throughout the year that we would love to receive photos from our readers. Send us photos and notes when anything of note is happening in your family, neighborhood, school, club ... Be sure to include basic information: Name everyone in the photo, the approximate date taken, describe what is happening in the photo and include your name, address, email address and phone number. We will not print your full address or contact information. Send to [editors@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:editors@connectionnewspapers.com)

Soon after we publish our Mother's Day

photo galleries, we will begin to ask for submissions for our Father's Day galleries. Father's Day is June 17 this year.

Each year we seem to receive many more photos for Father's Day. We're curious whether that is because it is the second of the set so readers are more aware or because mothers are more likely to send in images of the Dads.

Twice a year we ask you to send photos and tell us stories about your pets and how they have come into, touched and left your lives, publishing the last week in July and the last week in February.

In late summer, we invite readers to share what they know about their community for neighbors and newcomers alike.

And wrapping up the year, we gather writing and art from local students to fill our holiday edition. Each year, through an enormous effort by area teachers and school staff we receive an amazing display of student talent.

Regular contributions to our entertainment calendars, community bulletin boards, school notes, and business notes help us to share news in your community. We also always welcome photos and captions from community organizations (Scouts, sports teams, faith groups, school activities, etc.) and local businesses.

Please start by sending in photos for Mother's Day, preferably by May 4. [www.connectionnewspapers.com/mothersday/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/mothersday/).

## Virginia Press Association Winners

Connection writers and photographers garnered awards at the Virginia Press Association annual award banquet. Here is the list of our winners, with more details to come in the future:

First Place, Michael Lee Pope, Business and Financial Writing, Great Falls Connection  
First Place, Bonnie Hobbs, Public Safety Writing, Chantilly Connection  
First Place, Mark Mogle, Pictorial Photo, Great Falls Connection  
First Place, Mark Mogle, General News Photo, Arlington Connection  
First Place, Eden Brown, Public Safety Writing, Arlington Connection  
Second Place, Dan Brendel, Government Writing, Alexandria Gazette Packet  
Second Place, Vernon Miles, Feature Series or Continuing Story, Alexandria Gazette Packet  
Second Place, Fallon Forbush, Breaking News Writing, McLean Connection  
Second Place, Fallon Forbush, General News Writing, Reston Connection  
Second Place, Bonnie Hobbs, General News Writing, Fairfax Connection  
Second Place, Marilyn Campbell, Education Writing, Great Falls Connection  
Third Place, Shirley Ruhe, Personality or Portrait Photo, Arlington Connection  
Third Place, Fallon Forbush, Education Writing, Great Falls Connection  
Third Place, Mary Kimm, Editorial Writing, Great Falls Connection

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Workplace Mental Health

To the Editor:

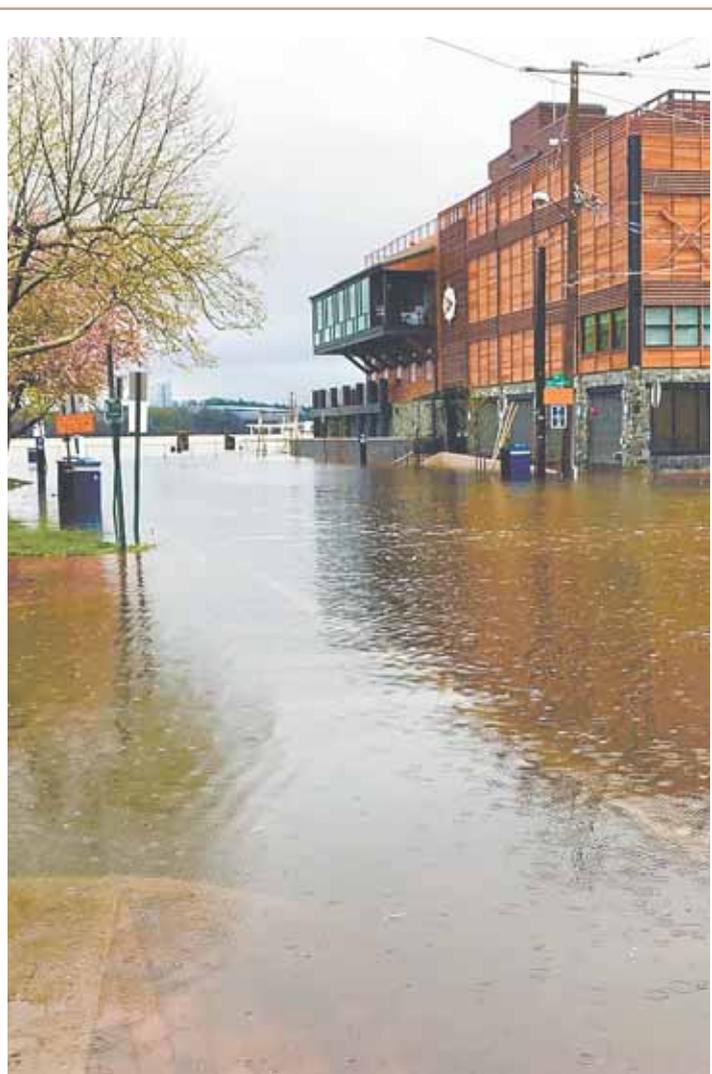
Research has shown that one in five Americans will face a mental health problem during their lifetime. We know that mental and physical health are strongly connected, but mental health is often overlooked. Many business leaders assume an employee's mental health is none of their business. But an employee's mental health status greatly affects their performance, as well as the company's bottom line.

The National Institute of Mental Health estimates that mental illnesses and substance abuse issues cost employers between \$78 and \$105 billion each year. Reduced productivity, absenteeism, and increased healthcare costs are just a few of the ways mental illness cost employers money. In today's fast-paced, high stress society, it makes sense to learn about mental health and begin to address it in the workplace. Promoting good mental health could be one of the best ways to improve an entire organization.

On May 16 from 8-9:30 a.m. a unique free program is being offered to the public at the Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901

Wythe St. "Resilience: What Employers Need to Know About Mental Health in the Workplace" is presented by the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce, the City's Department of Community and Health Services, the Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria and Friends of the Alexandria Mental Health Center. A panel of four local experts will share information and experience about signs of depression and anxiety, effective clinical treatments, what your health insurance should cover, how colleagues can support a worker who may be struggling and what employers can do to help keep workers on the job. We will also highlight ready to use resources and model programs that can assist and inform the workplace. Program speakers include Darcy Gruttadaro JD, director, Center for Workplace Mental Health of the American Psychiatric Association Foundation; Rob Krupicka, owner, Sugar Shack and Captain Gregory's, former member of the Alexandria City Council and the Virginia State Assembly; Rhonda Williams LCSW, adult clinician DCHS; and Jessie Joachim CEAP, Inova Employee Assistance Program. This will be an interactive program with time allotted for

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 11



### Snapshot

Flooding along the waterfront, Monday, April 16.

PHOTO BY DIANA BANAT

## Alexandria Gazette Packet

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

Published by  
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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A Connection Newspaper

The Alexandria Gazette Packet is distributed weekly to selected homes in the City of Alexandria. Any owners or occupants of premises that do not wish to receive the paper can notify the publisher by telephone at 703-778-9426 or by email to [circulation@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:circulation@connectionnewspapers.com), and the distributor will be notified to discontinue service.



# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

discussion with attendees. Informal networking with coffee and donuts begins at 7:30 a.m.

**Laurie Flynn**

Chair, Partnership's Mental Health Work Group

## Funds for Housing

To the Editor:

*On Wednesday, April 11, the Alexandria Housing Affordability Advisory Committee (AHAAC) submitted the following statement, outlining FY 2019 funding and budget recommendations, to the city council.*

The deficit of affordable housing in Alexandria constitutes a "deferred maintenance" infrastructure crisis for our city's families and overall socioeconomic health, resulting from inadequate past investment. In keeping with our mandate, AHAAC seeks to weigh in publicly with what we believe would comprise the handful of most decisive, impactful ways to strengthen the city's affordable housing ecology. In doing so, we also seek to clarify the public discourse about housing affordability.

### FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS Sufficient, Consistent, Reliable, Annual

❖ The city made a modest commitment to create or preserve 2,000 affordable units by 2025. A Dec. 19 memo from the city manager indicates a \$66 million shortfall. Closing the gap would require an additional \$10 million per year on average over the next 7 years, including FY 2019, for new unit development and preservation.

❖ This invariably requires a combination of means: (1) supplemental dedicated revenue; (2) inclusion in the Capital Improvement Program; and (3) the study of potential opportunity costs. Of the five new revenue options presented to council on Feb. 25, we prefer, in this order, the meals tax, transient lodging tax, vehicle tax, and real estate tax. The voluntary "round up" proposal would not produce consistent, reliable, or sufficient revenue. The meals and lodging taxes appropriately focus on business sectors whose employees especially would benefit from affordable housing options.

❖ The Housing Master Plan (HMP) states: "Addressing the

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 14

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# HISTORY

## Alexandria World War I African American Veterans

CHAR McCARGO BAH

**O**n Oct. 28, 1917, the colored citizens of Alexandria had a send-off parade for 52 colored drafted men leaving for Camp Lee in Petersburg. At least a thousand people attended the parade. The parade marched down King Street to City Hall where all the draftees and members of the draft board lined up. The troops of cavalry from the St. Asaph Camp and a colored band led the procession from City Hall to Union Station. Everyone in the parade carried the United States flag, and two cars carrying gifts and a huge basket of fruit followed. Reverend William H. Powell, pastor of Alfred Street Baptist Church addressed the draftees. Three of the 52 soldiers from Alexandria are highlighted.

### THE OTHER ALEXANDRIA

Private Ulysses Garnett Bell was 29 years old, and he was among the 52 soldiers leaving for Camp Lee. He married Beatrice Brown in 1914. They had one son, Edward Ulysses Bell and they all lived in the household of Ulysses' mother, Georgiana at 1307 Queen St. Ulysses spent two years in the military, and after returning from military duty, he attended college for two-years. He

landed a job with the Government Printing Office in Washington, D.C. After the death of his wife, he moved to Washington, D.C., in the 1930s. Bell died on December 18, 1945, at his residence, 610 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, SE. His funeral was at Shiloh Baptist Church in Alexandria.

Private Courtney Hauls was another draftee from Alexandria. He followed in his father's footsteps, Cyrus Hauls (Buckner) was a Civil War veteran. Courtney was 27 years old and lived with his mother at 1010 Wythe St. when he was drafted. He spent two years in World War I. He married twice. By 1920, he migrated to Essex, N.J. with his second wife, Viola. On June 1, 1982, eight days before his 91st birthday he died in New Jersey.

Private William Thomas was another draftee, and he left for military duty on Oct. 28, 1917. He, like the other soldiers enjoyed the celebration, the band, the parade and gifts from the Colored Alexandrians as he and his comrades made their way to Union Station. Unlike many of William's comrades, he would never return to Alexandria. Thomas was in the Army in Company H, Regiment 369<sup>th</sup> Infantry. On Sept. 28, 1918, he was the first Colored person to die from Alexandria in WW I. He was buried with the 93<sup>rd</sup> Division, in Meuse-Argonne Cem-



PHOTO COURTESY OF LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

**Two African Americans of World War I.**

etry, Romagne, France in Plot C, Row 20, Grave 5. He left behind his wife, Mary Coleman-Thomas. She never had the chance

to attend her husband's funeral. But Thomas was not forgotten by the African Americans of Alexandria. In July 1931, the "First Alexandria Negro American Legion" was named American Legion William Thomas Post No. 129. Williams' wife, Mary lived to see her husband honored. She died three years later in 1934.

The Alexandria Exemption Board certified men for the Army. By August 1917, the board had certified 131 men from Alexandria, including Bell, Hauls and Thomas. The quota for Alexandria was 153 men who were needed to serve their country in WW I. The Exemption Board needed to draft more men to make their quota. Again, Alexandria marched down King Street with their parades, band, gifts and speeches for the brave men who were about to fight for our freedom and values.

This year we will celebrate 100 years since our Alexandria veterans participated with other American veterans to end World War I. African Americans again played an important role in fighting for freedom. These Colored Troops made us proud.

*Char McCargo Bah is a freelance writer, independent historian, genealogist and a Living Legend of Alexandria. Visit her blog at <http://www.theotheralexandria.com> for more about "The Other Alexandria."*

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Theresa Valencic 703.638.8425

**ALEXANDRIA / Chelsea \$ 1,475,000 OPEN SUN 2 - 4**

4052 SEMINARY RD Classic, spacious all brick Colonial with fantastic floor-plan. 7,000sf on .45 acres located near 395 and Old Town. Hardwoods thru-out. 3 fireplaces, huge basement kitchen, new basement carpet, exercise room, deck, irrigation and tons of storage. 2 car side load garage. 6BR / 5 Full BAs



Meg Tracy 703.864.3978

**ARLINGTON / Arl. Ridge \$ 989,000 OPEN SAT & SUN 1 - 4**

2302 S NASH ST LOCATION! Charming Cape Cod on beautiful corner lot with renovated kitchen with stainless, butlers pantry, bar area and access to deck. Refinished hardwood floors thru-out. Finished basement, 2 fireplaces, cedar closet, walk-up attic, side entry garage. 3BR / 3BA



Pat Wilson 703.598.7279

**ALEXANDRIA / Hollin Hills \$ 899,900 OPEN SUN 2 - 4**

7412 REBECCA DR Largest model in Hollin Hills with 3,400sf. This Goodman Contemporary offers renovated gourmet kitchen and master suite; feel the outdoors inside with floor-to-ceiling windows and skylights. A patio off the family room and a great deck off the kitchen. 5BR / 3 Full BAs



Heidi & Elke Kohler 703.609.7367 or 967.7633

**ALEX. / Collingwood Manor \$ 899,000 OPEN SUN 2 - 4**

1100 GLADSTONE PL Charming arts and crafts style home built in 2009. Freshly painted, hardwoods thru-out, high ceilings, open concept kitchen / family room with gas fireplace. Built-ins, lovely screened porch. Fully finished LL. Professionally landscaped. Wayneswood School District. 4BR / 4.5BAs



Michael Lekas 703.927.9895

**ALEX. / Cameron Station \$ 843,900 OPEN SUN 2 - 4**

5250 BESSLEY PL Well appointed end unit Stoneyhurst townhouse. Open floorplan, family room, private deck off chef's kitchen, ML library/office, large living/dining rooms, walls of windows. Grand owner's suite with vaulted ceiling and spa-like bath. Custom bookcases and more. 3BR / 3.5BA



Mary Ann Burstein 703.850.0360

**ALEX. / Varsity Park \$ 840,000 OPEN SUN 1 - 4**

1327 JULIANA PL Welcome to this gorgeous, fully renovated home. Tucked away in a quiet cul-de-sac, the home offers hardwood floors, finished basement, family room with wet bar and fireplace, relaxing porch, and fenced yard with patio. Conveniently located. MOVE-IN READY! 4 levels / 4BR / 3BA.



Brenda Jourdan 703.472.0406

**ALEX. / Riverside Estates \$ 559,000 OPEN SUN 1 - 4**

3106 LITTLE CREEK LN Sunny Colonial on a great cul-de-sac backing to Parkland and Little Hunting Creek. This home features ML screened porch to watch the wildlife. Family room has floor-to ceiling brick fireplace. Large bay window with table space in the kitchen. Hardwoods on 2 levels. 4BR / 2.5BAs



Mary Taylor 703.785.5619 & Pat Tierney 703.850.5630

**ALEXANDRIA / Porto Vecchio \$ 575,000 OPEN SUN 1 - 3**

1250 S WASHINGTON ST #522 Easy living in this spacious residence with glass enclosed balcony overlooking the Potomac River. Spectacular city/river/bridge view at night and morning sunrises - divine! All the amenities included in this premiere waterfront building. 2BR / 2BA



Connie Arega 703.608.3106

**ALEX. / Autumn Chase Hunt \$ 549,900 OPEN SUN 1 - 4**

6768 JOSEPH EDGAR CT Gorgeous 3 level bump-out / 2-car garage townhouse. High ceilings, new paint, upgraded kitchen and huge family room on ML. Hardwood floors thru-out, new deck, walk-out basement to back fenced yard. Close to 2 Metro stations. 3BR / 2.55BAs



Inderjeet Jumani 703.472.8804

**MANASSAS / Hunters Grove \$ 465,000 OPEN SUN 1 - 3:30**

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## OPINION

# SSA Launches \$230,000 'Caring Connection' Campaign

**New program to serve city's most vulnerable seniors.**

BY MARY LEE ANDERSON  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
SENIOR SERVICES OF ALEXANDRIA

Senior Services of Alexandria (SSA), just off the heels of celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Golden Anniversary, is launching a bold new initiative called "Caring Connection" taking its Meals on Wheels program to the next step and providing a safety net to Alexandria's most vulnerable seniors.

The City of Alexandria's senior population has grown to over 22,000 individuals — and more than 5,000 of these seniors live alone. Working in partnership with the Division of Aging and Adult Services, SSA is delivering more than 48,000 meals to our community's homebound seniors annually, providing this critical service 365 days a year.

Stories from SSA's Meals on Wheels volunteers regularly detail arriving at a client's home to find them ill, injured or in need of urgent medical attention. It is fortunate that these volunteers can be the "eyes and ears" of the community coming to the senior's aid, but when this happens all involved are left to ask what more could have been done to prevent them from being whisked off in an ambulance, not knowing if they will be able to return to their own home.

What is needed is a proactive system for seniors who live alone with chronic medi-

cal conditions or those who have been recently discharged from the hospital and are at risk of being re-admitted because of medication issues, a fall, or inadequate nutrition. This is what "Caring Connection" is all about.

This exciting new program offers daily meal delivery beyond the standard Meals on Wheels program to provide personalized health and safety checks. It will be managed by dedicated staff as an additional service for the senior community. Through this exciting expansion, SSA expects to double the number of clients it serves in the first year alone.

SSA is fortunate to have two strong community leaders heading the charge in raising the funds to get the program off the ground. Gerry Cooper, SSA's current board chair and former Mayor and Community Activist Kerry Donley, are serving as Caring Connection Campaign co-chairs. SSA has raised \$200,000, more than 88 percent of its \$230,000 campaign goal, and SSA is asking for the community's support to raise the remaining \$30,000 needed to end the campaign successfully and launch the first phase of implementation.

With the support of the community, the "Caring Connection will add the essential element of daily health monitoring for seniors who are home recovering in the immediate days and weeks after undergoing a recent hospital procedure when they are at their most vulnerable. Nothing we could undertake as the public caretakers of Alexandria's seniors could be more worthwhile than this daily Caring Connection," said Cooper.

"I am happy to support the Caring Connection campaign sponsored by Senior Services of Alexandria. This effort is directed



**From left: Kerry Donley, co-chair of the Caring Consideration Campaign; Mary Lee Anderson, SSA's executive director; Gerry Cooper, co-chair of the Caring Consideration Campaign; and Cassie Chesson, SSA's development director.**

at vulnerable senior citizens who were recently hospitalized and will provide health assessments in addition to nutrition as part of their home recovery. Our goal is to assist them in their recovery and to avoid re-hospitalization and to do so through compassionate and effective services," said Donley.

SSA aims to fully develop, pilot, and implement the new Caring Connection program in three phases over the next two years. By the end of 2019, all three phases will be fully implemented and the City of Alexandria will have the critical Caring Connection for its at-risk seniors. Once Caring Connection is fully operational, it will be sustained by ongoing financial commitments from partner healthcare organizations.

To make a donation to the Caring Con-

nection campaign, please call 703-836-4414 or visit: [www.seniorservicesalex.org/caring-connection](http://www.seniorservicesalex.org/caring-connection). If you have any questions about the campaign, call or email Executive Director Mary Lee Anderson at 703-836-4414, ext. 111 or [executivedirector@seniorservicesalex.org](mailto:executivedirector@seniorservicesalex.org). Senior Services of Alexandria thanks you in advance for your support of this new initiative to keep the city's seniors healthy and safe as they age in place.

*Named by the Catalogue for Philanthropy as "one of the best small charities in the Greater Washington region," Senior Services of Alexandria (SSA) was founded in 1968 with the mission to foster independence and self-sufficiency in seniors, enabling them to age within the City of Alexandria with dignity. SSA is the only private, nonprofit agency that provides programs and services for all older residents of Alexandria. SSA is a 2017 Winner of a "Best Practices Award" by the Commonwealth Council on Aging.*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 11

goals of this [HMP] can best be done with a consistent, reliable source of annual funding." Direct project funding, reasonably predictable several years in advance, remains the city's highest impact tool to create and preserve units. While set-aside programs like bonus density are important and useful, they are secondary tools. Set-aside programs do not create enough units to be relied upon primarily to meet the HMP's goals. We cannot escape the reality that this crisis requires more public resources.

❖ We urge all stakeholders to stay focused on our commonly desired end, and to rise above an intractable disagreement about preferred means. Dedicated revenue and budget appropriation both have an affirmative role to play toward reaching our shared goal of a diverse housing stock; either method alone will likely not yield enough resources. The city's objective urgently requires the give-and-take of aisle-crossing compromise. All methods have pros and cons. All are limited, in that council has the authority to revisit any prior decision about the budget, tax-and-fee structure, or specific mode of general obligation debt ser-

vice at least once per year.

We request a fall work session with council to discuss these and potentially other recommendations.

### Alexandria Housing Affordability Advisory Committee

## Wealth-Maker Vs. Wealth-Taker

To the Editor:

I am responding to the Gazette editorial ["Expansion of Health Care in Virginia," April 20] expressing hope that Virginia will create another entitlement; this one for the indigent unable to obtain health care. Her sentiment is indisputably heart-felt, but precarious is her source of funding for this benefit: the hideously indebted Federal government.

There is a-coming a serious Federal fiscal crisis. It's due to our Federal government's inability to live within its means requiring massive borrowing from foreign governments, predominantly China. To this enormous and growing debt, add its money printing, which reduces the value of the dollar.

If nothing changes, then at some point,

likely sooner rather than later, serious cuts to Federal spending will occur if only because of increasing costs to repay what the Federal government has borrowed to give us the benefits we demand.

Without any spending reductions, projections are the Federal government by 2024 will have only enough money to fund entitlements (e. g., Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid) and to pay the foreigners to whom we are indebted, and nothing else including the Constitutional mandate to defend the nation.

Of course, there's nothing wrong with demanding more benefits from our government, whether Federal, state or local. But dipping into the Federal trough to fund these new benefits merely adds to our national debt burden.

The solution is for advocates of more Federal spending also to identify the means by which more wealth can be created. More wealth produces more revenue to tax and, therefore, more money for governments at all levels to spend. Better to be a wealth-maker first before becoming a wealth-taker.

**Jimm Roberts**  
Alexandria

## Praising Jefferson

To the Editor:

April 13 was the 275<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Thomas Jefferson, one of history's greatest men who gave us 60 years of public service. Alexandrians can be proud of our connections to him: he was a regular visitor at George Mason's Gunston Hall and held his Presidential inauguration party at our Gadsby's Tavern. The city also owns a letter bearing his signature.

Jefferson deemed his most important accomplishments to be his epitaph were author of the Declaration of Independence and the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom and founder of the University of Virginia. In producing his impressive documents, he was indebted to George Mason's Virginia Declaration of Rights. Jefferson edited Mason's language so admirably that those ideas of freedom were well understood by the common man, and his words have continually inspired people around the world. Indeed, our period of history can well be understood as the Age of Revolution.

Jefferson's other two proudest accomplishments are a natural derivative of the

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# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 14

first. Jefferson wanted to expand the vote (expecting his friend Madison would have a better chance of being elected to the House of Burgesses). Local Baptists who objected to paying taxes to the Anglican Church promised to vote for Madison if they were relieved of this burden and Jefferson had long agreed with that position. After the Revolution, the Anglican Church was unpopular because it was associated with British rule, so the bill finally passed the General Assembly.

Jefferson was a great believer in the potential of the common man to participate in government, but realized he needed to be educated to do so ably. Jefferson had been educated at the College of William and Mary, but wanted to create a new approach to higher education. He drew up the plans for his university, including gardens, hired the professors, helped choose the students and planned the curriculum. When Mr. Jefferson's university opened in 1825, he was 82 years old. He died the following year, but he had seen his dream fulfilled.

Although not listed among his three most notable accomplishments, he was a significant President. Jefferson knew the United States had to control access to the Mississippi River so Western goods could be transported to the East Coast and abroad, so he authorized the Louisiana Purchase which also doubled our country's land area. He won the respect and admiration of European powers when he cleaned out the Barbary pirates – which they had covered from doing. This act enabled the Marine song's phrase "... to the shores of Tripoli."

When we celebrate a birthday and other occasions with ice cream, remember Jefferson so enjoyed that treat while he was our ambassador to France that he had his cook learn French cookery. Also pasta! And French wines! Also, as we calculate our taxes, we can be thankful that Jefferson insisted on a decimal based monetary system, not the British pounds, guineas and shillings.

Thank you, Mr. Jefferson, and a belated happy birthday!

**Ellen Latane Tabb**  
Alexandria

## Losing Parking

To the Editor:

On April 4, while I was parking my car next to City Hall on Fairfax Street, I saw that nearly all of the parking spaces were filled with 13 city vehicles. It appears that the staff wants ready access to their

vehicles (to the detriment of the general public), rather than parking in the designated area under City Hall. I have monitored this situation over a long period of time, and it only has gotten worse.

Although it is no secret that parking in Old Town is at a premium; parking reductions are freely and routinely granted for every new development. In addition, two existent large parking lots are endangered; the Strand with 100 parking spaces (which will eventually become a park),

and the King Street Metro with 66 parking spaces, to be converted into a bus queuing operation.

All told, with these projected losses coupled with other parking reductions, the city has yet to offer any innovative parking solutions.

Although tourists can park at a meter, a parking lot, or in one of the residential parking areas, there are strings attached. First, meters offer only two hours of parking in most cases, especially meters east of Alfred Street. This is insufficient

time for an enjoyable shopping and dining experience, you will need to pick one or the other. Next, parking lots and garages often charge huge fees, which is a disincentive for parking at these locations. Most non-expense account visitors will seek out free parking spaces in one of the residential areas, which diminishes opportunities for residential parking.

Potential visitors to Old Town who are aware of these parking constraints will factor in these parking issues, and will likely take

their business elsewhere, while those who encounter this parking issue for the first time are less likely to return. The City Council should consider parking to be a strategic objective which is not to be waived away, but to be dealt with for the good of business and the citizens. To do other than this is to further inhibit the goose who is laying those golden eggs.

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## SPRING2ACTION

# Support Giving Day

24-hour event benefits local nonprofits.

Spring2ACTION, Alexandria's Giving Day, returns Wednesday, April 25. The 24-hour online giving event provides a way for donors to connect to the charitable causes they care about most and encourages them to take action. This online fundraising effort, hosted by ACT for Alexandria will offer local nonprofits the chance to raise thousands of dollars for the benefit of all Alexandria.

Last year, more than 9,000 individuals gave during Spring2ACTION, raising a record-breaking \$1,592,459 for 158 nonprofit organizations at [www.Spring2ACTION.org](http://www.Spring2ACTION.org).

This year, the more than 150 participating nonprofit organizations represent a variety of causes, including health and wellness, animal rescue, food and shelter, arts and music, schools and PTAs, children and families, and more. From providing scholarships to summer camp to building baseball fields to pro-bono legal services to serving meals to low-income families, the money raised during Spring2ACTION will continue to have an impact on the community throughout the year.

Support Spring2ACTION by making an

online donation at [www.Spring2ACTION.org](http://www.Spring2ACTION.org). Early giving begins on April 11. The minimum donation is \$5. Residents can also support this citywide giving day by visiting local businesses that are offering special promotions and/or donating a percentage of sales back to nonprofits. Examples include:

- ❖ Alexandria Restaurant Partners Restaurants (Lena's Woodfire Pizza, The Majestic, Virtue Feed & Grain, Vola's Dockside Grill and Hi-Tide Lounge) will donate 5 percent proceeds to ACT on April 25;

- ❖ Comfort One Shoes will donate 5 percent of purchases made during the month of April in all Alexandria stores to local nonprofits;

- ❖ Yates Automotive will benefit Spring2ACTION through its Give Your Two Cents program during April;

- ❖ Sugar Shack will give customers a free donut with proof of a donation on April 25;

- ❖ Participate in Good. Works. Wednesday. by shopping at Penny Post or Red Barn Mercantile to help nonprofits win \$1,500 in prizes;

- ❖ Holy Cow Burgers, Pork Barrel BBQ and Sweet Fire Donna's will donate 25 cents per meal to charity of the customer's choice; and

- ❖ Whole Foods' Nickels for Nonprofits program will benefit ACT during April through June when customers bring their

SEE SUPPORT, PAGE 18



From left: ACPS Executive Director for Secondary Education Gerald Mann, T.C. Principal Peter Balas, Anya Faruki, and SFA Executive Director Beth Lovain.

## Giving \$400,000 in Scholarships

The Scholarship Fund of Alexandria awarded its largest 2018 College Scholarship, the \$24,000 Loti Dunn Scholarship, to T.C. Williams Senior Anya Faruki on April 3. The scholarship will help Faruki afford the cost of college over the next four years. The award was presented by ACPS Executive Director for Secondary Education Gerald Mann, T.C. Williams Principal Peter Balas and Scholarship Fund Executive Director Beth Lovain during a surprise announcement at T.C. Williams. T.C. Choir Director Theodore Thorpe

also participated in the announcement, which was met with a heartfelt chant of "Anya, Anya, Anya!" by her fellow choir students.

Thanks to the generosity of the Alexandria community, the Scholarship Fund is providing \$400,000 in college scholarships for 151 students from T.C. Williams Class of 2018. The Scholarship Fund will hold its annual Black Tie Spring Benefit Gala to support scholarships on April 28. For tickets and info go to <https://www.501auctions.com/sfa> or call 703-824-6730.

# SPRING2ACTION

## Make a Difference

BY BRANDI YEE  
ACT FOR ALEXANDRIA

One day can make a world of difference. That day is April 25, Spring2ACTION, Alexandria's Giving Day. Our first-year hosting Spring2ACTION, 1,265 donors gave \$104,156 to 47 nonprofits and we were ecstatic. Last year, 9,058 donors gave \$1,592,469 to benefit 158 local nonprofits and we were blown away. That's nearly \$1.6 million in one day. Little did we know in 2011 that this online giving event would bring more than \$6 million to Alexandria nonprofits over the past seven years, making it one of the most successful city-wide giving days in the country.

While the online giving event is presented by ACT for Alexandria, the community foundation, it takes an entire community to pull off this extraordinary event.

ACT trains the 164 participating nonprofits on how to use the online platform, best practices in crowd funding and peer-to-peer fundraising, which are techniques that can be integrated into nonprofit fundraising all-year round. I am in awe of the generosity of donors who give and the dedication and heart of the nonprofits leaders working tirelessly day in and day out to make Alexandria a better place for all.

April 25 is about celebrating Alexandria and we want you to be a part of it. While Spring2ACTION is an online giving event,



we know giving is social so there are opportunities for you to connect with nonprofits and community members through offline events. I encourage you to check out the calendar of events on the Spring2ACTION.org site and join the fun. Support local nonprofits by supporting your favorite local businesses —

shop, eat, give — it's a win-win. Come celebrate with us at our Spring2ACTION Happy Hour from 6-8 p.m. at the new ALX Community on April 25.

Early giving, like early voting, has begun so give early and give often. If you don't know where to give, there is an option to donate to a cause and ACT will make sure your donation is directed to where it is needed most.

Raising millions of dollars is impressive and breaking giving days records is exciting, but at the end of the day, I want you to know that every donation, no matter the size, is making a world of difference in our community and for those who call Alexandria home. Thank you for your generosity and helping to ensure Alexandria is a strong, vibrant community for all.

Visit [www.Spring2ACTION.org](http://www.Spring2ACTION.org) and make your gift today. To learn how you can make a lasting difference in our community, visit [www.ACTforAlexandria.org](http://www.ACTforAlexandria.org).

*Brandi Yee is the chief program officer at ACT for Alexandria (ACT). Launched in 2004, ACT is a community foundation that seeks to turn ideas into actions and resources into results.*

## Honoring Community Leaders

Volunteer Alexandria will presents its 2018 community award winners at the 20<sup>th</sup> annual Alexandria Business Philanthropy Summit on Wednesday, May 30 at 7:30 a.m.

The Business Philanthropy Summit marks the first of three *Spring for Alexandria* events this season. "We are incredibly pleased to have two of the most accomplished and eminent businesses receiving the award. They both are changing the lives of many people in a way that matters to them," said Marion Brunken, executive director, Volunteer Alexandria.

James Schenck of PenFed Credit Union is the 2018 Large Business Philanthropist of the Year.

PenFed Credit Union has long been a part of the Alexandria community. The credit union made its headquarters in Alexandria from 1982-2016, and the PenFed Foundation is still headquartered in Alexandria along with 250 employees of the credit union. As CEO of PenFed, Schenck is the top executive of America's second-largest federal credit union, serving over 300,000 members in greater Washington.

Schenck is an active volunteer for the PenFed Foundation that changes the lives of military families by helping veterans heal wounds, pay bills, own homes, and start



James Schenck



Jen Walker

businesses. In 2017, PenFed donated \$4 million to organizations that support military families, including the Military Officers Association of America and Bunker Labs in Alexandria. MOAA received \$75,000 to assist veterans with financial literacy, while Bunker Labs received \$15,000 to present educational sessions for veteran entrepreneurs.

Jen Walker of the Jen Walker Team is the 2018 Small Business Philanthropist of the Year.

For more than two decades, Walker has dedicated her time, talents and generosity to making sure there is no better place than Alexandria to live and raise a family.

Over the years, she has taken pride in assisting dozens of community organiza-

SEE HONORING, PAGE 18

Spring2ACTION  
Alexandria's Giving Day  
Presented by ACT for Alexandria  
**Save the Date!**  
APRIL 25, 2018 12AM - 12AM

It's Time to Spring2ACTION to Support the Nurses of Inova Alexandria Hospital on Their Journey to Magnet Designation!

### What is Magnet?

The Magnet Recognition Program®, founded in 1993 by the American Nursing Credentialing Center, recognizes leading health care organizations that promote patient safety and deliver quality patient care, nursing excellence and innovations in professional nursing practice. The tangible benefits and outcomes of achieving this designation include: improving patient care, safety and satisfaction; attracting and retaining top nursing talent; and advancing nursing standards and best practices.

To date, only 475 of the approximately 5,000 hospitals in the United States have achieved Magnet status. With your help, Inova Alexandria Hospital (IAH) will be well on its way to achieving this prestigious designation before its 150th anniversary in 2022.



Donnie Simpson, Jr.  
Chairman  
IAH Foundation Board

*"We all have a role to play in making our community hospital the best in patient care. Join me in supporting and investing in our nurses, which will benefit you, your neighbors and all Alexandrians!"*

### What will my support go towards?

In support of this journey, we are fundraising to underwrite the costs on this non-reimbursable \$900,000 endeavor. **We are asking everyone to be "all in for Magnet!"**

Your philanthropic support will help us underwrite the many expenses of this journey including staff education, training, conference attendance, and application fees.

### What can I do to be "all in for Magnet"?

#### I'm ready to Spring2ACTION!

**Donate** on April 25 (or between now and then) to support IAH's Magnet journey.

**Dine** on April 25 at Holy Cow, Pork Barrell BBQ or Sweet Fire Donna's and tell them you support IAH nurses.

**Spread the Word!** Follow us on Twitter @InovaHealth and on the IAH Facebook Page and retweet and share our message.

<https://www.spring2action.org/organizations/inova-alexandria-hospital>



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**Spring2ACTION**

Alexandria's Giving Day

Presented by ACT for Alexandria

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For a list of organizations, giving day events  
and to give, visit [www.Spring2ACTION.org](http://www.Spring2ACTION.org).

## SPRING2ACTION

# Support Giving Day

FROM PAGE 16

own shopping bags.

Giving Day Sponsors include: Alexandria Restaurant Partners, Grant Thornton, Maria and Harry Hopper, McEearney Associates Realtors, Access National Bank, Beyer Subaru, Caudron Megary Blackburn Wealth Management Group, Comfort One Shoes, Holy Cow Burgers, Focus Data Solutions, John Marshall Bank, Penny Post, Red Barn Mercantile, Pork Barrel BBQ, Reingold, Sweet Fire Donna's, Yates Automotive, Alphagraphics, ALX Community and Brighter Strategies.

Community Partners include the Alexandria Arts Alliance, Alexandria Chamber of Commerce, Alexandria City Public Schools, Alexandria Economic Development Partnership, Alexandria Gazette Packet, Alexandrianews.org, Alexandria Times, Del Ray Business Association, Good Works.Wednesday, Patch, Sugar Shack Donuts, Visit Alexandria, Washington Street United Methodist Church, Whole Foods, and The Zebra. Spring2ACTION is hosted on the Give Gab platform.

For more information about Spring2ACTION, Alexandria's Giving Day, visit [www.Spring2ACTION.org](http://www.Spring2ACTION.org).

# Honoring Community Leaders

FROM PAGE 17

tions and supporting hundreds of events including the Del Ray Halloween Parade, Art on the Avenue, Alexandria Turkey Trot, and Mount Vernon Community School. She has also served as a board member of the Del Ray Business Association, the Campagna Center, and the Alexandria YMCA.

One of her recurring and signature contributions to the community is Cinema Del Ray, a movie night attracting thousands of attendees during the summer months.

Her leadership has helped to make Del

Ray one of the most stable, sought-after and family-centric communities in the greater Washington area. These efforts have earned Walker numerous accolades and awards, including the Marguerite Payez Leadership Award, Living Legends of Alexandria, Heart of Del Ray, and the Del Ray Star Award

The Alexandria Business Philanthropy Summit will take place on May 30 from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial. If interested in attending, tickets are \$50 and can be purchased online at <https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?ock=a07e58bd717088d80c=&c=&ch=>

Let us know about an upcoming event  
[www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar)

# Teaching Money Management

**April is Financial Literacy Month.**

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

In an era when consumers can purchase merchandise and deposit money into a bank account using a smartphone, teaching money smarts to children can be fraught with complications. April is Financial Literacy Month and local financial advisors say teaching children how to manage their money responsibly is a necessary part of becoming a financially responsible adult.

“How a parent treats cash is the way their kids will treat cash; lead by example,” said Andrea Foster, professor and department chair of Business, Economics, Accounting, Computer Applications and Paralegal Studies (BEACAPS) at Montgomery College. “If your kid sees you cutting coupons and budgeting, when they grow up they will do the same. They will see the benefits and the value of your thriftiness.”

One of the most important financial lessons that a parent can teach is how to save, advises Foster. “Teach them how to budget so that they can learn how to save for what they want,” she said.

Children pay attention to and learn from the ways in which their parents manage money and it’s critical that they learn financial literacy at home, suggests Victoria G. Henry, assistant vice president at West Financial Services, Inc. in McLean.

“Explaining the concept of savings early to children is key,” added “It is natural to want to spend everything right away, so it may be hard to understand why it is important to set a little aside for future expenses. Perhaps it could be explained by saying the savings will come in handy if a favorite toy breaks or is lost.”

An ideal time to offer a lesson in saving is when a child receives money as a present for a birthday or other occasion, says Henry. “It is a good practice to have them save even 10 or 20 percent of the gift, and let them have the rest to spend how they want,” she said. “If they decide to spend their fun money on something and then quickly return asking

for money for something else, it is a good to remind them that maybe they should think more carefully about how they want to spend their money in the future. This will help them get into the practice of making wise choices with spending and saving down the road when they start earning money as well.”

Foster also suggests helping children develop savings goals. “[Whether] by piggy bank, envelope, can, or jar, a vessel is an important tool for teaching kids how to save for major milestones,” said Foster. “Identify a goal for the saving and have them save towards that goal.”

Transparency builds enthusiasm, adds Foster. “Using

a clear jar for saving creates enthusiasm and motivation as the kids see it fill up with the coins,” she said. “[Saving] also teaches then self-reliance and not counting on their parents to help them for everything. By giving a reward, kids can learn the value of money and how to spend money.”

Foster also suggests encouraging children to keep a spending diary and limiting the amount of money they can spend or the number of items they can purchase when shopping for themselves. “Show them that stuff costs money,” she said. “Have them keep track of all the money that mom and dad spend on them in one month, from food to clothing and other things. They will real-

ize how much it costs to maintain them and how much all the stuff that they want costs.”

Involve children in a family’s charitable donations, advises Henry. “Ask your children to think about what kinds of charitable efforts the family should support,” she said. “Have them research and pick a charity and then make a small contribution to that organization on their behalf.”

“Have children earn their allowance and let children experience the pain of not having enough money if they don’t budget correctly,” said Dr. Brian Hollar assistant professor of Accounting, Economics & Finance at Marymount University. “Experience is a good teacher and learning when the stakes are low is invaluable.”

Hollar underscores the importance of teaching solid math skills. “It’s hard to develop strong financial literacy without understanding exponential growth,” he said.



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

**Teaching young children about the concept of saving money is a critical part of financial literacy.**

**“Explaining the concept of savings early to children is key. It is natural to want to spend everything right away, so it may be hard to understand why it is important to set a little aside for future expenses.”**

— Victoria G. Henry,  
West Financial Services, Inc.

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**How can you help save a life every day?**

Give during the Spring2Action one-day, online fundraiser on April 25th and you could help Alexandria’s only no-kill, all-volunteer cat rescue facility win up to \$30,000 in grants and prizes!

Just a \$10 donation from YOU will help King Street Cats rescue a cat from a shelter or the streets and provide it with a safe haven until it finds a forever home!

Mark your calendar for April 25th!

**What: Giving during the one-day Spring2Action fundraiser**

**When: Wednesday, April 25**

**Where: [gvgb.co/KSCS2A](http://gvgb.co/KSCS2A)**



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# Revamping Local Environmental Policy

BY DAN BRENDEL  
GAZETTE PACKET

**A**lexandria Earth Day, April 28, is the last big opportunity to weigh in on recommendations to update the city's Environmental Action Plan (EAP), before they go to City Council in May.

Along with the Eco-City Charter, the EAP proposes to be at the center of the city's "constellation of plans," subordinate only to the city's Strategic Plan, overarching even the various master plans.

In September, the Environmental Policy Commission (EPC), comprising 13 citizen-volunteers, began a process to recommend ways to update the EAP. The update, deferred since 2014, comprises two phases over two years. The first phase goes to council for action next month, in the form of 14 recommendations, currently in draft form, under five headings: climate change, energy, green building, land use and open space, and solid waste.

## CLIMATE CHANGE

While the EPC prefers not to assign relative priorities to these issue areas, Jim Kapsis, EPC's chair, said that climate change might be the most "cross-cutting."

The EPC aims to "institutionalize climate change into long-term planning" and "reduce per capita greenhouse gas emissions." These goals would entail establishing a new Climate Change Coordinating Commission; incorporating greenhouse gas emission projections into capital planning; and studies of how to mitigate rising sea level and various potential consequences related to public health.

## ENERGY

The EPC wants the city, starting with city-owned buildings, to use less and cleaner energy.

The city could fully offset its buildings' energy usage by purchasing Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs), for something like \$70,000, said Kapsis. RECs are tradable instruments that allow consumers without their own renewable energy generation capacity to buy renewable energy from the common electricity grid. They "are the currency of the renewable energy market" and "support renewable energy projects" nationwide, according to an EPA tutorial. More than 50 cities have already taken similar action.

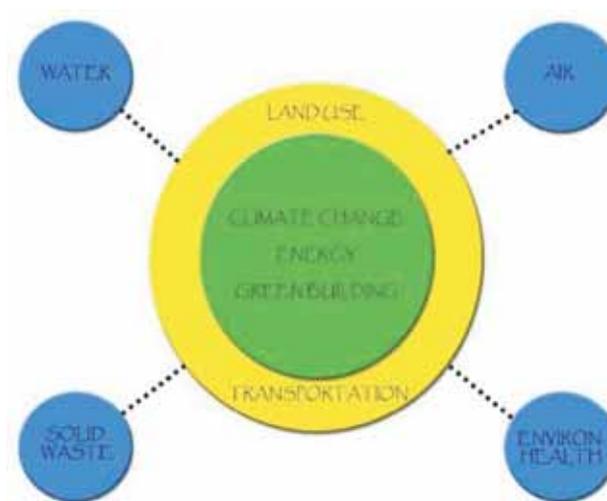
Other proposals include establishing a city policy and funds for efficiency improvements; upgrading lighting to LED; incorporating electric vehicles into publicly owned fleets; and by piloting a "district energy system," whereby multiple buildings would share the same heating and cooling equipment.

## GREEN BUILDING

"Buildings account for almost 40 percent of national [carbon dioxide] emissions and out-consume both the industrial and transportation sectors; but certified green buildings have 34 percent lower CO2 emissions, consume 25 percent less energy and 11 percent less water, and have diverted more than 80 million tons of waste from landfills," according to draft proposals.

The EPC proposes increasing standards for "net zero energy," green energy certification, and water consumption and runoff — first for public buildings, and then for private construction and renovation through the development and permitting processes.

Although green improvements could pay



**In May, the Environmental Policy Commission (EPC) will send to City Council a first set of recommendations to update the city's 2009 Environmental Action Plan. The original EAP "identified the challenges of climate change and energy/peak oil as the primary policy and political drivers ... These primary issues will also greatly influence the need to address related issues, such as water and air quality, land use planning, and transportation."**

for themselves within seven years, Planning Commissioner Maria Wasowski expressed concern about the added cost for small projects.

Planning Commissioner Nathan Macek urged flexibility for developers to explore the most cost-effective means to achieve "the spirit of what we're trying to accomplish."

Planning Commissioner Melissa McMahon suggested that greater specificity and clarity of enforceable standards might be helpful. She expressed doubt that the current practice of merely determining projects' "consistency" with top-level plans, such as the EAP, is sufficient for making meaningful progress.

The EPC proposes designating "Green Development Zones," which would encourage green building through incentives like bonus density, tax abatement and fee waivers.

## LAND USE & OPEN SPACE

The EPC wants to integrate the EAP across the city's many departments, boards and commissions. They propose that the city systematically "review and revise" all "plans, policies, practices, and performance measures" for, at the least, the Departments of Planning & Zoning, Transportation & Environmental Services, Project Implementation, and Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities.

The city's hiring Ellen Eggerton last year as its first sustainability coordinator is generally regarded as a positive step; although some would like to have seen her position established higher in the administration's food chain.

The EPC also aims to increase the "quantity" and "quality" of open space by increasing certain planning targets; reestablishing

SEE ENVIRONMENTAL, PAGE 28

# Local Youth Rally for Better Gun Safety Laws

FROM PAGE 3

to forget."

Other teen speakers belong to the MoCo Students for Gun Control from Montgomery County, Md., and the Northern Virginia chapter of SaveOurStudents of Prince William County, Va. According to their social media and the websites marchforourlives.com and nationalschoolwalkout.net, these students plan to gather Thursday, April 19 in Washington, D.C., outside the White House from 3:30-5 p.m. to protest the failure of lawmakers to enact laws that prevent gun violence.

The following day, they will mark the anniversary of the Columbine High School mass shooting in Colorado — that claimed 13 lives April 20, 1999 — with another national school walkout at 10 a.m. local time.

Kelly O'Neil of Alexandria is the mother of a 5th grader and guest speaker from George Mason Elementary School. She says the children are interested in maintaining the momentum of this movement and make sure it doesn't fade away.

Her 11-year-old daughter, Lily, has seen more news reports of mass shootings in her lifetime than that of

her mom's 48 years. Lily understands this is not normal.

"It bothers me a lot that innocent kids are dying for no reason," Lily said.

What strikes her mother is "the purity of a child's mind that can't understand this problem hasn't been solved yet."

"It's common sense to them," O'Neil said, "guns don't belong in schools." Therefore access to guns should be regulated, she concluded.

The George Mason Elementary School parents and teachers were in awe of their students for doing their homework and preparing their own speeches to deliver last weekend — on a day when they usually relax, hang out with friends and family, or play arcade games at the Dave & Buster's in Springfield.

The adults admitted their children dragged them to the two-hour protest. "It's really kid driven," they said.

O'Neil said she is impressed by the clear-headedness of these elementary school students, who value human life over money and the political influence of gun rights groups like the NRA.

"These are very brilliant kids," Leinz said.



**From left: Fifth grade student Lily O'Neil, 11, waits her turn as classmate Matthew Heckel, 10, speaks about the futility of beefed-up security measures at schools. They attend George Mason Elementary School in the City of Alexandria and don't see how clear plastic backpacks, active shooter drills and arming teachers with weapons can ensure their safety in the classroom.**

# ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/). The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

## ONGOING

**Open for Tours.** Starting April 23 to December. At 9000 Richmond Hwy., Alexandria. Woodlawn and Frank Lloyd Wright's Pope-Leighey House is open for tours Friday through Monday, from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. (last tour at 3 p.m.) Not open to the public Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. To learn more about National Trust Sites, visit [savingplaces.org/historic-sites](http://savingplaces.org/historic-sites).

**Art Exhibit: Beasts Beyond Boundaries.** Through April 29, daily 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thursdays until 9 p.m. at Scope Gallery, 105 North Union St., ground floor Studio 19 of the Torpedo Factory Art Center. Kiln Club artists highlight "Beasts Beyond Boundaries: Cultural Creature-centric Connections," corralling critters on gallery shelves. Call 703-548-6288 or visit [www.scopegallery.org](http://www.scopegallery.org).

**Art Exhibit: A Touch of Magic.** Through April 29, gallery hours at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Del Ray Artisans "A Touch of Magic" exhibit is inspired by the subtle, simple, complex, or bold magic that creates life's special moments, fulfilled dreams, rare experiences, and fosters the recognition of beauty. Opening Reception is Friday, April 6, 7-9 p.m. Visit [www.DelRayArtisans.org](http://www.DelRayArtisans.org).

**"High School Musical."** Through April 29 at George Washington Middle School auditorium, 1005 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Tickets are \$5 at the door. Fridays at 7 p.m.; Saturdays at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Presented by the George Washington Middle School Theater Department. Visit [www.acps.k12.va.us/Domain/10](http://www.acps.k12.va.us/Domain/10).

**"I Did It My Way in Yiddish (in English)."** Through April 29, 8 p.m. at MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St., Alexandria. A play written and performed by Deb Filler, an internationally acclaimed Canadian/New Zealand Jewish comic, musician and writer. Visit [www.metrostage.org](http://www.metrostage.org).

**Alexandria Pop-Up Program "Looking Up."** Through May 1. At 104 South Union St., Alexandria. AEDP's Pop-Up ALX program is partnering with The Art League and the International Institute of Photography to bring an exhibition showcasing the artwork of girls from the City of Alexandria alongside the work of seminal female artists. The gallery will feature the photography of 10-year-old girls from the SOHO Old Town (a Space Of Her Own) outreach program juxtaposed with iconic photographs of groundbreaking women in the field. Visit [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org).

**Art Exhibit A Study of Manhattan.** Through May 6, gallery hours at the Art League Gallery, 105 North Union St., Studio 21, in the Torpedo Factory. Paintings by Robert Gilbert: A Study of Manhattan: Power, Dominance, and Excitement. Visit [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org) or call 703-683-1780.

**Art Exhibit: 2018 Emerging Artists.** Through May 20, daily 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thursday until 9 p.m. at Target Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 North Union St., Studio 2. Target Gallery, the contemporary exhibition space of the Torpedo Factory Art Center, introduces a new annual exhibition series featuring the work of emerging artists of the D.C., Maryland, and Virginia region. This inaugural year's exhibition features the work of Katie Barrie, Ronald Jackson, Hollis McCracken, and Holly Trout. Visit [torpedofactory.org/](http://torpedofactory.org/)



**Offender Aid and Restoration's annual Second Chance Fundraising Breakfast will be April 24.**

FILE PHOTO BY SHIRLEY RUHE

## OAR Celebrates 10 Years With Community Fundraiser

**O**ffender Aid and Restoration (OAR) will host its 10th Annual Second Chance Fundraising Breakfast on Tuesday, April 24 from 7:45-9 a.m. at the Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel.

This year's guest speaker is Harold Clarke, director of the Virginia Department of Corrections with state Sen. Barbara Favola and state Sen. Adam Ebbin as honorary chairs for the event.

Clarke, a leader in seeking solutions to assist with prisoner reentry, says the major obstacle right now is employment because a number of employers are reluctant to provide employment because they are concerned about the criminal history. Clarke adds research shows that people with a criminal history have a 40 percent less chance of securing employment.

Guests must RSVP to attend since the breakfast is generally at capacity with 600 guests. Guests

can RSVP on the website at [www.oaronline.org/breakfast-rsvp-form-2028](http://www.oaronline.org/breakfast-rsvp-form-2028). Attending the breakfast is free, but the event is a fundraiser so guests are asked to consider making a donation.

OAR was founded in 1974. They provide reentry services to previously incarcerated individuals including transition assistance and employment coaching. The OAR Reentry Services Department serves nearly 800 post-release participants annually and nearly 400 pre-release participants at the Arlington County Detention Facility, the Alexandria Detention Center and Coffewood Correctional Center.

The breakfast highlights the challenges of prisoner reentry with transition back into the community and showcases some of the successes of the OAR program and the lives impacted.

— SHIRLEY RUHE

partners/target-gallery.

**Mathematics Show.** Through May 20 at Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery at Torpedo Factory Art Center, Studio 29, 105 North Union St., Alexandria. Featuring the work of Mary Ann Robinson and Sylvia Saborio. The beauty of mathematics will be on display: hyperbolic geometry, fractal art, the golden ratio, the Fibonacci series — all serve as rich sources of inspiration for this theme. Call 703-548-0935 or visit [www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com](http://www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com).

**Benson Bond Moore Landscapes.** Through May 31 at Studio Antiques and Fine Art, 524 North Washington St., Alexandria. Free admission. Over 70 paintings and numerous natural history prints from the estate of a private collector will be on display. Call 703-548-5188 or visit [www.studioantiques.net](http://www.studioantiques.net).

**Pick-Up Hockey.** Ongoing, Wednesdays and Fridays 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Mount Vernon Ice Skating, 2017 Belle View Blvd. Play hockey with other hockey buffs, hitting slap shots and learning puck handling skills that the pros use. Players must have full equipment. 16 and older.

visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/mtvernon/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/mtvernon/) or call 703-768-3224.

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

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

### THURSDAY/APRIL 19

**Local Author Thursday.** 5-7 p.m. at The Old Town Shop, 105 South Union St. Book signing by Mary Jane O'Laughlin, "Ruby and Baby... and unlikely Friendship." Light refreshments. Call 703-684-4682 or

visit [www.TheOldTownShop.com](http://www.TheOldTownShop.com).

**Spring2Action Fundraiser.** 5:30-7:30 p.m. at The Light Horse, 715 King St., Alexandria. Presented by ACT for Alexandria. A fundraiser for the Lee-Fendall House Museum to continue repairs to its foundations. The goal is to raise \$3,000 to complete another section of foundation work. Visit [www.leefendallhouse.org](http://www.leefendallhouse.org).

**Vegetable Gardening Series, Part 5: Square Foot Gardening.** 7-8:30 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Using this system, originated by Mel Bartholomew, grow more fresh produce in a small space, and save time with less watering, weeding, and tilling. Learn the simple principles of square foot gardening that give a high yield, easily maintained intensive garden. Free. Advance registration requested at [mgnv.org](http://mgnv.org). Questions, call 703-228-6414 or email [mgarlalex@gmail.com](mailto:mgarlalex@gmail.com).

### APRIL 19-JUNE 3

**Art Exhibit.** At The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. Two Solos:



Wendi R. Kaplan

## Reception: Poem in Your Pocket

In celebration of National Poetry Month, bring poetry and stories that spark the creative spirit. All are welcome. Hosted by Poet Laureate Wendi R. Kaplan and the Office of the Arts, City of Alexandria. Tuesday, April 24, 6:30 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. Call 703-548-0035 or visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org).

Brian Williams and Sophie Blondeau. Williams' paintings on metal want viewers to consider if humans can adapt without catastrophe. Blondeau's canvasses explore memory and perception through the lens of her formative years in France. Visit [www.nvfaa.org/events/](http://www.nvfaa.org/events/).

### FRIDAY/APRIL 20

**Poetry Month Reading.** 6:30-8 p.m. at Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St., Alexandria. Wendi R. Kaplan, Poet Laureate, City of Alexandria invites you to read poetry. "DASHing Words in Motion" Poets will also read their winning poetry that will be on the DASH buses and Trolleys in April and May. Visit the Office of the Arts' website at [www.alexandriava.gov/Arts](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Arts), email the Poet Laureate at [poet@alexandriava.gov](mailto:poet@alexandriava.gov), or contact Cheryl Anne Colton at [cheryllanne.colton@alexandriava.gov](mailto:cheryllanne.colton@alexandriava.gov).

**Frog Symphony.** 7-9 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd., Alexandria. Huntley Meadows comes alive in the spring with the sound of frogs and toads. Join a naturalist for an indoor discussion and guided walk to listen for serenading frogs and toads, and learn their calls. \$9. Call 703-768-2525 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows).

### APRIL 20-28

**"Hairspray."** At T.C. Williams High School. Show times are Fridays, April 20 and 27 at 7 p.m.; Saturdays, April 21 and 28 at 7 p.m.; and Saturday, April 28 at 1 p.m. Visit [www.acps.k12.va.us](http://www.acps.k12.va.us).

### SATURDAY/APRIL 21

**Rocket Run for Autism.** 9 a.m. at Rose Hill Elementary School, 6301 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria. Includes a 5K Run-Walk and a Fun Run for Kids. All proceeds go to the Autism Society of Northern Virginia, which builds community for over 5,000 individuals and families affected by autism through education, advocacy, and support. Online registration is available. Contact Laura Osborne at [lcosborne@fcps.edu](mailto:lcosborne@fcps.edu).

**Marketplace at The Athenaeum.** 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. Free. Stop by the Athenaeum as part of a great day touring gardens and homes in



# ENTERTAINMENT

**PUBLIC SAFETY VALOR AWARDS**

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Alexandria. The Hunting Creek Garden Club has curated a selection of vendors who will display their wares among the art in the gallery. NVFAA Members Pre-sale 8:45- 9:30 a.m. Visit [nvfaa.org](http://nvfaa.org).

**Learn About Native Plants.** 10 a.m.-noon at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Cost is \$8/person. Native plants are critical to the survival of Virginia's animals. Learn what makes a plant invasive and why it should be removed. Connect with the Virginia Native Plant Society and Green Spring Gardens for a take-action project. Wear work clothes, gloves and sturdy shoes. Call 703-642-5173 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/green-spring](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/green-spring).

**Kite Festival.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Lorton. With children's activities, crafts, historical characters, and guided tours. Visitors can also speak with a kite maker, specializing in 18<sup>th</sup>-century kite construction. Cost is \$10/adults; \$8/children (ages 6-18). Contact Mary Kristen Craver at 703-550-9220, ext. 240 or [mkcraver@gunstonhall.org](mailto:mkcraver@gunstonhall.org).

**Historic Garden Week Old Town Tour.** 10 a.m.-7 p.m. at 201 Prince St., Alexandria. Old Town Alexandria will kick off the Garden Club of Virginia's 85th Historic Garden Week public tour of historic homes and gardens. Ticket price includes admission to five of Old Town Alexandria private homes and gardens, refreshments at 228 South Pitt St., and admittance to five nearby historic public properties, including: Carlyle House, Lee-Fendall House, River Farm, Gunston Hall, and Mount Vernon. Presented by the Hunting Creek Garden Club and the Garden Club of Alexandria. Tickets may be purchased the day of the event at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St.; St. Paul's Church, 228 S. Pitt St.; and the Alexandria Visitors Bureau at 115 King St. \$45/advance; \$55/door. Visit [vagdardenweek.org](http://vagdardenweek.org) or email [historicgardenweek@gmail.com](mailto:historicgardenweek@gmail.com).

**Garden Day Herb & Craft Sale.** 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St., Alexandria. Free. Tour Carlyle House and purchase herbs, plants, and flowers raised in Mount Vernon's greenhouses. Bring your gardening questions to the Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia. Enjoy live musical entertainment throughout the day, a bake sale, book sale, white elephant table, and more. Sponsored by Friends of Carlyle House. Admission to Carlyle House Museum is \$5/adults; \$3/children. Visit [www.novaparks.com](http://www.novaparks.com).

**Raptor Rapture.** 10 a.m.-noon at Belle Haven Park, South of Old Town. You can see and photograph live raptors like barn and barred owls, hawks and more up close. Sponsored by the Friends of Dyke Marsh, the Raptor Conservancy of Virginia and the National Park Service. visit [www.fodm.org](http://www.fodm.org).

**Firefighting History Walking Tour.** 1-2:30 p.m. Starts at 107 South Alfred St., Alexandria. Explore Alexandria's firefighting history on the "Blazing a Trail: Alexandria's Firefighting History" tour. Participants will learn about volunteer firefighting in early Alexandria, three devastating fires, and the five volunteer fire companies. Admission is \$6 for adults and \$4 ages 10-17. Reservations required. Purchase tickets at [www.shop.alexandriava.gov](http://www.shop.alexandriava.gov) or by calling 703-746-4994 or 707-746-3891.

**Poetry in the Garden.** 1:30-2:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Celebrate National Poetry Month by walking the gardens with a naturalist to find plants that have inspired poets of the past. For ages 5-adult. Cost is \$6/person. Call 703-642-5173 or visit



## Kite Festival

With children's activities, crafts, historical characters, and guided tours. Visitors can also speak with a kite maker, specializing in 18<sup>th</sup>-century kite construction. Saturday, April 21, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Lorton. Cost is \$10/adults; \$8/children (ages 6-18). Contact Mary Kristen Craver at 703-550-9220, ext. 240 or [mkcraver@gunstonhall.org](mailto:mkcraver@gunstonhall.org).

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/green-spring](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/green-spring).

**Life of Barbara Johns.** 3 p.m. at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St., Alexandria. Join the Democratic Black Caucus and Democratic Party of Virginia for a panel discussion and reception. A reception in Barbara Johns' honor will be held at 5 p.m. at Shiloh Baptist Church, 1401 Duke St., Alexandria and feature Justin E. Fairfax as the keynote speaker. Free. Contact Danny Carroll at 804-895-7576.

**Meet the Speaker.** 3-4:30 p.m. at Arlington County Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St., Arlington. Encore Learning Lecture presents Mary Beth Sheridan, a correspondent on "Life at the Washington Post from Foreign Correspondent to the Foreign Editor's Desk." Call Encore Learning at 703-228-2144.

**Acoustic Eidolon Concert.** 7 p.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road, Alexandria. Featuring Rob Gould; sponsored by FocusMusic. Tickets are \$18 in advance; \$20/door. Visit [www.focusmusic.org/buy-tickets](http://www.focusmusic.org/buy-tickets).

### SUNDAY/APRIL 22

**George Washington Parkway Classic.** 8 a.m. start time. 10 Miler or 5K Race. The 34th annual race starts at Mount Vernon Estate and ends in Old Town Alexandria. Presented by Jillian Keck Hogan Group - McEneaney Associates. Also included is a Sugar Shack Kids Dash, and a Finish Festival with live music, Port City Brewing Company pop-up beer garden, a kids zone, a post race stretch zone provided by ProRehab, and other activities. For registration information, race route details and event day activities, visit [www.runpacers.com/race/parkway-classic/](http://www.runpacers.com/race/parkway-classic/). Race starts at 8 a.m. at Mount Vernon Estate. Cost is \$78-10 Miler, \$48-5K, \$10-Sugar Shack Kids Dash.

**Brunch Pop-Up.** 8-11 a.m. at Hotel Indigo Old Town, 220 S. Union St., Alexandria. Hosting a brunch pop-up and poster making station for the GW Parkway Classic race, on Sunday April 22. They've partnered with Café 44 to offer \$5 rose and prosecco Chambongs, mini "Sunrise on the go" biscuit sandwiches with bacon egg and cheddar, as well as some other light brunch bites. Visit [hotelandigoldtownalexandria.com](http://hotelandigoldtownalexandria.com).

**Philharmonic Orchestra Concert.** 3 p.m. at GW Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria. The Washington Metropolitan

Philharmonic presents an afternoon of music. Symphony No. 5 by Shostakovich was written in rebellion of the Russian government. The concert also features local composer Anthony Iannaccone's theme on Boccherini's famous Menuet, Divertimento for Orchestra. \$20, adults; children 18 and under, free. Visit [www.wmpmusic.org](http://www.wmpmusic.org).

**Artist Reception.** 4-6 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. For Two Solos: Brian Williams and Sophie Blondeau. Williams' paintings on metal want viewers to consider if humans can adapt without catastrophe. Blondeau's canvasses explore memory and perception through the lens of her formative years in France. Visit [www.nvfaa.org/events/](http://www.nvfaa.org/events/).

**Mozart Sacred Works.** 4 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, 4915 Campus Drive, Alexandria. Presented by New Dominion Chorale. Thomas Beveridge, Artistic Director, will conduct the 175-voice chorus, soloists and orchestra in a selection of Mozart's works. Tickets at [www.newdominion.org](http://www.newdominion.org) or at the door. Ticket prices are \$35 for adults, \$30 for seniors, \$15 for students and children. Group tickets are available for groups of 10 or more at \$20 per ticket. Call 202-244-7191.

### MONDAY/APRIL 23

**Small Space Gardening: Selecting Trees & Shrubs.** 7-8:30 p.m. at Barrett Library, 717 Queen St. There are a variety of trees and shrubs native to this area that could work. Learn how to assess the site and soil conditions, how to select trees and shrubs to reshape a small yard into a more sustainable landscape, and how to install and maintain new plantings. Free. Advance registration requested at [mgnv.org](http://mgnv.org). Questions, telephone 703-228-6414 or email [mgaralex@gmail.com](mailto:mgaralex@gmail.com).

**Ballroom Dance Classes.** 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. Cost is \$30/person; \$55/couple. Led by Gary Stephans, ballroom dance instructor. Learn the Fox Trot, Waltz, Tango, Swing, Salsa, Merengue, Rumba, Cha-Cha and Samba. No partner needed. Email [garystephans@me.com](mailto:garystephans@me.com) or 703-505-5998.

**Agenda Alexandria: Road Rage Discussion.** 7:15-9 p.m. at The Hermitage, 5000 Fairbanks Ave., Alexandria. Learn how bikes, cars and pedestrians can safely share the streets. Whether it is shared bikes or bike lanes eliminating a favorite parking spot, a desire for more bike

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# ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO BY GLENDA BOOTH

**Kent Knowles of the Raptor Conservancy of Virginia discusses large birds of prey.**

## Raptor Rapture

Bring youngsters, friends and family to Belle Haven Park to see live raptors up close, birds like screech and barred owls, hawks and more. Sponsored by the Friends of Dyke Marsh, the Raptor Conservancy of Virginia and the National Park Service. Look for the tents near the restrooms. Saturday, April 21, 10 a.m.-noon at Belle Haven Park, GW/Mount Vernon Parkway, Alexandria. Call 703-765-5233 or visit [www.fodm.org](http://www.fodm.org).

## CALENDAR

lanes, concern about speeding, frustration about low speed limits, or anger at cut-through traffic, Alexandrians have a lot of opinions on how to use local roads. Hear four panelists discuss different aspects of this issue. Dinner is \$32 for members who RSVP by April 20 and \$37 after. Call 703-928-0619 or email [executivedirector@agendaalexandria.com](mailto:executivedirector@agendaalexandria.com). Or visit [AgendaAlexandria.com](http://AgendaAlexandria.com).

### TUESDAY/APRIL 24

**Poem in Your Pocket.** 6:30-8 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. The City of Alexandria will celebrate an early national Poem in Your Pocket day. This event is hosted by Wendi R. Kaplan, Poet Laureate, Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association and the Office of the Arts. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov/Arts](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Arts), email the Poet Laureate at [poet@alexandriava.gov](mailto:poet@alexandriava.gov), or contact Cheryl Anne Colton at [cheryllanne.colton@alexandriava.gov](mailto:cheryllanne.colton@alexandriava.gov).

### WEDNESDAY/APRIL 25

**Alexandria Historical Society Awards.** 7:30 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., Alexandria. The Alexandria Historical Society presents the T. Michael Miller Alexandria History Award to a person or persons who have made noteworthy contributions to the preservation of the historic, cultural, and artistic heritage of Alexandria. Free. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov](http://www.alexandriava.gov).

### THURSDAY/APRIL 26

**Tour Historic Huntley.** 1-2 p.m. at Historic Huntley, 6918 Harrison Lane, Alexandria. Cost is \$5. From a woman's point of view, learn the roles women played in Huntley's history and the dramatic changes in the lives of women since the house was built in 1825. Call 703-768-2525

or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/historic-huntley](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/historic-huntley).

**Open House Block Party.** 5:30-8:30 p.m. at 315 Cameron St., Alexandria. To mark the one-year anniversary of Home On Cameron. Enjoy light fare from local restaurants and shop Home on Cameron's collection of upholstered furniture including new private label sofas and chairs, custom dining pieces, Nepal felt flowers, console and coffee tables by D.C. and Virginia artisans, local art, antiques, couture chandeliers, lamps, ceramics and wooden toys and dog items. RSVP to [rsvp@homeoncameron.com](mailto:rsvp@homeoncameron.com)

**Make an Offer.** 6-9 p.m. at 4950-C Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria. Bring friends and family and enjoy a special evening of shopping. First time, one evening event – Eisenhower Consignment, Luxury Furniture & Art Reseller is accepting offers on entire showroom inventory including new arrivals. Visit [eisenhowerconsignment.com](http://eisenhowerconsignment.com).

### APRIL 26-28

**"Bye Bye Birdie."** At Mount Vernon High School, Entrance 4, 8515 Old Mt. Vernon Road, Alexandria. Performances on April 26 and 27 at 7 p.m. and April 28 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets \$7/students and younger; \$8/FCPS Staff/Senior Citizens/Military; and \$10/General Admission. Go to [www.itickets.com/register/new/383894](http://www.itickets.com/register/new/383894). Visit [www.mvhs.theatrearts.com](http://www.mvhs.theatrearts.com).

### FRIDAY/APRIL 27

**Film Screening: "Out of the Ring Still in the Fight."** 7 p.m. at Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St., Alexandria. Film chronicles boxer and Alexandria native Anthony "Da Beast" Suggs' turbulent journey and path to redemption. Contact Anthony Suggs

Sr. at 703-801-8191 or Charles Houston Rec Center 703-746-5552.

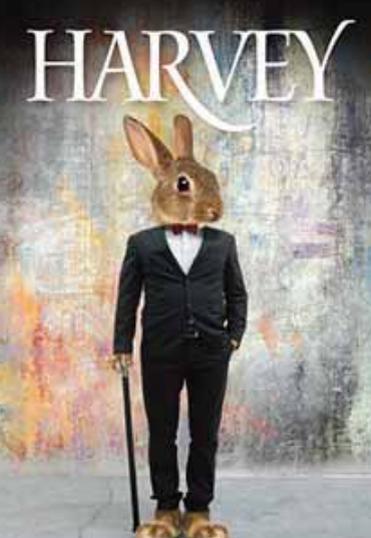
### SATURDAY/APRIL 28

**Fairfax Run for the Children.** 8 a.m. at Fairfax County Courthouse Complex, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. Join Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) for the 8th Annual 8K and 3K races. The superhero-themed race attracts nearly 1,000 runners and walkers, 250 volunteers, and raises almost \$85,000 each year to support Fairfax CASA's advocacy work with abused and neglected children in the community. Participants can enjoy the after race celebration, including superhero meet and greets, a DJ, free food, face painting, kids' crafts, photo booth, and more. Visit [www.fairfaxrunforthechildren.com/](http://www.fairfaxrunforthechildren.com/).

**Native Plant Sale.** 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at 1701 N. Quaker Lane parking lot, Alexandria. Largest native plant sale in D.C. metro area hosts 12 or more vendors from three states selling native perennials, shrubs, and trees for sun or shade. Admission is free. Call 571-232-0375 or visit [NorthernAlexandriaNativePlantSale.org](http://NorthernAlexandriaNativePlantSale.org).

**Alexandria Earth Day.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Harris Memorial Fields at Braddock Park, 1005 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. This family-friendly event includes the eighth annual Upcycling Showcase, where students from Alexandria schools will present unique fashion items based on the event theme, "Local Action, Global Impact." Enjoy tent talks on environmental topics, the presentation of the 10th annual Ellen Pickering Environmental Excellence Award, more than 60 environmental exhibits, music, giveaways, and more. Free. Call 703-746-5592 or visit [alexandriava.gov/EarthDay](http://alexandriava.gov/EarthDay).

**New Bucknell Manor Park Playground.** 10 a.m. ribbon-cutting ceremony at 2223 Beacon Hill Road,



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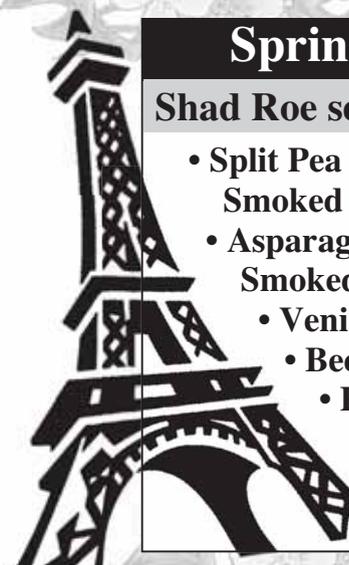
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## Restaurant

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# ENTERTAINMENT

Alexandria. Bucknell Manor's old playground was demolished to make way for the new features. The \$100,000 project was financed through the 2016 Park Bond as part of a plan to install new playground equipment at aging parks to bring them into compliance with today's safety and ADA standards. Call 703-324-8662 or via Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks).

**Author Tesa Jones.** 1-3 p.m. at Hooray for Books, 1555 King St., Alexandria. Author Tesa Jones will be signing her books, Reflection of Memories and Cobwebs of Time. From 4-5 p.m., Raya the Reading Therapy Dog will be available. Visit [www.hooray4books.com](http://www.hooray4books.com).

**History's Mysteries in the Vault.** 3 p.m. at Ivy Hill Cemetery, 2823 King St., Alexandria. Historians Terry Gish and Wayne Kehoe return to the historic burial vault at Ivy Hill Cemetery for an exciting chapter of the Tales from the Vault series. Learn about the history of Memorial Day and Civil War Holidays – while sitting in the vault. Not for the faint of heart. RSVP to [info@ihchps.org](mailto:info@ihchps.org).

**Book Launch.** 3-5 p.m. at First Agape Baptist Community of Faith, 2423 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. For Rev. Dr. Donna Taylor's book, "Financial Empowerment in the African American Church." The book shares the interconnectedness between the knowledge of financial literacy as it relates to debt reduction and debt management principles that can be utilized in every facet of life. Visit [www.revdrdonnataylor.com](http://www.revdrdonnataylor.com).

**Classical Piano Concert.** 6:30-10 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 South Washington St., Alexandria. Pianists Elias Dagher, Jingxuan Zhang, Sasha Beresovsky. Featuring piano duos by



## Acoustic Eidolon

Schumann and Schubert, works by Bach, Prokofiev, Mussorgsky.

Organized by United Help Ukraine charitable organization [unitedhelpukraine.org](http://unitedhelpukraine.org), email [UnitedHelpUkraine@gmail.com](mailto:UnitedHelpUkraine@gmail.com). Tickets \$40 at the door, \$35 (\$20 seniors/veterans/students) in advance at [pianistsforsoldiers2018.eventbrite.com](http://pianistsforsoldiers2018.eventbrite.com).

**Concerts at Saint Luke's.** 7:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 8009 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Will bring a lively mix titled "Samba Surf." Michael Sheridan will return playing guitar and the accordion. A reception will follow. \$20/adult; \$15/senior; free to students 18 and under. Visit [www.saintlukeschurch.net/events](http://www.saintlukeschurch.net/events).

**Sensory Friendly Golf.** At 6625 S. Van Dorn St., Alexandria. Topgolf in Alexandria is celebrating World Autism Month by creating a sensory-friendly environment. Venue will have sensory-friendly modifications that include dimmed lights, low music and minimal staff. The ticket link to reserve a golf bay is at

[topgolf.com/us/promo/sensory-friendly-day/](http://topgolf.com/us/promo/sensory-friendly-day/)

## SUNDAY/APRIL 29

**Love Your Pet Day Block Party.** 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at Roth and Colvin streets in the West End of Alexandria. Mayor Allison Silberberg and the Alexandria City Council proclaimed April 29 as the second annual Alexandria Love Your Pet Day. A block party kick-off will be held in the Wholistic Hound Academy parking lot at 18 Roth St., hosted by celebrity vet Dr. Katy Nelson. Attendees will head along Roth and Colvin streets to interact with 40-plus businesses; children and leashed pets welcomed. Visit [www.facebook.com/alexandrialoveyourpetday](http://www.facebook.com/alexandrialoveyourpetday).

**Duo Ensemble.** 2 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. Flutist Sais Kamalidiin and Guitarist Rick Peralta perform. Visit [www.nvfaa.org/events/](http://www.nvfaa.org/events/).

**Pohick Church Coffeehouse Fundraiser.** 6-8 p.m. at 9301 Richmond Highway, Lorton. The

## Concert: Acoustic Eidolon

Featuring Rob Gould; sponsored by FocusMusic. Saturday, April 21, 7 p.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road, Alexandria. Tickets are \$18 in advance; \$20/door. Visit [www.focusmusic.org/buy-tickets](http://www.focusmusic.org/buy-tickets).



## Rob Gould

Pohick Church Episcopal Youth Community will present an evening of entertainment, snacks, coffee and hot chocolate. Performers will include youth, adults and musicians. Proceeds go to the Sr. High Summer Mission Trip to Ohio. Call 703-339-6572 or email [rusty@pohick.org](mailto:rusty@pohick.org).

**Violinist Timothy Baker and Pianist Frank Conlon.** 7 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 South Washington St., Alexandria. Free. The program includes: Beethoven - Sonata for Violin and Piano in C Minor, Op. 30, No. 2; Franck - Sonata for Violin and Piano in A Major; Grieg - Sonata for Violin and Piano in C Minor, Op. 45; and Ravel - Tzigane, Rapsodie de Concert for Violin and Piano. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov](http://www.alexandriava.gov).

## MONDAY/APRIL 30

**Gardening in Containers, Window Boxes and Balconies.** 7-8:30 p.m. at Barrett Library, 717 Queen St., Alexandria. Use containers in a sunny window or on a balcony or patio to grow flowers, foliage, herbs, and

edibles. Learn what works best in these places and get tips for maintaining them in this climate. Free. Advance registration requested at [mgmv.org](http://mgmv.org). Call 703-228-6414 or email [mgarlalex@gmail.com](mailto:mgarlalex@gmail.com).

**Sowing the Seeds of Victory: War Gardens in America.** 7-8:30 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Provides an overview of home food production during World War I and describes how contemporary gardeners can grow the same crops in our gardens today. Free. Advance registration requested at [mgmv.org](http://mgmv.org). Call 703-228-6414 or email [mgarlalex@gmail.com](mailto:mgarlalex@gmail.com).

## TUESDAY/MAY 1

**Golf Clinic Registration Opens.** At Pinecrest Golf Course, 6600 Little River Turnpike, Alexandria. Introduce 8-17-year-olds to the fundamentals of golf with one-hour junior clinics. Clinics are offered for \$15 each and run through August. Spring registration is now open; summer registration opens May 1, 2018. Space is limited. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/golf/junior](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/golf/junior).

## MAY 1-JUNE 24

**Art Exhibit: Inspired by Nature.** At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Celebrate the return of spring with Inspired by Nature: Paintings of the Potomac Valley Watercolorists, on exhibit throughout the Green Spring Gardens' Horticultural Center and Historic House. The exhibition brings together some of the area's top watermedia floral and landscape painters. Visit [FairfaxCounty.gov/Parks/GreenSpring](http://FairfaxCounty.gov/Parks/GreenSpring).

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# Ships

FROM PAGE 1

new life, buried as the bedrock of a new expansion into the river.

Now, a little over two centuries later, new waterfront development at Robinson Landing has uncovered the ships on which Alexandria was built. Three ships from the mid-18th century have been uncovered at the Robinson Terminal South site two years after a similar ship was discovered during the construction of the neighboring Indigo Hotel. Two of the ships at the northern end of the site were uncovered in early March. One had stones placed inside the ship and was built into the old wharf structure, giving an indication of its purpose and deliberate placement.

On March 29, the latest ship was discovered. It hasn't been fully uncovered yet, but of the four ships that have been discovered on the waterfront this one is already the largest. The still-buried ship appears to be 25 feet wide and 46 feet long. Archaeologists at the site said one of the remarkable things about the discovery of the latest ship is that both sides of the hull are visibly intact, while other ships like the Indigo Hotel ship were only a partial sample of one side of the hull.

A map of Alexandria from 1798 shows the extended shoreline built overtop of the ships, meaning that the ships were buried before that point. Eleanor Breen, acting city archaeologist, said the site was under Pioneer Mill and the area was well preserved. The ships were mostly empty of other artifacts, which is consistent with them being derelicts rather than wrecked ships.

Currently, workers at the site are continually hosing down the exposed remains. Breen explained that as soon as the ships make contact with the air they begin to warp and degrade, and the water can help keep them preserved until they can be excavated.



PHOTO BY VERNON MILES / GAZETTE PACKET

**Buried ships are watered to keep from warping and disintegration.**

Dan Bairy from Thunderbird Archeology was on the site when the ships were discovered. Bairy said when the backhoe hit the first ship, it popped up out of the ground. Bairy said he was mildly surprised, but that with the area once being the Thomas Flemming Shipyard they knew there had been a likelihood of finding some kind of ship-related artifacts.

"I was at the Indigo Hotel site so I knew immediately what it was and we were able to prevent damage," said Bairy. "We moved in and began to clean it with trowels and brushes."

It was the third ship, the larger and more intact one, that Bairy said really caught him off-guard.

"Standing next to it, it was above my

head," said Bairy. "That was really out of the ordinary. The completeness of it was amazing."

Bairy also noted that most of the ships have the stern and bow cut off when they're put into the ground, but the uncovered end of the largest ship is still intact. It's still far too early to determine what kind of ship it was, but Bairy said it was likely a merchant ship. The ship's futtocks, curved timbers that act as the ship's ribs, are close together; meaning the ship was reinforced. Bairy said this would be consistent with an ocean-going merchant ship. Bairy said more information will come to light as more of the ship is uncovered.

"As much as we have exposed, there's probably the same amount [underground],"

said Bairy.

For Bairy, the exploration of the ships is a scientific process, but he said it's hard not to get the occasional flight of fancy during the discovery process.

"Being down there, touching it, you feel in touch with the past," said Bairy. "It's a tactile version of history. It's why we get into this."

What to do with the ships is still unknown. While the city is currently planning on keeping them with an option to study them, the ships will take up substantial room at the city's storage facility. Craig Fifer, director of communications for the City of Alexandria, said the city hasn't committed to a specific plan yet for what to do with the newly uncovered ships.

## City's Sewer Control Plan To Go To Council Tuesday

FROM PAGE 1

to a dual use facility operated by AlexRenew. Option B+ has the second lowest estimated capital cost and life cycle costs of all of the projects, but results in half the average overflow volume of the standard Option B, which doesn't include the treatment facility. The plan will come at substantial cost to Alexandria taxpayers. The total project cost is estimated \$535 million with between \$20 to \$40 per month in increased sanitary sewer fees for the average Alexandria taxpayers. Mayor Allison Silberberg noted that it means an increase of at least \$240 for the average taxpayer per year.

But the increased fees aren't the only impact the sewer control plan will have on Alexandrians. The new sewer control plan will require extensive drilling under Old Town, and, where the drills enter the city's underground, there will be drilling shafts that could reduce traffic to one lane or close it off entirely.

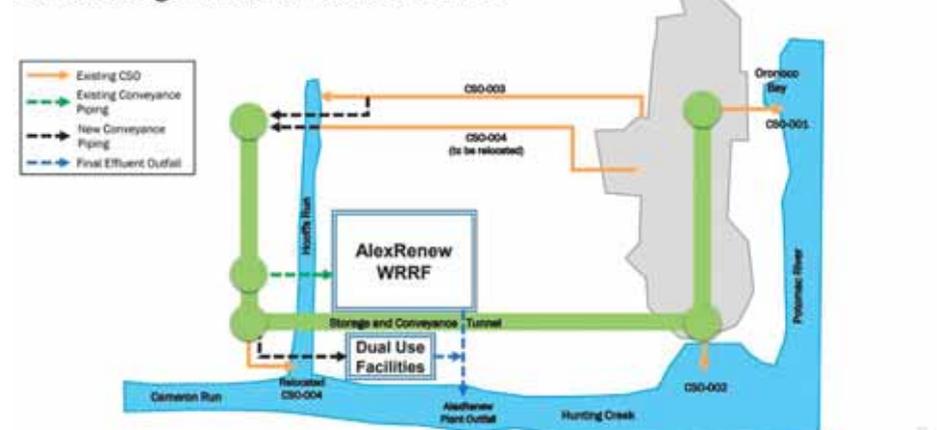
"There's no sugarcoating it, this is going

to be very impactful at the areas of the shafts," said Deputy City Manager Emily Baker. "We're trying to refine where those shaft locations will be. We're focusing on what are the businesses and residents around there. What programs can we put in place [to mitigate the impact]."

The public comment at the meeting was mostly approval of the plan, even from citizens typically critical of city policies. Potomac Riverkeeper Dean Naujoks, who had repeatedly raised the issue of polluted sewer outfalls at City Council meetings before the state's mandatory requirement, said the plan was a good answer to the city's chronic sewer problems.

"Two years ago I expressed concerns about Outfall 01 and other concerns about plan," said Naujoks. "There have been some bumps and bruises, but with a lot of hard work ... we have a good plan. This is eco city. It's in your charter, it's something you've committed to. Today is the largest river cleanup on the Potomac that they have each

### Option B+ Unified Storage Tunnel with Dual Use Facilities



### Option B+

year. I'd rather be out there, but I felt it's important to be here and let you know it's important to support this plan."

"I'm grateful for the collaboration we see

here," said Silberberg. "As a community, this is the right thing to do."

The plan is scheduled for final approval at the City Council's April 24 meeting.



PHOTO BY DAN BRENDEN/GAZETTE PACKET

**AHC, a nonprofit housing developer, celebrated the grand opening of 93 new apartments on Saturday, April 11. The new units, build on land sold to AHC by St. James United Methodist Church, will serve moderate-income households.**

## 93 New Affordable Apartments

FROM PAGE 1

a preschool for up to 50 children on the premises.

“The church is about people, and connecting people, one with another and with that which is bigger than we are. As we visioned for our future, we wondered if this West End space might be utilized for something else,” said the Rev. James Henry, St. James’ pastor. The land was “not a space we were fully utilizing.” The church also downsized its facility from about 12,000 square feet to about 2,000 square feet.

Fethudin Abdullah, his wife and children, new tenants in the building, participated in the ribbon cutting. They’ve lived in Alexandria for three years, previously in a market-rate unit. Their new affordable apartment will help with “saving our money,” said Abdullah. “It helps a lot.”

For its part, the city kicked in a \$5.7 million low-interest loan, leveraging \$19 million in low-income housing tax credits, which are a federal incentive to private investors.

“This project is a living example of how local government, a nonprofit, and a market-rate developer can work together to create welcoming community with a variety of housing opportunities,” said John Snyder, vice chair of AHC’s board.

“It’s all a team effort. It’s very human, it’s very basic, the need for housing. It takes a real joint effort,” said Mayor Allison Silberberg.

St. James is one in a string of churches getting into affordable housing. The Episcopal Church of the Resurrection’s recently ap-



PHOTOS BY JAMES CULLUM/GAZETTE PACKET

**A living room at the St. James Plaza affordable housing development.**

**St. James Plaza,  
5140 Fillmore  
Ave.**



proved all-affordable project awaits an imminent decision on whether it’s won an allocation of competitive tax credits. Fairlington Presbyterian is next in line. Alfred Street Baptist Church already owns affordable housing.

Asked where the faith community fits into a sustainable approach to housing, Councilman Willie Bailey said: “The faith community stepping up is ... the Lord’s work. ... They’re not only talking the talk, they’re walking the walk. ... We as City Council — City Council as a whole — Alexandria city, we have to step up and be a part

of this as well.”

Councilman John Chapman said: “It’s this idea of local communities leveraging all of the community partners ... Having churches that do have land or opportunity ... is a great model. ... The issue is looking at everybody, not just leaning on the churches. I think we’ve had recent success with a number of churches, which is a good thing. But we’ve got to look internally as well.” The city might also explore affordable housing on land owned by the public school system and community college, he said.

## Police Reorganization

FROM PAGE 5

former commander of the Traffic, Parking and Special Events Unit and was one of the first women in the history of the APD to attain the rank of Deputy Chief.

Brown said the officers were not fired from their jobs.

“A lot of folks have assumed that this has to do with the performance of the deputy chiefs. It doesn’t.

It’s not a performance-based thing,” he said. “I’m just trying to do what I can for this department and for the folks inside, and whoever comes in behind me will probably look at the same kind of thing and make changes as they see fit to.”

Gittens’ wife, Suzanne Petroni, sent out a series of angry tweets after Brown released his plan. She tweeted to Mayor Allison Silberberg and other city leaders messages that Brown’s rationale for demoting four the four deputy chiefs is not outlined in the IACP report. Gittens would not comment in this article.

“Hey @A\_Silberberg @chapman4council @TimLovain @paulSmedberg @Dwiddlededee @justindotnet, please ask @AlexandriaVAGov City Mgr where in the IACP report they recommended APD reorg into 3 bureaus.

This was the sole rationale he and Chief Brown gave for the deputy demotions,” Petroni tweeted on April 9.

Gittens’ defacto replacement will be the yet-to-be-named assistant director in charge of the revamped Administrative Services bureau.

“The disciplines that are covered in the Administrative Services bureau are very complex,” Brown said. “Human Resources is an issue under itself. You have to have a really good understanding of Title VII and all those issues that pertain to it, IT support — that you don’t generally get growing up in the law enforcement community.

In a March 5 email to APD staff, Brown laid out his plan, which initially said that “the Assistant Chief and Assistant Director positions will be appointed and serve at the pleasure of the Chief of Police.”

That particular stipulation was later found to be in violation of Virginia law, and was later amended after consulting with the city manager and city attorney. The assistant chief and assistant director jobs are now civil service positions, which means that a potential dismissal for performance-related issues will go through an administrative process rather than

at the discretion of the chief.

“The chief approached us about reorganizing,” Jinks said. “I encourage every department head when we hire them in their first year or so to look around and make the organization look better. And he came forward with a plan. It’s a good plan, seemed reasonable and we went through the details, and one of the things that we changed when we got to the implementation part is in regards to the at-will nature of the assistant chief positions.”

Specifically, the Field Operations division, which once consisted of patrol, traffic safety, the K9 unit and community outreach has expanded to also include school resource officers, school crossing guards, tactical training and response and parking enforcement. The former Investigations division, which was made up of criminal investigations, crime scene investigations and youth services and intervention, has added intelligence to its responsibilities. The former Operations Support division has been eliminated and the Administrative Services division is largely the same, focusing on human resources, training, technology and systems operations, data analysis, facilities and security, property and evidence and planning and accreditation.

Banks said that Brown’s plan was well thought out.

“I think that, ultimately, when he consulted with me, we advised him that the new assistant chiefs would be treated consistent with the number two level of all departments and therefore they would be able to go through the witness process, etcetera, so they would be subject to retention, evaluation and termination just like everybody else in every other number two level,” Banks said. “So, ultimately that applies to him and that is what he is now implementing. I’ve done lots of reorganizations, and I will tell you that the product, when it came to me, was among the best I’ve ever seen, frankly.”

Brown said that he loves the APD and has no plans on leaving any time soon.

“I’m not going anywhere. My plan is to stay here,” he said. “I’ve come to love this department as I’ve come to know the people in it. I love this city and my wife and I enjoy being a part of the city. So, we don’t plan on going anywhere, but you always want to leave a foundation for the next person coming along, but that’s not going to happen anytime soon, God willing.”

# TC Mixes it Up at Darrell Winslow Regatta

In an early season race as T.C. Williams Crew coaching staff try new combinations of boats and rowers, and more settled boats further hone their stroke, the 13 Titan boats entered in the Darrell Winslow Regatta on April 14 came away with four wins, two second-place finishes, a third-place showing, and solid races by a number of TC boats either hitting the water for the first time this season or racing in categories with far more senior rowers.

Following the wind-chilled Walter Mess Regatta the previous weekend and a week of practice severely limited by rain, strong winds, and unseasonably cold weather that rationed time on the water, conditions at the Darrell Winslow felt practically tropical. The day started with the mercury in the high 60s and calm water, and climbed into the mid-80s with a persistent head- or crosswind that slowed race times in some finals compared with morning qualifying heats.

The lead-off finals category for the Titans was in the Women's Doubles category. As opposed to the 4- and 8-seat boats where row-



Lila Greiner, Coach Lynne Weir & Tess Moran.

ers have one oar and a coxswain steering, doubles rowers pull two oars and have to steer the boat, which can be an adventure with a crosswind.

In only their second doubles race of the season, TC seniors Tess Moran and Lila Greiner posted a winning time of 6:39.5, eclipsing Hylton by over 13 seconds and Mathews by over 22 seconds.

"We were inside [and unable to practice on the Potomac River] all

last week because of bad wind, so it was great to get on the water and have a good race," said Moran. "Because TC doesn't usually scull, we didn't know anything about the other boats in our category, so it was a nice surprise when we came in first."

"We were both just really happy to have a clean race and to be able to keep the pressure up," added Greiner. "Being able to pull out a win was just an added bonus."

PHOTO COURTESY OF TOM MCGIVERN

"I'm very pleased for the double, especially since they only got on the water once this week and that was just to practice a few starts yesterday," said doubles coach Lynne Weir immediately following the race on Saturday. "They were able to hold onto the lead the last 1000 meters and still look solid at the finish. They were determined not to give it up."

The surging Titan Women's Second 8 also posted a win with a time of 5:29.0, besting Whitman by four seconds and Lake Braddock by over a half a minute. This group of seasoned rowers includes Ailysh Motsinger, Cleo Lewis, Emma Carroll, Madeleine Allen, Elspeth Collard, Charlotte Milone, Julia Clements, and Lydia Greenwood, along with coxswain Sara Rider.

After coming close in earlier races this season, the Men's Frosh 8 broke through the pack to score their first win of the season in a midafternoon race as a headwind increased to just under 15 mph. Rowers Noah Schuerhoff, Barry Najarro-Blancas, Harris Babin, Matthew Posson, Tim Chen, Braden Porterfield, Stephen Ralis,

and Patrick Kenny, and coxswain Jake Solomon, crossed the finish line at 5:04.9, as Madison and Whitman fought for second place 5 seconds behind them.

TC's determined Women's Third 8 boat scored a 5:54.3 win over Whitman (6:11.5) and Colgan (6:49.9). Saturday's 3-V-8 winners included TC rowers Grace Willmore, Maggie Coombs, Kelly Jones, Annalise Roberts, Julianne Joven, Ellie Nebolsine, Emily Surratt, and Veronica Araujo, and coxswain Zaida Calix-Tello.

After just two practices, the TC Men's First 4 placed third in their early afternoon final following a similar placement in their morning heat.

The Titan Women's First 8 placed second in their late morning heat behind Whitman, and also battled Whitman in the final race of the day, notching a second-place finish in 5:30.4.

On April 21, the TC Women travel to Delaware for another regatta at St. Andrews on Noxontown Pond, while the Titan Men invade the Occoquan for the third week in a row for the Ted Phoenix Regatta.

## BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 6

instructor for an experiential class to explore and discover the many benefits of yoga. This is a closed group. You must register to attend. To register, contact Monica Huerta at 703-746-3134.

### TUESDAY/APRIL 24

**Budget Work Session #9: Preliminary Add/Delete.** 6 p.m. at City Hall, Council Chamber, 301 King St., Alexandria. Contact City Clerk's Office, gloria.sitton@alexandriava.gov or call 703-746-4550.

**City Council Legislative Meeting.** 7 p.m. at City Hall, Council Chamber, 301 King St., Alexandria. Contact City Clerk's Office, gloria.sitton@alexandriava.gov or call 703-746-4550.

### WEDNESDAY/APRIL 25

**2018 Spring2ACTion.** Hosted by ACT for Alexandria, Spring2ACTion is an online giving day created to support the nonprofits doing life-changing work in Alexandria. In 2017, 9,058 individuals donated \$1,592,459 to support 158 local nonprofits. Visit [www.actforalexandria.org/spring2action](http://www.actforalexandria.org/spring2action).

**Denim Day.** Wear jeans to work, school or around town as a visible means of protest against myths that surround rape and sexual assault. Visit [denimdayinfo.org/about/](http://denimdayinfo.org/about/). For more information about the services or events of the Sexual Assault Center, call the hotline at 703-683-7273 or visit [alexandriava.gov/SexualViolence](http://alexandriava.gov/SexualViolence).

**SolarizeAlexandria Campaign.** 6:30-8 p.m. at City Hall in the Sister Cities Conference Room 1101, 301 King St., Alexandria. SolarizeAlexandria is a program that makes it easier and more

affordable for residents and business owners to install solar power systems on Alexandria homes. Program provides a free solar site assessment for homes or businesses; discount pricing through bulk purchasing; project facilitation and qualified installation; financing and federal tax incentive options; and possible qualification for the City of Alexandria's Solar Energy Equipment Tax Exemption. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov/Energy](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Energy).

**Residential Outreach Event.** 6:30-8 p.m. for residents of Olde Towne West & Heritage at the Lee Center (gold room), 1108 Jefferson St. The City's Office of Housing, Workforce Development and the Department of Community and Human Services staff will give a presentation on programs, training and job opportunities, and housing relocation regulations. Anyone is welcome. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov/Planning](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Planning).

### THURSDAY/APRIL 26

**Public Meeting.** 6:30-9 p.m. at Alexandria Renew Education Center & Meeting Space, 1800 Limerick St., Sixth Floor. The meeting topic will be "Recommendations on Updated Resolution 830 Policy." Refreshments will be provided. The public is encouraged to participate. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov/Housing](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Housing).

**Republican Women's Reception.** 7 p.m. buffet reception; 7:45 p.m. program portion at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., Alexandria. The Commonwealth Republican Women's Club (CRWC) will host Fox News contributor, bestselling author, and former Trump Administration official Dr. Sebastian Gorka. Visit [www.alexandriacrwc.org](http://www.alexandriacrwc.org).



## Gold Medal Champions

The Alexandria Titans Volleyball Club's Titans 12s team took home a Gold Medal in the CHRVA Regional Club Championships. The tournament was held at Maryland Juniors Sports Center in Jessup, Md. on Saturday, April 14. The Titans 12 are the youngest travel volleyball team in the City of Alexandria. Titans 12 are coached by Ripley Forbes (left) and Stephanie Murphy (right). Members of the team include (back row, from left) Olivia McCarthy, Corinne Solsby, Amanda Smith, Maddy Cantrell, Harper Travis, Charlotte Nichols, Kalina Janevski, (front row, from left) Rania Shuster, Julia Kelly, Lucy Jones, EllaMae Fitzgerald, and Evelyn Sirois.

# Environmental Policy

FROM PAGE 20

the Open Space Fund and Open Space Steering Committee; and requiring “consistent and meaningful open space on private development.”

The city might set narrower geographical targets and increase certain building height restrictions to allow for more open space in high-density areas, said EPC member Stephen Milone.

Also, the city should track progress against more specific categories based on “what the open space is doing for us,” she said, supporting an idea from Macek. For example, a rooftop garden filters storm water, but isn’t social; a plaza is social, but not green.

### SOLID WASTE

The EPC wants to reduce both the city’s overall generation of solid waste and, paradoxically, its recycling rate, from 50 percent to 42 percent.

“While this may seem counterintuitive, we feel it is essential to recognize how promoting ever higher recycling rates ignores the economic reality of the

current recyclables market,” said an earlier draft proposal. “This market is changing and becoming less inviting for the sale of lower quality, single-stream recyclables, as evidenced by China’s recent move to restrict imports of foreign recyclables. Decreasing demand for recyclables ... can create a perverse incentive for municipalities to prop up their rates with counterproductive policies ....”

For example, because the city calculates its recycling rate by weight, glass plays a big role, when in fact glass ends up in landfills anyway. The earlier draft said that this “pseudo-recycling” is not consistent with “the way most citizens would expect” recycling to work.

Kapsis also explained that robot technology for effectively sorting the many different kinds of plastics that end up in single-stream recycling has not yet scaled in the industry.

Find materials, including updated draft proposals, at [www.alexandriava.gov/EnvironmentalPolicyCommission](http://www.alexandriava.gov/EnvironmentalPolicyCommission) and [www.alexandriava.gov/Eco-City](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Eco-City).

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### Legals

Sealed proposals for the City of Alexandria per specifications will be received in the office of the Purchasing Division until the date and time designated as follows:

Title: Request for Qualifications No. 00000750, Multiple Roof Design Services.  
Closing Date and Time: May 16, 2018, 4:00 p.m., prevailing local time.

A pre-proposal meeting shall be held on April 25, 2018 at 10:00 am EST in the Purchasing conference room located at 100 N. Pitt St., Suite 301 Alexandria, VA 22314

For general inquiries contact Randy Burns, CPPB, Purchasing Agent at [randy.burns@alexandriava.gov](mailto:randy.burns@alexandriava.gov).

The City of Alexandria reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, cancel this solicitation, and to waive any informalities or irregularities in procedure. THE CITY REQUIRES ITS CONTRACTORS TO BE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYERS.

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### Legals

**ABC LICENSE**

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**CALENDAR**

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### Obituary

### Obituary

**Barbara Adkins Ridley**, age 90, passed away peacefully on April 12, 2018 at Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads, Falls Church, Virginia. She was born in Alexandria, Virginia to Reverend Andrew and Mattie Hamlett Adkins. She attended Alfred Street Baptist Church, where her father was pastor from 1920 to 1963. Educated at Parker-Gray School in Alexandria and Dunbar High School in Washington, D.C., Barbara received her Bachelor of Arts from Virginia Union University in 1948. In 1951, she earned a Master of Science in Library Service from Atlanta University, and in 1952, married Morris Lee Ridley of New Orleans, Louisiana. The couple lived with their children in Ettrick, Virginia on the campus of Virginia State College (now University), and later in Richmond. Barbara spent her career as a librarian with Fairfax County Public Schools, Hampton University, Howard University, Virginia State College, and in Richmond Public Schools, retiring in 1993.

In addition to her devotion to work and family, Barbara was a lover of music, fashion, and African art. She volunteered for many organizations during her lifetime, taking part in tutoring and volunteering in various libraries, including the library at Goodwin House. She was a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, and sang in numerous choirs and chorales, including the choir at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Richmond where she was a member, and most recently the Encore Chorale of the Washington D.C. area. She loved to play the piano, sew, and do needlework. She also loved to laugh, play cards with her pinochle club, which she belonged to for over thirty years, and travel. Barbara was thrilled to see the election of an African-American president and was President Barack Obama's most ardent supporter.

Barbara is survived by her devoted children Barbara Ridley Monroe, Kevin Ridley (Jane), and Robert Ridley (Kimberly), lovingly-spoiled grandchildren Christopher Monroe (Rebecca), Jonathan Monroe, Kali Ridley, Hudson Ridley, and Ainslee Ridley, nieces and nephews Michael Lenoir, Kip Lenoir, Barry Lenoir, Sheila Scales, Bruce Adkins, Francine Alexander, Debra Vereen, Karen Randolph, Jon Adkins, Keith Lenoir, Theresa Adkins, and Amy Harris. She was predeceased by her husband Morris Ridley, parents Andrew and Mattie Adkins, twin brother Robert Adkins, sisters Theresa Lenoir and Andretta Alexander, brothers Aldrich Adkins and Rutherford Adkins, and son-in-law Charles Monroe.

A memorial service will be held at Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads, 3440 S. Jefferson St., Falls Church, Virginia, on Saturday, April 21st at 2:00 p.m.

# Protests

FROM PAGE 3

according to the APD. In 1988, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down a similar picketing law in Chicago.

For instance, there have been a few protests outside Cox's home over the years, and dozens of protests outside of white nationalist Richard Spencer's Old Town home and residence. No one has been arrested at these protests.

"The protesters were informed of the order when they had come to the police department to file another complaint," Alexandria Police spokeswoman Crystal Nosal said. "That code section is under review by the Commonwealth's Attorney. ... At this time no one has been arrested outside of Richard Spencer's or Chris Cox's houses."

Del. Mark Levine (D-45), a lawyer, said Alexandria Police should not mention statutes on the books that are unconstitutional.

"I support public protests on public property. You have an absolute right to protest as long as you don't impede traffic on sidewalks or on the street," he said. "The fornication statute has existed for hundreds of years. It says don't have sex outside of marriage or you're a lawbreaker. There are millions of Virginians who have broken this law. If the U.S. Supreme Court says these laws are unconstitutional, you should treat them as a nullity. It's unconstitutional, therefore it's meaningless."

Stromberg says her goal is to disrupt the social tranquility of giants of the gun industry near their homes.

"These are people [the NRA] whose health and happiness is coming from deadly products with almost zero regulatory oversight," she said. "Our goal is to go to the top of the food chain and make these apex gun predators socially uncomfortable, and we decided to do this action as a test case of what we want to see happen — nonviolent, non-threatening, but socially uncomfortable protests that show people in the community who they are associating with."

Locke said that the Cox family "intends to prosecute all criminal activities against their family to the fullest extent permitted under the law."

On Friday, April 13, Gailey and Stromberg returned to their respective homes to find Federal Express-sent envelopes from the NRA. Inside was a note from the assistant general counsel advising them that they would be prosecuted if they ever stepped foot in NRA headquarters in Fairfax.

"Please be advised that your presence on NRA property including, but not limited to, the property located at 11250 Waples Mill Road, Fairfax, Virginia 22030, is not welcome," the letter says. "If you come upon the property of the NRA, you will be trespassing. If you trespass on NRA property, the NRA will contact the police and may take legal action against you. Thank you for your kind attention, Morgan Shields."

The pair of protesters replied by sending back an overnight Federal Express letter that read, "We didn't want to go to your headquarters anyway. Everyone knows your headquarters smells like Ted Nugent."

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## If Only It Were That Simple



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Though I immerse you regular readers in the excruciating details of my cancer-affected life, rarely do I bombard unsuspecting conversationalists who unknowingly yet sincerely wander into territory with which many of you are intimately detailed. Not that I don't have stories to tell, and/or perhaps even unsolicited advice to offer; generally speaking, if I can avoid it, I don't want to drag the conversation into a cancer-centric black hole.

It's not because I'm uncomfortable talking about cancer, or that I would feel it an inappropriate invasion of my privacy, or that I would feel the need to blather on non-stop. Hardly. But I would see it as the end of an innocent inquiry undone that then takes on a more empathetic, sympathetic and possibly even pathetic tone, some of which might make me uncomfortable.

The reason being: part of what feeds my self-preservation and sense of well-being is reading and reacting to the feedback I receive from others when the subject matter turns to cancer, however well-meaning their intentions may have been.

Sometimes the reactions I get aren't helpful ("Tell me Ken, how's it feel to know you're going to die?"). Sometimes, I find myself rationalizing, explaining and revisiting issues and experiences more helpful and of interest to the party that asked the question rather than to yours truly who's now having to answer the question. Not that I don't want to be helpful or have difficulty empathizing; nothing could be further from the truth.

It's more that I don't want to see their expressions/hear their apologies when their innocent question ("So what do you do?") elicits an extremely unexpected answer. "Not too much. I have stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer."

Then I have to decide how I involved I want to get them in my life. Since I'd just as soon not get them involved for all the reasons I've outlined, usually I deflect their questions and/or redirect them away from me and back to them. I don't exactly shut them down. It's more like a gentle closing. I'm not rude or the least bit off-putting. I'm more like a traffic cop re-routing emotions to avoid any accidents — for all parties engaged.

My experience has been that responding to an innocent question with a "I have terminal-cancer"-type bombshell tends to take the conversation in an entirely different direction than likely intended. The seriousness of my response/situation and the emotions — maybe even memories it stirs in the person who asked the question, can hijack an evening and cause at least for a few minutes anyway, a rather dreary dynamic. All of which I don't want to happen and more so, don't need to happen. As a cancer patient, I don't need dreary. I don't need pity. I don't need negativity. I need humor. I need encouragement and compliments. I need to be made to feel, as Tony the Tiger might say: "Not just good, but GREAT!"

When I assess my nine-plus years post-diagnosis; having lived now years beyond my original "13 month to two-year" prognosis, I can't quite attribute my amazing good fortune to anything in particular. However, I will admit to this: trying not think about my diagnosis/prognosis too much, trying to remain positive, trying to be funny and self-effacing, and trying to avoid people and situations where I might feel bad, are all components. Are they working to keep me alive more than the medicine, my pills and my miscellaneous non-Western alternatives are?

Yet another question or two I'd rather not answer.

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

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BATTERY SPECIAL**

**\$99<sup>95</sup>**



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**ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA**

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT AT **703-684-0710** OR SCHEDULE ONLINE AT **ALEXANDRIATOYOTA.COM**



**OLD TOWN, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA**

NEW LISTING! Incredible historic property, the boyhood home of Robert E. Lee. 8,000+SF of renovated living space on pristine, private half-acre lot w/ 2-car garage. \$8,500,000  
Robert Hryniewicki  
Christopher R. Leary

202-243-1620



**MCLEAN, VIRGINIA**

Stunning waterfront property on 5.4 acres of McLean's Gold Coast. 5,400+/- SF home with jaw dropping views of the Potomac River for all seasons throughout. \$7,400,000  
Robert Hryniewicki  
Christopher R. Leary

202-243-1620



**THE RESERVE, MCLEAN, VIRGINIA**

NEW LISTING! Gorgeous custom built home by Adrian Edwards. Over 13,000 square feet, 8BR, 8.5BA, 4 car garage. Lovely pool backs to common grounds. Dramatic open floorplan, perfect for entertaining. \$3,750,000  
Anne DiBenedetto

703-615-1897



**ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA**

Spacious & sun-filled 3BR/3.5BA townhome w/2,930 SF of lux living w/views of the Potomac River! The master ste has cathedral ceilings, FP, 2 walk-in closets + bath. LL rec room w/fridge, FP, patio & 2-car garage. \$1,579,000  
Susan Hand

703-608-5056



**MCLEAN, VIRGINIA**

Gorgeous expanded and updated Colonial in a wonderful community with acres of parkland. 1/2 acre lot on a quiet cul-de-sac! 5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 2 car side load garage! 3 finished levels! Move in ready! \$1,385,000  
Anne DiBenedetto

703-615-1897



**ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA**

Impeccable style & quality craftsmanship in this beautifully renovated 5BR/3.5BA home. Chef's kitchen with walk-in wine room, landscaped garden, & 2-car garage. \$1,350,000  
Tricia Messerschmitt  
Mark McFadden

202-330-2275  
703-216-1333



**MCLEAN, VIRGINIA**

NEW LISTING! Lovely, 4BR, 2.5BA, updated colonial with incredible views backing to parkland. Remodeled kitchen and baths tucked away on a quiet cul-de-sac. Just minutes from Tysons corner. Close to 1/2 acre. \$1,290,000  
Anne DiBenedetto

703-615-1897



**LEEWAY HEIGHTS, ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA**

Walk to Westover Village. Expanded four bedroom, three and a half bath colonial with screen porch and 9,000 square foot level lot in McKinley, Swanson, Yorktown district. 1906 N Jefferson Street. Open 1-4. \$1,100,000  
Betsy Twigg

703-967-4391



**DEL RAY, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA**

Terrific end unit home in the heart of sought-after Del Ray! Blissfully light-filled, fab gourmet kitchen w/island, 3BR, 3.5BA, garage + driveway. Steps to Metro & best of Del Ray. Huge fenced yard & awesome deck! \$819,900  
Lee Murphy

202-277-7477



# A team built on reputation.

When John McEneaney opened for business, he had one simple goal in mind...attract the best real estate agents in the business to his firm so that McEneaney Associates could provide the highest level of service to our clients. For the past 37 years we have had the good fortune to see that wish come true. They are the reason so many clients trust McEneaney Associates. They are responsible for our enviable reputation. **To put it simply...they are McEneaney Associates.**



**Alexandria | \$929,900**  
Nestled in a quiet cul-de-sac setting, this fabulous Colonial still shines like new! Features 4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, grand open rooms, all appliances & systems 4 years old, great storage, deck for entertaining, & close to Metro. [thegoodhartgroup.com/listings/3220-hatcher/Sue & Allison Goodhart 703.362.3221](http://thegoodhartgroup.com/listings/3220-hatcher/Sue%20%26%20Allison%20Goodhart)  
[www.TheGoodhartGroup.com](http://www.TheGoodhartGroup.com)



**Old Town | \$1,975,000**  
Easy elegance defines this comfortable 3-level townhome in the SE Quadrant! The open floor plan is customized with high-level craftsmanship. 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, an amazing patio and 2 off-street parking spaces!  
**Janet Catterson Price 703.622.5984**  
[www.JanetPriceHomes.com](http://www.JanetPriceHomes.com)



**Wilton Hill | \$997,001**  
Stunning 9-year young home! This beautiful five-bedroom, four-and-a-half-bath NV home has views of Alexandria and the Masonic Temple. Features include a gourmet kitchen, high volume family room and amazing master suite. 5930 Wilton Hill Terrace  
**Sean McEneaney 703.635.8836**  
[www.SeanMcEneaney.com](http://www.SeanMcEneaney.com)



**Alexandria City | \$839,000**  
Gorgeous brick colonial with portico, gourmet kitchen, gleaming hardwood floors, crown molding, two brick fireplaces, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, finished rec room, private fenced yard with paver stone patio. Walk to Fairlington Shopping Center! [HayesWoodHomes.com](http://HayesWoodHomes.com)  
**Chris Hayes 703.944.7737**  
**Gordon Wood 703.447.6138**



**Beverley Hills | \$1,290,000**  
Fabulous 4-bedroom 3.5-bath Colonial on a half acre lot! Open floor plan, upgraded kitchen breakfast room, family room, formal dining room, home office, 2 fireplaces, hardwoods, relaxing master suite. Lower level rec room, bedroom & bath. 3106A Russell Road  
**Joy Sutherland 703.725.5061**  
**Casey Sutherland 703.628.1386**



**JOIN US FOR ALEXANDRIA'S LARGEST 24-HOUR ONLINE GIVING DAY – SPRING2ACTION!**

Wednesday, April 25th

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**Old Town | \$1,575,000**  
Just 50 yards from the waterfront! Gorgeous 4-level townhouse in immaculate condition. Spectacular living room with 12' ceilings opens to pretty garden. Separate dining room, spacious kitchen, 2 master suites, 2 further bedrooms, 3.5 baths, lower level family room. 1 car garage & driveway. 112 Quay St.  
**Annette Hinaman 571.216.4411**  
[www.AnnetteHinaman.com](http://www.AnnetteHinaman.com)



**Alexandria | \$625,000**  
Fabulous end-unit loaded with extra features. Stunning master bath, updated kitchen & an open floor plan. French doors opening to the rear deck. Spacious master suite. Lower level recreation room with walk-out to fenced yard. Walk to the Huntington Metro! 5759 Governors Pond Court  
**Bob Bazzle 703.599.8964**  
[www.BobBazzle.com](http://www.BobBazzle.com)

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