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Alexandria Gazette Packet



25 CENTS

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MAY 17, 2018

Under Investigation

A male body was found on Wednesday morning, May 16, in the water near where the Potomac Riverboat docks. According to the Alexandria Police Department, an autopsy will be performed Thursday and an investigation is ongoing.



PHOTO BY HAL HARDWAY

Off the Rails

Citizens express outrage over Potomac Yard Metro changes.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

If there was a recurring theme to the May 12 City Council meeting, it was broken trust. While there were advocates for and against the Meals Tax, there was no getting around the controversy of the eliminated southern entrance at Potomac Yard.

"I don't feel that anyone on the council has our interests in mind."

— Scott Yokum, resident

one in the north that would be closer to the densely packed commercial sector and one in the south closer to the residential neighborhoods. But throughout early 2018, news began to trickle out that the costs for the station were starting to balloon outside of original estimations. City estimates put the Potomac Yard project at \$52 million more than originally planned. Costs of building materials and labor had increased

Since its inception, the Potomac Yard Metro Station had been planned to have two entrances,

SEE CITIZENS, PAGE 33

Juggling Act

School Board tackles growing enrollment.

BY DAN BRENDEN
GAZETTE PACKET

At its meeting last Thursday, May 10, the School Board considered research findings about school grade-level configuration, transitions, size and diversity, in connection with planning for ballooning student enrollment.

Leila Nuland of Hanover Research Group, contracted in 2016 to study grade configuration, said: "School quality plays a stronger role in academic outcomes than any particular grade configuration. ... You do want to limit the number of transitions for students, when you're talking about their academic performance, their social/emotional learning/development. ... When [school] divisions have strong support systems and programming in place, you can combat some of those challenges. This is because no one grade configuration has consistently demonstrated improvements in academic achievement."

Some evidence suggests that pre-Kindergarten (PK) and sixth grade students benefit more in an integrated elementary school context than from standalone PK and sixth grade as part of middle school. And "it's not ideal" to separate ninth grade

from the overall high school experience, as it currently the case in Alexandria, said Nuland. But overall, "It really comes down to the classroom quality and the social environment being better predictors of your outcomes than a particular grade configuration."

In FY 2019 ACPS will comprise 22 schools, with PK in a total of seven. These will include one PK center; 12 elementary schools (eight K-5, four PreK-5); one PK-7 school; one PK-8 school; two middle schools (grades 6-8); a grade 9 campus; one high school for grades 10-12; and three alternative education campuses. Many already have more students than they're designed for, and several also have more than is ideal for learning.

The ideal is no more than "600 students at the elementary level and 1,000 students at the secondary level," according to Nuland's presentation. In FY 2018, eight Alexandria elementary schools had 700 or more students, according to the schools' Capital Improvement Program (CIP) document. The middle schools had 1,400 each. T.C. Williams High School, between its two campuses, had 3,900, with more than 5,300 projected by FY 2028.

The considerations discussed will come to bear

SEE SCHOOL BOARD, PAGE 32

"Equity ... happens when people put in the work to make sure that it happens."

— School Board member
Chris Lewis

On the Tab

Affordable Housing advocates celebrate meals tax increase while restaurateurs lament.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

Until Saturday, the biggest talking point of the budget process had received no public input. The new one percent increase on the city's meals tax to fund an increase in dedicated funding to affordable housing was introduced during the

city's add-delete process, meaning that public discussion of the tax increase had to wait until after the budget reliant on the increase had already been approved.

And there were opinions. For restaurateurs in the city, the tax was another new burden on a city already struggling with a reputation for being unfriendly to busi-

SEE MEALS TAX, PAGE 32

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High Pressure Buildup

Mayoral candidates weather storm.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

One would be hard pressed to pick a more fitting atmosphere for the mayoral debate. On May 14, a freak derecho swept through Alexandria. Warning claxons blared from phones in the audience at regular intervals in the T.C. Williams auditorium, and the sound of thunder and heavy rain nearly drowned out answers from the candidates. But as anyone who's followed Alexandria politics for the last few years would expect, the real sparks were between Mayor Allison Silberberg and mayoral challenger Vice Mayor Justin Wilson.

In their second debate of the campaign season, the differences between the two candidates crystallized further. For Silberberg, the campaign is about preserving Alexandria's neighborhoods and small town feeling in the face of mounting developmental pressures. But for Wilson, the campaign is about moving the city into a stronger position to face the dire fiscal challenges down the road.

The debate, hosted by the Chamber of Commerce, hit both candidates about questions surrounding the Business Improvement District (BID). The BID had been a proposal in the works for years that would create an organization in Old Town that supported local businesses with advertising, organizing, and representation funded by an additional tax. Both candidates distanced themselves from the BID. Wilson noted that the vote on the Council to initiate exploration of the proposal had been a unanimous one.

"This had to be supported by businesses," said Wilson. "The idea will probably come back one day, but our role is not to create a BID, it's to get out of the way if the businesses want to support one."

Wilson and Silberberg both noted that the support from the majority of Old Town businesses just wasn't there for this proposal.

"I had concerns from the beginning," said Silberberg. "The majority of owners said the BID was not good for us. The city manager



Alexandria Mayoral opponents Vice Mayor Justin Wilson and Mayor Allison Silberberg at their second debate before the June 12 primary, at T.C. Williams High School on May 14.

pulled the item so there was no vote, but I said it was not going to meet our challenges: parking, shopping online, and advertising in the region, which we're already doing."

Both Wilson and Silberberg tried to accuse the other of having supported it, although over the last two years both Silberberg and Wilson had shown skepticism of the proposal. Wilson specifically said Silberberg had supported the BID at a Chamber of Commerce breakfast last year, but at the March 27 breakfast where the BID was discussed Silberberg had specifically said the opposite, that the advertising of Old Town throughout the region being proposed as part of the BID was already what the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership and Visit Alexandria were doing.

Among the topics forefront in the minds of the audience was Alexandria's bad Metro week. First came the announcement that

the Metro would be closing all of the Alexandria stations for the duration of the 2019 summer. This was followed by an announcement that the Potomac Yard Metro Station was several million dollars over budget and the southern entrance to the station, a selling point for many of the new residential complexes and businesses moving into the area, was being removed from the project.

Both candidates were more open about the plans for 2019's closures than the southern Potomac Yard entrance, which is tied up in confidentiality agreements. For Wilson, the closures next year are an example of what happens when a governing body ignores and doesn't properly plan for impending economic hardships. Wilson said at least Alexandria had experience with last year's Safe Track initiative to get ready for how to plan around the closures. Silberberg noted that the platforms are in dire need of repair and that the city would look at buses



Former Alexandria Mayor Kerry Donley watches the mayoral primary debate.



Dave Millard, chair of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce's government relations committee, moderated the chamber's May 14 mayoral debate at T.C. Williams High School.

and other alternatives as the closures got closer. On Potomac Yard, Silberberg said the city would continue looking for more sources of funding and that it would continue to look trying to add the southern entrance.

Continuing on the theme of needing longer term fiscal planning, Wilson argued that the city should look into adopting a multi-year operating budget. While the city has a 10-year Capital Improvement Plan for larger projects, the city's annual budget for its various departments and programs is determined on an annual basis. Wilson pointed to the state, which has a multi-year budget, as an example to follow.

"I can't agree with a multi-year budget," Silberberg answered, "That's what the Soviet Union did. Things change too rapidly."

The primary elections will be held on June 12. Registered voters can vote in either party primary, but not both.

Donald Simpson Sr. Dies at 87

Celebration of Life to be held May 24.

Donald Simpson Sr., a lifelong Alexandrian and one of the city's leading philanthropists, died May 14 following a long illness. He was 87.

Simpson was the son of Eugene Simpson, co-founder of the Simpson Company, one of the city's oldest and most successful businesses for more than 95 years.

A Celebration of Life service will be held Thursday, May 24, at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 1608 Russell Road, at 1 p.m. A reception will follow at Belle Haven Country Club from 2-4 p.m.

Burial will be private. Full obituary to be published next week.

— JEANNE THEISMANN



Donald Simpson Sr., died May 14 at the age of 87.



Donald Simpson Sr., right, shown with Dan Lehman and Donald Simpson Jr. at the 60th anniversary of Simpson Field baseball in 2013.

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Riggins to Keynote ASC Dinner

\$30k in scholarships to be awarded to local athletes.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

John Riggins, Washington Redskins Super Bowl MVP and NFL Hall of Famer, will be the keynote speaker May 29 as the Alexandria Sportsman's Club honors high school scholar-athletes from across the city at the 63rd annual Athlete of the Year dinner at the Westin Alexandria Hotel.

The ASC will award \$30,000 in scholarships to 15 high school athletes, the most ever given out by the organization.

The scholarships were made possible through a matching funds contribution from local philanthropist Marion Moon, who has dedicated the awards to the memory of her son, Rick Moon, who died suddenly in 2013.

"This year's fundraising drive was the largest we've ever had," said ASC President Tom McHugh. "Marion was a big catalyst and generously provided matching funds in memory of her son Rick."

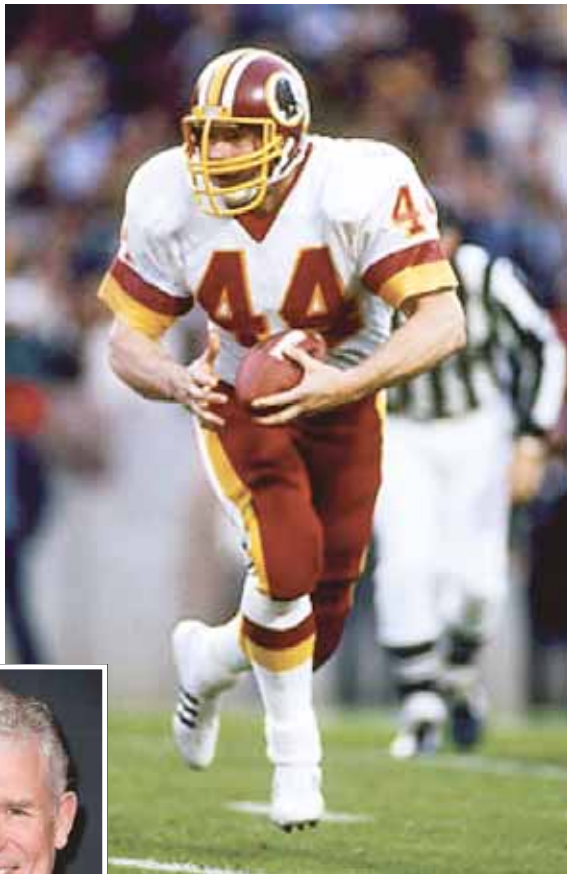
The ASC dinner will also recognize the 2018 outstanding Alexandria high school Athletes of the Year in more than two dozen sports.

Additionally, LaChina Robinson, a former T.C. Williams basketball standout, will be inducted into the ASC Hall of Fame.

Robinson, who went on to play for Wake Forest University, is currently a television analyst for ESPN and Fox Sports.

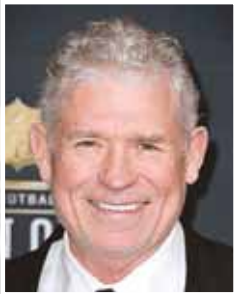
"We're very honored to have both John Riggins and LaChina Robinson attending this year's awards dinner."

— ASC President Tom McHugh



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

John Riggins will be the keynote speaker at the May 29 Alexandria Sportsman's Club Athletes of the Year dinner.



John Riggins



LaChina Robinson will be inducted into the Alexandria Sportsman's Club Hall of Fame May 29 at the Westin Alexandria Hotel.

Robinson attending this year's awards dinner," McHugh said.

This year's scholarship winners are: From Bishop Ireton HS – John Dyke, Marjalena Garlock, Madison Mote and Henry Somerville; from Episcopal HS – Paige Hathaway and Lilly Wilcox; from St. Stephen's & St. Agnes HS – Taylor Henricksen; from T.C. Williams HS – Ellie Bernstein, Tess Collard, Isabella Diz, Madeline Gyllenhoff, Sophie Johnson, Connor McGivern, Isabella Ponzi and Ben Wilson.

"This was a very competitive process," said McHugh of the scholarship selection. "We had more than 60 applicants and everybody was outstanding."

The ASC gala will be held May 29 at the Westin Hotel, 400 Courthouse Square. A reception will begin at 6 p.m. followed by dinner and award presentations at 7 p.m. The event is open to the public.

Tickets can be purchased online with special pricing for new ASC members. For more information, visit www.alexandriavasports.org.



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T.C. Williams



Tess Collard
T.C. Williams



Isabella Diz
T.C. Williams



John Dyke
Bishop Ireton



Marjalena Garlock
Bishop Ireton



Madeline Gyllenhoff
T.C. Williams



Paige Hathaway
Episcopal



Taylor Henricksen
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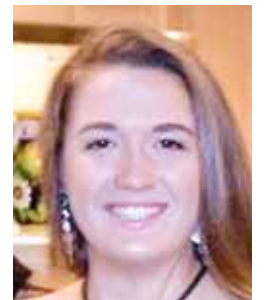
Sophie Johnson
T.C. Williams



Connor McGivern
T.C. Williams



Madison Mote
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PEOPLE

OTAC Presents \$1,000 to TC, West Potomac Seniors

Araujo, Petteway receive Peter Williams Memorial Scholarship.

T.C. Williams High School senior Veronica Araujo and West Potomac High School senior Taylor Petteway each was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship at the fourth annual Peter Williams Memorial Scholarship ceremony during Old Town Alexandria Connections April 25 luncheon meeting at Belle Haven Country Club.

Araujo and Petteway attended the ceremony with their mothers, Alicia Mejia and Tammie Capers, respectively. The Peter Williams Memorial Scholarship was established by OTAC in 2015 to honor the memory and contributions of the late Peter Williams, past OTAC president, and to further his legacy of responsible business practices and service to others. This year's scholarship committee was chaired by OTAC member Ed Warren of PB. Mares.

Araujo will be attending Northern Virginia Community College this fall and later transfer to either Syracuse University or Virginia Commonwealth University to complete her degree in forensic science. A member of the National Honor Society, Veronica has been active in Future (FBI) Agents in Training, Meals on Wheels, Best Buddies, the Alexandria Tree Lighting Ceremony and the preservation of Oronoco Bay Park.

Petteway plans to attend Old Dominion University to major in political science. Included among her many extracurricular, athletic and volunteer activities are Angel Tree, National Rebuilding Day (Rebuilding Together Alexandria), Best Buddies and The Clothesline Project.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

West Potomac High School senior Taylor Petteway and T.C. Williams High School senior Veronica Araujo each holds a check for \$1,000 at the presentation of the Peter Williams Memorial Scholarship during the April 25 Old Town Alexandria Connections meeting at Belle Haven Country Club. With them are Araujo's mother Alicia Mejia and members of the OTAC business organization

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Stiffened Competition for Transportation Funding

Regional body considers competitive infrastructure projects in light of state funding constriction.

BY DAN BRENDEN
GAZETTE PACKET

On Thursday, May 10, the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTa) formally adopted major downward revisions of dollar amounts available for regional transportation projects, potentially affecting Alexandria's infrastructure plans.

The reductions result from state-level action on April 18 preventing new taxes for dedicated Metro funding. To compensate, some NVTa's existing monies, which otherwise would have gone to Northern Virginia jurisdictions for transportation infrastructure projects, will go to Metro instead.

NVTa "funds transportation projects that are primarily intended to relieve traffic congestion in Northern Virginia," according to its web site. Its monies come from certain regional taxes and NVTa's bonding authority. Distributions fall into two categories: 30 percent of available funds go to jurisdictions for their discretionary transportation-related use; 70 percent are distributed

through a competitive process to other projects for which jurisdictions request funding. These categories are commonly referred to as "30 percent funds" and "70 percent funds."

The Metro funding bill requires some diversion of both 30 percent and 70 percent funds. In 30 percent funds, over NVTa's planning period FY 2019 - FY 2023, NVTa's nine member jurisdictions will receive \$118 million less for their discretionary use than they otherwise would have. Concurrently, NVTa's Metro jurisdictions will owe \$135 million in additional Metro contributions. Alexandria specifically will receive \$11 million less and owe \$20 million more, for a net effective reduction of \$31 million, or 74 percent.

In 70 percent funds, 60 submitted projects, requesting a total of \$2.5 billion, will now compete for a little less than \$1.3 billion, down 15 percent from \$1.5 billion.

The reduction in 30 percent funds doesn't affect Alexandria's FY 2019 budget, since the city can draw down on positive fund balances in order to fill the gap.

According to an April 18 budget memo:

These "prior-year balances reflect dedicated transportation funding received over multiple years that were not appropriated or appropriated but not spent. To address this funding gap in FY 2019 will draw down the remainder of these sources. Addressing FY 2020 and beyond will be considered as part of the FY 2020 - FY 2029 [10-year Capital Improvement Program] Development Process, and may involve changes in expenditures and funding sources that encompass both transportation related funding sources, general City cash capital, and borrowing sources."

The reduction in 70 percent funds means Alexandria's requests face much stiffer competition. Alexandria has requested \$88 million in NVTa funding, which would leverage a total of \$279 million, for six projects. The largest of these are bus rapid transit lanes in the West End (\$61 million), a core element of the city's long-term economic development plans; bus rapid transit along Duke Street (\$12 million); and DASH bus transit service enhancements and expansions (\$12 million). Smaller project requests include bike and pedestrian trail reconstruction (\$2.2 million) and IT system improve-

ments (\$1.3 million).

In the competitive process for 70 percent fund, NVTa "gives priority to projects that provide the greatest congestion reduction relative to cost," according to its web site. NVTa staff will give their prioritization recommendations after the public comment period ends on May 20. The board will make its final decisions on June 14.

While no Alexandrians spoke at the public hearing accompanying Thursday's meeting, Loudoun County in particular turned out residents in force. The tiny town of Hillsboro alone supplied more than a quarter of the hearing's 62 speakers. One speaker from Loudoun said that 26,000 cars per day transit a certain roadway designed for 12,000 per day. Others from Loudoun and Prince William counties said traffic has made children late for school.

"NVTa will set forth its selections of transportation projects after a robust process based upon well-established criteria. ... As an NVTa Board member, I am proud of the work we have done together for transportation across Northern Virginia," said Mayor Allison Silberberg, Alexandria's NVTa representative, in an email.

NVTa will accept online comment through May 20. Visit www.thenovaauthority.org/syp-comment or email SYP@thenovaauthority.org.


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Ellis Duncan (703) 307-4295
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Arlington | 2/2 | \$1,299,900
Open Sun 2-4 1615 N Queen St #M602
Michelle Zelsman (202) 390-8714
<https://bit.ly/2qulcBu>



Alexandria | 5/5 11 | \$1,274,999
8537 Riverside Rd
Tracy Vitali (904) 505-1874
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<https://bit.ly/2GXkgAR>



Woodbridge | 4/3 11 | \$599,000
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Encouraging Each Other

FROM STUDENT, CHELVIN

I have been working with Ms. Kristie since 2016. Each week we read books and sometimes work on homework. I read fiction books about kids who do exciting things like the Sofia Martinez series and animal books, like "Dog Loves Books." I also read nonfiction books. A recent one we read is "Wilma Unlimited" which tells the story of Wilma Rudolph and how she conquered her sickness to win her race in the Olympics. A few things Ms. Kristie has taught me how to read big words, use a dictionary, and to do math problems.

MENTOR OF THE MONTH

Some things I have enjoyed doing with Ms. Kristie is going to the movies, going to the pool, and visiting the National Harbor. I enjoy that we end our session by grabbing a bite to eat. Ms. Kristie is the best tutor/mentor in the world. She has taught me new things throughout the years that I did not know about, but now I do. I like Wright to read, because I am more confident in my reading.

FROM TUTOR/MENTOR, KRISTIE

I have been volunteering with Wright to Read since 2016. My favorite part about volunteering is being able to reach beyond social constructs to make a connection with someone who is completely different from me. Volunteering helps me to remember that although we all may have different backgrounds, we can still relate to each other, learn from

each other and help each other succeed. It breaks down the negative societal stereotypes that are often placed on us (especially when we are at our lowest), and allows the true strength of humanity to shine by using our compassion and charity to uplift each other.

I volunteer because I believe it is my responsibility to use what I have to be a good role model and to contribute to those in my community that may not have access to all of the resources they need. When I was a child there were many good people who helped me, spent time mentoring me and taught me things my parents were not able to — they encouraged and reinforced my big dreams to go beyond where I was. I want to be that bridge for children, so they won't feel like they are limited because of their surroundings or because of learning disabilities and things out of their control. I want them to know there are other people in their community, who will care, help and invest in them so they can dream big and become volunteers in their communities as well.

When my student, Chelvin, tells me about her progress at school — how her teachers notice her improved reading and math skills, it encourages me. One day she told me that during an evaluation of her reading comprehension level her teacher kept having to go back to get higher level books because Chelvin was reading beyond where she had been. When she was finally done, Chelvin had advanced so many levels that her teacher was so excited, she was in tears and hugged her. She then took her to her former teacher and the principal to tell them as well and they all celebrated with



Chelvin with Kristie Shingles

her. Hearing that from Chelvin and seeing her realize that our time together really does pay off, was very touching. It made me see that she really is paying attention to what I do and say, so instead of feeling bad about not knowing something, she instead commits herself to learning it (even if we have to use creative ways and extra work to learn it). We encourage each other, that's been the most rewarding part of this program.

Wright to Read, a program of The Campagna Center, is a member of the Alexandria Mentoring Partnership (AMP). AMP was created in 2006 to ensure that quality mentors and mentor programs are available for Alexandria's youth and young adults in need. To learn more about Wright to Read, visit www.campagnacenter.org/programs/elementary-level or to learn more about AMP, visit: www.alexandriava.gov/Mentoring.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Wisdom of Dedicated Funds

To the Editor:

One stark area of difference that emerged at both the mayoral debate in Del Ray and the council/mayoral debate in Old Town had to do with how to fund affordable housing. It is legitimate to question whether a meal tax is the appropriate funding vehicle, but the disagreement between the candi-

dates was more general than that. Mayor Silberberg, and several of the council candidates, support a dedicated revenue stream; Vice Mayor Wilson and Councilor Smedberg are opposed, on principle.

What that principle could be is rather puzzling. Families usually save for retirement by depositing a specific amount of income in a dedicated fund, such as an IRA, that will not be touched for decades. If the money

went into their general account, the temptation to raid it to buy new furniture or fix up the bathroom would be irresistible, with potentially catastrophic long-term consequences.

We all know that Metro's sorry state can in large measure be blamed on its lack of a dedicated source of funding. Having to compete annually for general funds in three separate jurisdictions has led to years of deferred maintenance and finally a crisis situation, which other regional transportation systems avoid by having dedicated revenue that makes it easier to formulate long-term plans.

I assume that, as good Democrats, Wilson and Smedberg appreciate the wisdom of the payroll tax that workers pay to support Social Security, which would otherwise be subject to the whims of legislators who barely

think beyond the next election cycle. Social Security beneficiaries are in it for the long haul; they need the stability that dedicated funding provides.

If dedicated funding is useful, indeed necessary, at the family, regional and national levels, one

should be suspicious of anyone who claims that it is simply wrong at the municipal level. The vice mayor and the councilor ought to revisit their principles.

Alan Chodos
Alexandria

Too Easy Tax Increase

To The Editor:

Congratulation to our City Council. With the restaurant tax increase our council has achieved a new high in collective stupidity. They have never meet a tax they didn't like and wouldn't increase, no matter the negative impact. Once more they show they are all secret disciples of President William McKinley, who imposed the first excise taxes to pay for the Spanish American War. What has the restaurant industry done to be the target of such abuse and punishment? This goes on top of punitive parking meter changes.

James Melton's April 26 letter is

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 14

Send Father's Day Photos

Father's Day is Sunday, June 17, and once again this newspaper will publish a gallery of Father's Day photos.

Every year at this time, we put out the call for photographs of fathers and their children, grandfathers and their children and grandchildren.

Send in photos with the following information: the town where you live, the names of everyone in the picture, the approximate date the picture was taken, the ages of the children and a sentence or two about what is happening and where the photograph was taken. Be sure to tell us your town name and neighborhood. Photos are due by June 12.

You can submit your photos online at www.connectionnewspapers.com/fathersday. You can also email photos to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com.

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715 S. Washington Street #C34
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Mary Taylor 703.785.5619
Pat Tierney 703.850.5630
ALEXANDRIA / Porto Vecchio

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UNDER CONTRACT
Mary Bourke 703.906.5825
ALEXANDRIA / Rosemont
\$ 489,000

Under contract in 3 days! This diamond in the rough is located in sought after Rosemont. The kitchen needs a total renovation and the lower level is unfinished. 3 levels with 2BR / 1BA. Street parking. Sold "AS IS".



Michael Manuel 703.615.6317
ALEXANDRIA / Old Town Gardens
\$ 225,000

Fantastic top floor, one bedroom unit newly refreshed in an amazing central Old Town location. Mature trees greet you in a welcoming courtyard setting. Warm wood floors, generous sized rooms and closets. Extra storage, pool and off-street parking. One block from shops and restaurants. Quick commutes to Reagan Airport, the Pentagon and DC. Plus all that Old Town Alexandria has to offer!



Tiana Hickman 703.869.0366
ALEXANDRIA / Port Royal
\$ 270,000

Spacious (785sf), fully remodeled 1BR with gourmet kitchen: gas range, cherry cabinets and ceramic tile. Huge living room, separate dining area and large balcony with sunset views. Laminate wood flooring thru-out and closet systems in bedroom. Amenities include: 24 hr. front desk, roof top deck with river and monument views. Walkable distances to restaurants, grocery and Braddock Road Metro. Unassigned surface parking.



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OPINION



PHOTO BY LAURA MAE SUDDER

Snapshot

Re-paving the streets in Old Town.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 12

spot on. But there is more negative impact than possible job destruction, particularly entry level jobs. This is a backdoor tax increase on city residents.

We may under pay our first responders, but we will be number one in meal taxes, nice distinction. Councilman Bailey should understand this the best, as a Fairfax County fire official in a jurisdiction with no meal tax. Fairfax voted it down twice. Why can't Alexandria vote on this increase? The council talks a good game about a business-friendly environment, tourism and job creation. But this tax works against all these initiatives. Way to go. It was smart not to have a Business Improvement District, instead we will just kill businesses.

This increase gives much insight into the lifestyles of our council. They probably never patronize a fast food location. If they go grocery shopping, clearly they never look at their receipts. That roast chicken, hot or cold food bar item or sub-sandwich, all are taxed at 10 percent, as if it were a restaurant meal. This is on top of our basic food taxes. According to the Federation of Tax Administrators, Virginia is only one of nine states that impose a state and/or local tax on food. These are particularly regressive taxes, particularly in a so-called progressive city.

The Washington Post coverage uses a 70 percent number concerning non-residents who would pay the tax. Where does this come from? Whose card data is used? What assumptions were made? Will this be published for the citizens to look at? It looks like Big Brother at work. Do taxes paid in cash, common for fast food, not count as taxes? Do grocery stores not count? What about neighborhood restaurants? Young families and seniors going to McDonalds need a break, not an increase.

Our restaurants are in a highly competitive environment. The fact that other Vir-

ginia jurisdictions have higher tax rates is highly irrelevant. They are not looking at the same level of competition. Just look across the Potomac at the MGM Grand. The Grand is in a jurisdiction with no food or restaurant tax. The same applies to Montgomery County in Maryland. DC has no food tax but does have a restaurant tax that also applies to carry out. There is new competition in Southwest DC. Looking across the James River in Richmond, is not the same as looking across the Potomac.

Our council can do a better job of thinking about taxes.

William Blumberg MBA
Alexandria

Noteworthy Ironies

To the Editor:

The debate and vote on increasing the restaurant meals tax for "affordable housing" abounds in noteworthy ironies:

❖ Restaurant representatives insisted the proposed use for the tax increase had nothing to do with their industry even though some acknowledged that their workers face housing affordability challenges.

❖ Speakers noted that the public hearing was a sham because the funds city hall believes the tax increase would generate have been included in the already approved budget.

❖ All seven council members favored the tax increase despite the business owners' detailed explanations of how harmful it would be, the Economic Development Agency's sitting silently in the back (presumably because this agency shared the businesses' concerns, but city hall told it to be silent), and the lack of an economic elasticity study (maybe the Economic Develop-

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 16

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Annelise Smith 703.505.2533
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1250 S WASHINGTON ST #409 Fully upgraded 3BR / 3BA unit with glorious unobstructed views of the Potomac River from every room - no expense spared: kitchen, all baths, solid mahogany doors, hardwoods, trim/moldings, designer glass and stone material and HVAC. 2 prime garage spaces and 2 storage units.



Georgia McLaughlin & Ellen Young 703.628.4663
ALEXANDRIA / Rosemont \$ 1,049,000 OPEN SUN. 1 - 4

20 SUNSET DR Stunning 4BR / 2.5BA home with sunny family room 2-level addition opening to gourmet kitchen. Spacious master has high ceilings, private balcony and spa-like bath. A charming front porch, wood floors thru-out, treed yard with flagstone patio, deck and separate garage. 2 blocks to King St Metro.



Meg Tracy 703.864.3978
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Mary Ann Burstein 703.850.0360
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8201 TREEBROOKE LN Great curb appeal, immaculate, move-in ready 3-level 4BR/2FBA/2HBA Colonial sited on cul-de-sac with hardwoods thru-out, deck, patio, 2 fireplaces, updated kitchen/baths. Extended dining room/kitchen. Fenced backyard. Waynewood School. Near parks, shops, river, and more!



Randy Bender 703.906.1749
ALEXANDRIA / Dyes Oakcrest \$ 750,000 OPEN SUN. 2 - 4

1716 OAKCREST DR Well built Cape Cod with 3BR / 2.5BA, freshly painted inside and out, NEW: windows, storm door, HWH, gas furnace, carpet, fixtures and more. Living room has wood-burning fireplace with gas insert. LL rec room, workshop/utility room and laundry. Fenced yard and deck - driveway parking.



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Diane Field 703.915.4236
ALEX. / Powhatan Place \$ 719,000

Fabulous living/entertaining townhome with 3BR / 2.5BA, all with vaulted ceilings, hardwoods. Eat-in kitchen with breakfast bar and island opens off of deck. Entry level features cozy den with wood-burning fireplace, French doors to patio. Master with new marble vanity and shower, walk-in closet. Custom plantation shutters and attic storage. 1-car front loading garage and ample off-street parking. Well cared for, updated and spacious. Located in cul-de-sac with common green space. Walkable to everything including Commuter Rail, Metro bus and more.



Martha Deal 703.622.6797
ALEXANDRIA / Oakbrooke \$ 670,000 OPEN SAT. 2 - 4

8200 CHOLLMAN CT Large corner lot showcases move-in-ready 4BR / 3BA home on cul-de-sac. Updated kitchen and baths, hardwoods. Sun room addition adds 144sf. LL family room with fireplace. Separate laundry room. Fenced backyard. Waynewood School District. Near parks, shops, river, and more!



Mike Manuel 703.615.6317
ALEXANDRIA / Heywood Glen \$ 630,000

Beautifully kept one owner Colonial tucked away on a quiet cul-de-sac with spacious 4BR / 2.5BA. Refinished hardwoods thru-out and freshly painted. Main level family room has wood-burning fireplace, large unfinished basement, front and rear landscaping. Close to Heywood Park, shopping and quick commutes.



Brian Hong & Jerry Beamer 703.929.5764
ALEXANDRIA / Carlyle Towers \$ 599,900 OPEN SUN. 1 - 3

2121 JAMIESON AVE #911 Great views of the DC skyline and the GW Temple. Largest 2BR / 2BA model feels larger with the open living concept. Remodeled kitchen has granite, SS range hood, breakfast bar. Open balcony off the kitchen and living room adds to living area. Garage parking, storage, King St Metro.

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 14

ment Agency had done one, but it showed the business owners, rather than the City Council, were right about the increase's impact). Council member Bailey blithely assured us that people would still keep coming because we're a top tourist destination as if recently opened National Harbor and the Wharf didn't exist. Having told the Potomac Yard neighbors he didn't care about how densification affects them, but cares only about affordable housing, while idly standing by as Alexandria's firefighters' pay sunk to the lowest in the region epitomizes a one-issue candidate like some of the lions of the waterfront fight six years ago. At least now, thanks to Mayor Silberberg's tie-breaking vote, his one issue has been addressed.

❖ Addressing it, though, fractured the usual 6-1 bloc against Mayor Silberberg. Several of her colleagues, desperate to navigate the affordable housing conundrum, weary of selling out their constituents' interests for "onesies and twosies" of affordable housing in new developments in exchange for shredding existing land use protections residents implored them to honor, sided with her tie-breaking vote for a dedicated affordable housing funding mechanism.

❖ The electoral contest between Mayor Silberberg and Vice Mayor Wilson, a titanic contrast of priorities and philosophies whose outcome is still unclear, a critical inflection point nonetheless reached, a de-

fining moment likely to determine the outcome. In their first debate, Vice mayor Wilson accused mayor Silberberg of voting against affordable housing. So, by his standard, he voted against affordable housing by opposing the tax increase he favored because he opposed dedicating it to affordable housing. He did not make an amendment to delete the dedication proviso, then vote reluctantly reluctantly for the ordinance when the amendment failed, but voted "no." Mayor Silberberg voted against affordable housing projects over concerns about how specific features impacted neighbors and future residents, whereas Vice Mayor Wilson voted against this one over concern about how dedication compromises carte blanche "to the victor belong the (political) spoils." This sets in stark contrast how the two are different, and how different are the two.

Dino Drudi
 Alexandria

Return Control To Artists

To the Editor:

We read with interest your article "Paths Not Taken" [May 3] in Alexandria and, as the resident artists of the Torpedo Factory, we would like to share our vision for its fu

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 18

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Left to right: **Lyssa Seward, Brittanie DeChino, Anita Edwards, Melody Abella**
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SOLD \$861,000
 Belle Haven
 6505 Princeton Drive, Alexandria, VA



SOLD \$624,500
 Waynewood
 8423 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, VA



SOLD \$1,300,000
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SOLD \$805,000
 Waynewood
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McWilliams
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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 16

ture.

In 1974, a tenacious group of artists banded together and carved out a vibrant, thriving art center from the derelict torpedo factory. Almost from the day it opened, the Torpedo Factory Art Center has been considered a national model for the arts, tourism, and economic development. The group of artists, now called the Torpedo Factory Artists' Association (TFAA), managed and maintained the building at no cost to the city for decades. Studies show out-of-town visitors to the Torpedo Factory spend nearly \$65 per day during their visit to Alexandria. In 2016, this spending totaled an estimated \$35.2 million to the benefit of the city's hotels, restaurants, retail establishments and other businesses.

Last year, renowned economist Stephen Fuller presented his economic impact study of the Torpedo Factory stating "The Torpedo Factory Art Center is the most significant single visitor attraction in Alexandria ... the attractive power of this destination is its unique experience: the ability for visitors to interact with artists and the creative process ... A vibrant Torpedo Factory is essential to Old Town's commercial success."

After the failure of a City Council-appointed board, the City of Alexandria took over building management and began arts programming in 2016. They increased the number of employees onsite, in addition to taking on the burden and cost of maintenance, janitorial services, and utilities. City employees are performing functions that were previously performed by TFAA at no cost to the city. Office of the Arts management has also needlessly absorbed the cost of multiple studios for their administrative needs, depriving artists who are willing to pay rent and provide community benefit. Additionally, the city manager now oversees almost 100 individual artist leases, including signing documents every time an artist goes on vacation or gets sick, and the Special Finance department is burdened with the invoices and payments for those leases each month.

Using city funds to manage the Torpedo Factory Art Center through the Office of the Arts is not advantageous nor is it necessary. The operational costs of the Torpedo Factory should be the responsibility of those who inhabit it, and coupled with the financial oversight and decision-making authority to make it succeed.

The TFAA has a plan and asks for support from Alexandria businesses, community and the city to re-establish artist governance of the Torpedo Factory. We feel we can make the Torpedo Factory more vibrant than ever, keeping it one of Virginia's top tourist attractions, a major draw to the Alexandria waterfront and a significant contributor to a strong economic future.

Mary Beth Gaiarin

And the TFAA Board of Directors

What our current City Council did by making the meals tax the highest in the region was make Alexandria marginally more costly for resident and visitor alike. More to the point: It's the wrong solution to redress the problem of affordable housing.

Many who work in Alexandria already live in distant suburbs and endure long commutes simply to reside in a home they can afford. Making Alexandria more expensive a place to live will not enable these commuters to move here; it will create additional commuters, not fewer.

Making Alexandria more costly also frustrates other job-creating businesses from locating here. For a city that can't stop spending, this means property taxes will perforce increase indefinitely making home ownership more expensive and, therefore, affordable housing even less available.

One day we'll elect to our City Council individuals who know how to make money; not just spend it. To my knowledge, not a single current council member and — with the exception of council candidates Ray, Seifeldein, Feely, Hubbard and Bennett-Parker — no one has ever started a company, met a payroll, struggled day in and day out to ensure revenues exceed expenses, or been required to comply with Federal, state or local regulations affecting revenue creation, the source of tax remittances.

It's hard to prosper in the private sector, especially restaurant owners. Alexandria's higher meals tax will aggravate their difficulty to be profitable. It will also exacerbate, not alleviate the need for ever more affordable housing. The answer is not more tax; it's more revenue. Re-electing Mayor Silberberg and giving her six new city council members — in particular, Ray, Seifeldein, Feely — will be a good start toward that end.

Jimm Roberts

Alexandria

In Praise of Senior Services

To the Editor:

This year, Senior Services of Alexandria is celebrating its Golden Anniversary. I first joined its board in 1983 when I was in my "middle years" because I was very impressed by its mission to serve the elderly of Alexandria. Now that I am very much a senior citizen myself, I am even more aware of its importance to the community.

Under the phenomenal leadership of Mary Lee Anderson, its present executive director, it has broadened the scope of its work in ways I never imagined years ago.

As one who made SSA a top priority in his service to the community, I want to take the opportunity, on this its Golden Anniversary, to express my appreciation to the Senior Services family for all that it has done and is doing.

The Rev. George A. Pera

Alexandria

Grow Revenue Not Taxes

To the Editor:

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 22

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Samantha Elfmont, formerly of Alexandria, in the backyard of her new home in Monterrey, Mexico, with her pal Max.

PHOTOGRAPHS
COURTESY OF
SAMANTHA ELFMONT

Finding Health and a Home

... South of the Border.

BY BARBARA S. MOFFET
ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE OF ALEXANDRIA

Pets who arrive at the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria (AWLA) never know where their journey might take them. A 2-year-old, 57-pound boxer mix named Max lucked out and wound up south of the border — in Monterrey, Mexico.

Max came to the AWLA shelter last November from Galax, Va., part of a relationship that brings animals from disadvantaged communities where there is less demand for pets, to Alexandria for adoption. He had a sweet, goofy grin and a tail wag that shook his body from side to side.

AWLA In Max's initial examination, AWLA's staff veterinarian, Dr. Kaci Angelone, noted a growth on one of his back legs — and also that the dog was "very sweet." Later exams revealed that Max was carrying Lyme disease and that both of his back cruciate ligaments were torn, causing his kneecaps to turn out abnormally.

As the AWLA worked to determine the best course of treatment for Max, the staff sought enrichment for him and set up a holiday stay with one of the AWLA's most active volunteer fosters, Samantha "Sam" Elfmont, who had met Max earlier at the shelter. Elfmont's whole family, including her 2-year-old son, Thomas, and their French bulldog, Tootsie, fell in love with Max.

"He's such a happy-go-lucky dog," Elfmont said. "He tolerated the pain of the torn ligaments so well. When we took him for walks, we had to slow him down." She noted evidence of a painful past — scars covering both of Max's hind legs and deep ones on his neck, probably caused by a tight collar he once wore. Elfmont and her family wanted to keep Max longer, but they were due to move to Mexico in early January, as part of her husband's job with the U.S. Foreign Service.

Meanwhile, a general veterinary surgeon determined that Max's condition was too abnormal to be corrected with routine surgery and that he needed a specialist. A complicated and expensive surgery was in Max's future, and because of the level of complexity, it might be some time before it could occur.

When Elfmont heard from Mexico that Max was again in need of foster care, she knew it was a sign. She contacted AWLA Community Outreach and Adoption Coordinator Echo Keif for more information — and to make an offer. This was not a new idea for Elfmont: She and her husband have rescued,



Max, a boxer mix, shows his new owner, Samantha Elfmont, how he feels about her.

fostered and/or found new families for more than 80 dogs and a few cats in the U.S. and Malaysia.

"We wanted to give this former stray a forever home, a place where he would be well taken care of and find peace during his recovery," Elfmont said. Her mother and sister stepped forward to help, working with the AWLA team to arrange to fly Max to Mexico, at Elfmont's expense, on March 17. After a night's stay in San Antonio, two veterinarians from Monterrey drove Max the eight hours across the border to join Elfmont her family.

Max immediately took to the family's small backyard and jumped all over little Thomas in excitement, Elfmont reports. "He wasn't nervous around the house at all," she said. After a short time to get reacquainted, Tootsie and Max resumed their friendship, lying next to each other in their beds.

Max has already undergone a preliminary surgery to remove scar tissue, allowing him to walk more easily than before. His primary surgery — which is expected to take two hours for each leg — is scheduled for May 17. Elfmont reports that Max is happy and showing no signs of pain.

Back at the AWLA, Keif was overjoyed by Max's move to a new home south of the border. "Max and Sam had a special connection, and we wanted him to go through his surgeries with a family who loved him," Keif recalled. "Sam and her family were already his people. It was a huge victory for Max, who needed lots of special care and love."

The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, which operates the Volia Lawson Animal Shelter on contract with the City of Alexandria, is an independent, local, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The AWLA is committed to ending animal homelessness, promoting animal welfare, and serving as an educational resource for the City of Alexandria community. More information is at AlexandriaAnimals.org.

You can read any of this week's 15 papers digital editions here:

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/PDFs

VDOT Virginia Department of Transportation

I-395 Shirlington Interchange Improvements Study
Arlington County
City of Alexandria
Public Information Meeting

Monday, May 21, 2018
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Presentation starts at 7 p.m.

Fairlington Community Center
3308 South Stafford Street
Arlington, VA 22206

Find out about a study to improve safety and operations at the I-395 Shirlington interchange, including the ramp from South Glebe Road to southbound I-395, the South Shirlington Road and South Arlington Mill Drive traffic signal, and the four-way stop controlled intersection of Gunston Road and Martha Custis Drive.

Stop by between 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. to view displays and learn more about the study. VDOT will hold a presentation beginning at 7 p.m. Project staff will be available to answer your questions.

Review project information at the VDOT project website (www.virginiadot.org/projects), at the information meeting, or during business hours at VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office at 4975 Alliance Drive in Fairfax. Please call ahead at 703-259-2318 or TTY/TDD 711 to ensure appropriate personnel are available to answer your questions.

Give your written comments at the meeting, or submit them by **May 31, 2018** to Olivia Daniszewski, Virginia Department of Transportation, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030, or email meetingcomments@VDOT.virginia.gov. Please reference "I-395 Shirlington Interchange Improvements Study" in the subject line.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact Olivia Daniszewski at 703-259-2318.

State Project: 0395-100-842, P101
UPC: 107831
Federal: OC-395-4 (187)

LETTERS

No Alexandrian Left Behind

To the Editor:

This time of the year (election season), you hear a lot of pitches and promises. But there's often three big issues that linger behind the scene: poor people, disparities in capital access and promoting diversity across the board.

You may not have the daily stress and worry about whether the car will break down or someone will get ill or your child will need a new pair of shoes. And then having to choose between whether to pay the rent, pay for medicine or pay for food. You may not even have to worry about being a minority wanting to venture into the world of business. Diversity may not be a priority for you. But for so many, even in Alexandria, this is real.

Surely no one in Alexandria today is as poor as a person in Haiti or Uganda? As it happens, making such comparisons in the U.S. has recently become much easier. Because of the World Bank's decision to include high-income countries in its global estimates of people living in poverty, we can now make direct evaluations between the United States and poor countries.

Properly interpreted, the numbers suggest that the United Nations has a point — and the United States has a serious problem. They also suggest that we might rethink how we help the poor through our own doings in Alexandria.

As striking as the median household income and the number of persons living in Alexandria with a high school diploma or higher is, a real issue prevails — there are a large number of Alexandrians that are not

thriving as they should be. Perhaps, we are not one as we claim, but now is the time.

As recent as 2016, 2.6 million more Americans fell below the poverty line for a total of 46.2 million living in poverty or over 15 percent or 1 in 6, the highest number of poor in over 50 years. At 200 percent of the federal poverty level, the poverty rate in America would be 30 percent.

Here's how we fix that: better jobs, better housing costs and options, better education, and better opportunity. We must change how poverty is understood and dispel the myths and stereotypes that uphold the mass complacency and leave the root causes of poverty intact.

Another way to initiate this change is to help those minorities trying to make a decent living and

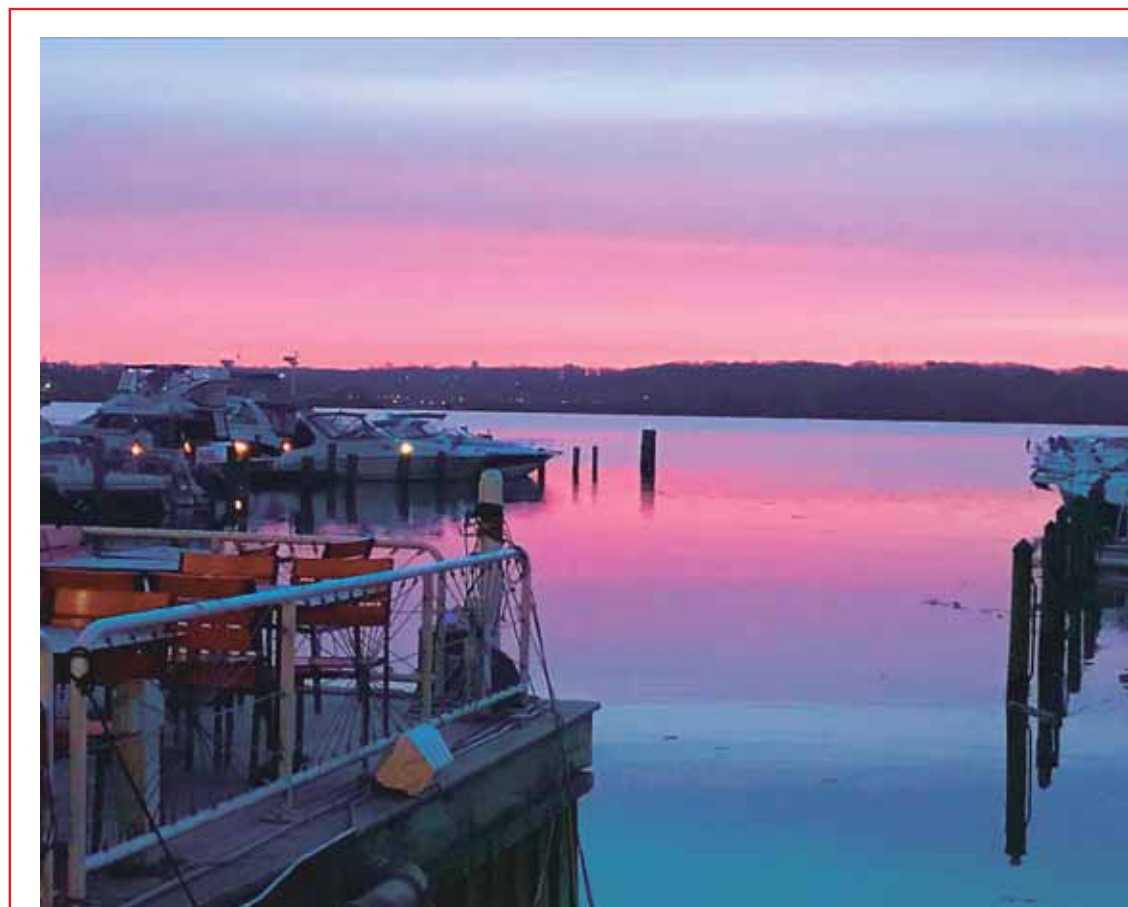


PHOTO BY DIANA BANAT

Snapshot

Sunrise on the way to Starbucks.

create a legacy like so many others have done in Alexandria. Capital access remains the most important factor limiting the establishment, expansion and growth of minority-owned businesses. Given this well-established constraint, the current financial environment has placed a greater burden on minority entrepreneurs who are trying to keep their businesses thriving in today's economy.

We can rectify this in Alexandria. Business growth depends on a variety of capital, from seed funding to establish new firms, to working capital and business loans to expand their businesses, to private equity for acquiring and merging with other firms, and grants and donations from individuals, foundations, and other entities.

Increasing the flow of capital for minority-owned businesses must be a national priority to re-energize the U.S. economy and increase competitiveness in the global marketplace. Why not start in Alexandria? We can be the perfect example to the nation.

Lastly, the lack of diversity, whether racial or gender, shows the inability to reflect different life experiences and perspectives, and thus presents an inaccurate picture of what life really looks like. It's long known that diversity creates a better anything. It drives revenue, motivates people and cultivates innovation. That's what we should want Alexandria to look like, a place that supports the well-

being of everyone and a place that leaves no one behind.

Yes, we do live in a place where change has taken place, but every day brings new challenges and new opportunities. As the primary election draws closer, let us be mindful of real change.

Tavares M. Floyd, Esq.

The BeWell Project (Alexandria)

Importance Of Listening

To the Editor:

Our city is fortunate to have so many fine candidates vying for the six spots on the Democratic slate for City Council. Certainly this is a sign that we live in a vibrant community with an engaged and tuned-in electorate. I am writing in support of one such candidate, Mo Seifeldein, who not only represents the best qualities of our inclusive and caring city, but who also represents proof that the American Dream still exists.

As a lawyer, I can unequivocally state that attending law school and passing the bar is not an easy endeavor. However, it is beyond my imagination how one with little money, from a culturally dissimilar, war-torn country, and where English is not spoken, is able to become a lawyer within twenty years of arriving on our shores. In a nutshell, this is Mr. Seifeldein's arduous story, and it clearly dem-

onstrates that he is a quick read and is ready for the challenges of council on day one.

But a compelling personal story, alone, is not enough to support any candidate for council. Mr. Seifeldein understands that not everyone has had the luck, fortitude and opportunities that he has had. For this reason, he will strive to strengthen our city-wide institutions so that all Alexandrians will have an equal shot at fulfilling their dreams. Specifically, Mr. Seifeldein will work tirelessly on issues that improve the quality of life for our residents. These issues include responsible development, affordable housing, embracing technology, cultivating smart transit options, and fully funding our schools. Moreover, Mr. Seifeldein will prioritize listening to the concerns of the citizens — his door will always be open.

I hope that you will join me and vote for Mo Seifeldein, for City Council on June 12.

Matt Harris, Esq.
Alexandria

Community Advocate

To the Editor:

Although the City of Alexandria was founded in 1749, its history, heritage and communities were built on the hands, backs and feet of our seniors, teachers, and pub-

lic sector workforce who were born

in 1920's, 1930's, 1940's, 1950's and 1960's. Unfortunately, these individuals no longer have a strong voice, the drive, the energy or determination to defend what they have cultivated, nurtured, fought for and rightfully entitled to. These dedicated and loyal citizens deserve to enjoy and live out the rest of their lives in the City of Alexandria, a place they adore, respect and love very much. "Affordable Housing, Optimal tax rate, Quality of life and Infrastructure modernization" are challenges that must be addressed.

Alexandria pioneers, seniors, teachers, and public sector workforce of this city have laid the foundation for community development, economy growth and prosperity.

These individuals are being squeezed out of their homes and communities due to lack of public and civic representation and or responsibilities. Although these individuals understand economy growth and opportunities, there are always unintended consequences of gentrification that must be taken into account.

The life standing (Pioneers, Seniors, Teachers, and Public Sector Workforce) members of Alexandria City have been pillars of the community for over 60 years or beyond and its criminal that are being pushed aside or overlooked due to political insensitivity.

It's time the City of Alexandria voted for a member of its community who has served honorable for his country and has been a pillar in the City of Alexandria as a community leader and a firefighter for the past 20 plus years fighting for Alexandria communities common causes.

Councilman Willie F. Bailey is the servant leader that we demand and deserve to represent those who can't represent themselves. He has been on the forefront advocating for his constituents affordable housing,

respectful compensation for our emergency responders and adequate funding for public schools that includes proper compensation for our teachers and support for critical infrastructure i.e., water, roads, electric and sewage funding.

He deserves and has earned the right for a second term to represent you — his constituents. As a native Alexandrian he is committed, understands, supports and is sensitive to the needs of your family and you as his constituents.

Ethan A. Jones
And Mike Howard
Alexandria

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OPINION



PHOTOS BY LAURA MAE SUDDER

Truly Spring

April showers brought May flowers to Old Town.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 18

Who Not To Elect

To the Editor:

On April 16, the Democrats for a Better Alexandria announced their slate for Mayor and City Council. They endorsed Ms. Allison Silberberg for mayor, and Canek Aguirre, John Chapman, Matt Feely, Del Pepper, Robert Ray and Mo Seifeldein for Council. On May 8, Alexandrians for a Better City Government also endorsed Allison Silberberg for mayor along with Robert Ray, Matt Feely, and Mo Seifeldein for City Council. These two organizations have now given the citizens several election slates from which to choose from in the Democratic Primary election on June 12.

After studying the aforementioned lists, I have decided to publish a list of candidates who should not be voted for in the upcoming primary. First and foremost, I would not recommend Justin Wilson to become our new mayor. From his very first day as the vice mayor, he has acted in an obstructive manner towards Allison Silberberg, the current mayor, by doing everything he can to overturn all initiatives proposed or supported by her. In addition, he has successfully recruited the other five council members to vote with him and against the mayor on almost every important issue coming before council, thus resulting in a large number of 6 to 1 votes.

Ironically, the mayor's votes have generally reflected the overwhelming desires of the majority of citizens within the Alexandria community. On the other hand, Mr. Wilson runs counter to citizen desires; he favors extremely dense development, he takes contributions from a number of individuals who do business before the city,

and he will continue to support higher taxes as he did with his 5.7 cent (per \$100 assessed property) tax raise that he vigorously pushed into the 2018 Alexandria budget. Since he has managed to persuade the other members of the current City Council to vote with him on almost every issue, I would not recommend any of the incumbent City Council members running to retain their seats.

I would also not recommend two other candidates running for City Council seats. The first is Robert Ray, who has stated that "most Alexandrians would hope the sheriff would lean toward more liberal policies regarding undocumented members of our community," which aligns him with those who are seeking to have a sanctuary city. Mr. Ray needs to leave the sheriff alone, so that he can perform his job in accordance with current laws. The second candidate whom I do not recommend is Mr. Dak Hardwick, who has over the years aligned himself with the pro-developer faction, and who is essentially a clone of Justin Wilson.

When six of the candidates are eliminated from the list of 12 running, a list containing six viable individuals remains. I hope to see them elected, and I hope that they will serve the city well. We deserve a City Council that works on behalf of the citizens, and that performs in a manner free from spite and obstructive behavior. Vote smartly, Alexandria.

Townsend A. "Van" Van Fleet
Alexandria

See Who Stands Out

To the Editor:

This year's City Council race is quite crowded, with 12 candidates

throwing their hat in the ring on the Democratic side alone. One of the upsides of such a crowded field is that you can get true diversity of experience, thought and multiple points of view.

It's also a great way to see who really stands out. And while we're still more than two months out from the June 12 primary, one of the candidates who's really stood out to me is Dak Hardwick. His experience, knowledge of the city, and passion for making Alexandria a prosperous city for all is what we need in our elected leaders.

Recently, Dak rolled out his "Empower Alexandria Plan." The plan outlines a broad approach to serving the needs of all our residents, recognizing that our city is a system of multiple needs and interests to balance, and understanding you have to pull multiple levers to make everything work. Dak's "Empower Alexandria Plan" recognizes that tomorrow is now and we have no time to waste in making progress in critical areas, such as education, housing, public safety compensation, and civic innovation. Dak's "Empower Alexandria Plan" is not just about addressing one issue. It's about looking at how several important issues are interrelated and how we have to develop coalitions across Alexandria to bring the change we need.

Dak's "Empower Alexandria Plan" articulates more plainly than any other candidate what he stands for, why we should vote for him, and what we can hold him accountable for if he wins. As you're examining the candidates and determining who will earn your vote, I highly recommend you take a look at Dak's plan, and support his vision in this year's City Council elections.

Matt Gaston
Del Ray

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FROM PAGE 21
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May 10, 2018 from 5:30-7 p.m. Visit
www.TheNoVaAuthority.org.

MONDAY/MAY 21

Voter Registration Deadline. The
deadline to register to vote in
Virginia's June 12 Democratic or
Republican primary election is
Monday, May 21. If you have
recently moved or updated your
registration since the last time you
voted, please make sure you are
registered at your current address.
Check your registration at
vote.elections.virginia.gov or by
contacting voters@alexandriava.gov
or by calling 703-746-4050. U.S.
citizens living in Virginia who will be
18 or older by Nov. 6, 2018 may
register to vote using the following
methods:

- ❖ Submit the application online at
vote.elections.virginia.gov by
midnight on May 21.
- Register in person at the Office of Voter
Registration and Elections, 132 North
Royal St., Suite 100, by 5 p.m. on
May 21.
- ❖ Download an application at
alexandriava.gov/Elections and then
print, sign and mail the completed
form to the Office of Voter
Registration and Elections, 132 North
Royal St., Suite 100, Alexandria, VA
22314.

Applications must be postmarked on or
before May 21.
Virginians who are registered to vote
must show photo identification when

voting. Check alexandriava.gov/Elections, or call 703-746-4050 for a
list of acceptable photo identification
and other election information,
including sample ballots and in-
person absentee voting hours. In-
person absentee voting for this
election continues until 5 p.m. on
Saturday, June 9.

TUESDAY/MAY 22

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

WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 23-27

173d Airborne Brigade Reunion.

The Army's famed 173d Airborne
Brigade Association will hold its
32nd Annual Reunion at the Hilton
Alexandria Mark Center Hotel. Visit
www.skysoldier.net/2018-Reunion.

THURSDAY/MAY 24

Dedication Ceremony and Open

House. 6-8 p.m. at the Warwick
Pool, 3301 Landover St. The
Alexandria City Council invites the
public to a dedication ceremony and
community open house to celebrate
the reopening of Warwick Pool. The
ceremony will occur rain or shine.
The open house will feature family-
friendly activities from the Mobile Art
Lab and Jerome "Buddie" Ford
Nature Center; child and family
summer program offerings; and a
"meet and greet" with pool staff.
Light refreshments will be available.
The Warwick Pool will open for full
service on Saturday, May 26. Visit
www.alexandriava.gov/Aquatics.



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John Carlyle Square Park

Del Ray / Colasanto Park
Fairlington Centre
Mark Center Transit Center

Old Town / Market Square
at Alexandria City Hall

bike to work day
2018

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Gifts for those who educate children.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

As the school year nears an end, it's time to thank those whose jobs run the gamut from comforting kindergartners with separation anxiety to teaching biology to hormonal teenagers. End-of-year teacher gifts are seemingly ubiquitous in June, but how does one choose a useful present that doesn't get re-gifted or donated? Local tastemakers offer their take on gifts for teachers that teachers actually want to receive.

"Teachers can always use extra supplies for their classrooms," said Courtney Thomas of the Picket Fence in Burke. "Put together a goody bag full of pencils and markers, notepads, page flags and sticky notes or anything your teacher needs to keep his or her desk stocked. Tie it all up in a reusable bag they can repurpose to carry papers and books to and from school."

Treat your teacher to a spa day at home, advises Thomas. "Get a collection of your favorite lotions, soaps and candles and give your teachers a much appreciated excuse to pamper themselves."

Flowers are a cheerful present to offer those who teach children, but fresh flowers have a limited lifespan, advises Todd Martz of Home on Cameron in Old Town Alexandria who suggests bouquets with longevity. "Felt flowers always look fresh and add a bit happiness to every day," he said.

Sometimes the most treasured gifts are those that don't come with a price tag. "My favorite handmade teacher gift is a thoughtful note of thanks, said Kathryn Horn Coneway of Art at the Center in Alexandria. "Taking the time to say thank you and be specific about how an adult has impacted your child's growth is a powerful way of affirming the work teachers do. I think it is great to encourage kids to write letters of thanks as well and to think through what specifically they can name that they have learned or gained from a teacher."

"A beautiful and thoughtful gift for all teachers are



PHOTO COURTESY OF SONORAN ROSE BOUTIQUE

Wine-scented bath bombs from Napa Valley are the perfect gift for the teacher who needs a little pampering.



COURTESY OF KATHRYN CONEWAY

Notepads make useful end-of-year teachers gifts, suggests Amanda Mertins of Patina Polished Living in Alexandria.

guest towels," says Cristina Chiotti of Sonoran Rose Boutique in Potomac, Md. "[We have some] that come from South Africa and are available in a variety of lovely prints and designs," she said. "Delicious wine-scented bath bombs from Napa Valley are the perfect gift for the teacher who needs a little pampering."

For teachers with a preppy spirit, Amanda Mertins, of Patina Polished Living in Alexandria, advises, "Some of the most thoughtful gifts for teachers who go above and beyond to educate our children are gift monogrammed items, gifts cards and notepads."

And for teachers who enjoy spending time outdoors, Chiotti says an ideal gift includes "Pairing some local Maryland honey with our gardening tool kit for the perfect springtime gardening gift."



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE PICKET FENCE

Candles, soaps and lotions in a gift bag will make luxurious end-of-year teacher gifts, says Courtney Thomas of The Picket Fence in Burke.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ART AT THE CENTER

A note written on a handmade card such as this collage with mulberry paper and acrylic medium on watercolor paper by Kathryn Horn Coneway of Art at the Center, makes meaning teacher gifts, says Coneway.

ENTERTAINMENT

Meet Executive Chef James Hudson at Jackson 20

BY SHIRLEY RUHE

“See the red snapper. It just came off the ice. Look at the gills,” Executive Chef James Hudson says, peeling back the flap of skin. “The gills are bright red. And look at the clear eye.”

Today Hudson is introducing seared local red snapper with arugula salad to the menu at Jackson 20 on King Street where he has been executive chef for just over a year. “The snapper are migrating north-bound right now.” Hudson places the 5-1/2

IN THE KITCHEN

pound snapper on the counter and sharpens his main go-to Japanese Mac knife.

He turns to the ingredients for the fish fumé that will complement the snapper. Hudson grabs three stalks of celery and chops the stalks close to his cupped fingers. He tosses the celery into a small saucepan and adds one finely diced white onion and a little bit of water. Hudson will toss in the fish bones and simmer to get the essence while finishing the rest of the dish. “That’s gonna be it.”

Back to the snapper. Hudson makes his first incision just behind the gill plate and works evenly on the first side of the fish. “I flip it over and do the same thing on the other side.” He cuts it into 5-ounce pieces and runs the knife blade over the fish, checking for scales and small pin bones. This snapper will serve 4-5 people. Finally he scores the skin “since I will be serving it skin side up. Scoring it keeps the skin from curling.” Some of the fish bones are added to the celery and onions. “The fume is getting ready come to a light poach. “I’ll let it hang out for 20 minutes.”

He sprinkles the fish liberally with kosher salt. “I will leave it for 20 minutes while I’m finishing the rest to help the fish retain moisture and firm up.”

Hudson turns to the sauce. He finely minces about a quarter of a large shallot and tosses it in a small pan with 1/2 ounce of unsalted butter. “I will sweat the shallot.”



Chef Hudson filets fresh red snapper



Adds kosher salt to retain moisture and firm up

lot.” Then a pinch of saffron that has been in a little oil to bloom the saffron before adding to the liquid. “The fat will release the crema.” He adds 4 ounces of 40 percent heavy cream, “the good stuff,” and will reduce the sauce by half. Then add two spoonfuls of fumé to finish the sauce.

Now for the vinaigrette. “I take about 2 ounces of cider vinegar, a dab of double strength French Dijon mustard and a 1/2 pinch of pepper. The mustard helps with the emulsification. Now the whisk.” The whisk



PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE
Chops onions for fish fume



Whisks cider vinegar and oil for vinaigrette

is in the other kitchen. “No matter. I have mixed the vinaigrette with chopsticks before.” He pours in extra virgin olive oil. “I use a 2.5-1 ratio of oil to vinegar. I like it more on the acidic side.” Hudson says he wants the oil to be fully incorporated. He sticks in his finger for a taste. “It’s there.”

To finish off the vinaigrette he adds a chiffonade of parsley, chives and a bit of French thyme. “Throw that in there.” Another test with the finger.

It’s time for the snapper. He puts a nice heavy French sauté pan on the burner and adds a healthy amount of butter and a little olive oil and tosses in two sprigs of fresh thyme to flavor the oil. “See the kosher salt has firmed up the flesh real nice.” Hudson rinses off the salt and takes the fumé off the heat. He sprinkles a little salt and pep-



Bastes snapper with butter to crisp up



Red snapper with arugula salad introduced for new season

per on both sides of the fish and adds it to the skillet. “It will take 4 minutes on a side, basting it constantly with the butter in the skillet to crisp it up.”

He finishes off the salad by tossing a handful of arugula with chunks of red watermelon and toasted almonds. He’ll use yellow watermelon later in the season when he can get it. “I use slivered almonds.” A final whisk of the vinaigrette and he tosses it with the arugula mixture.

For the final presentation he arranges the salad in a line on the side of the plate with the crispy snapper placed alongside. Hudson drizzles the sauce in swirls on the fish and around the plate. Hudson grates on lemon zest; just a little squeeze of lemon and today’s special is ready for its seasonal menu introduction.

CALENDAR

Submit entertainment announcements at www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

ONGOING

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/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.

Atomic Dog Exhibition. Through May 27 at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. The exhibit inspired by man’s best friend, “Atomic Dog,” is presented by Del Ray Artisans and The Dog Store. It features photography, painting, sculpture and mixed media. Visit www.DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits.

Attics and Alleys Tours. Saturdays in May, tour begins promptly at 9 a.m. at Lee-Fendall House, 614 Oronoco Street; tour ends at Carlyle House by the Market Square parking garage

around 11:30 a.m. What mysteries lie in the attics of the city’s historic sites? Ever wonder what is behind that brick wall? In honor of National Preservation Month, explore spaces not normally open to the public at Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, Carlyle House, Lee-Fendall, and the Apothecary Museum. Tour highlights include historic graffiti, hidden architectural fragments, and alleys that connect the city. This tour includes walking over many city blocks, stairs, and access to confined spaces. Walking shoes required, bottled water suggested. Held rain or shine. Tickets must be purchased ahead at alexandriava.gov/Shop.

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. Examples include views of

Washington, D.C., Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania and North Carolina. Call 703-548-5188 or visit www.studioantiques.net

Art Exhibit: “A Sense of Herself.” Through June 3 at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. 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/.

Art Exhibit: “A Sense of Herself.” Through June 3, gallery hours at the Art League Gallery, 105 North Union St., Studio 21 (located in the Torpedo Factory Art Center). Watercolorist Deborah Conn celebrates inner resilience and strength through luminous, large-scale portraits of women in “A Sense of Herself.”

Water’s Edge Exhibition. Through

June 13, at Broadway Gallery, 5641-B General Washington Drive, Alexandria. The solo exhibit by Christine Lashley, “Water’s Edge,” explores her fascination with water in more than 40 paintings of fragile watersheds, shorelines, and gardens. Visit broadwaygalleries.net.

Get herbs, garden plants, and flowers.

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays through mid-June at the Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, Greenhouse, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria. Volunteers grow dozens of tomatoes and vegetable varieties, herbs, and flowers from seeds and cuttings using organic practices. Visit www.Mvuc.org.

FRIDAY/MAY 18

FHP Food Fest. 4:30-7:30 p.m. at Carl Sandburg Middle School, 8428 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Featuring food trucks plus face painting, petting zoo, balloon animals, yard

ENTERTAINMENT

games, crafts and more. Entrance: \$5 person, \$20 max per family, and children under 2 are free. Visit www.FortHuntPreschool.com.

Community Celebration and Scholarship Fundraiser. 6:30-9:30 p.m. at The Howard Gardner School, 4913 Franconia Road. Join The Howard Gardner School community for their annual HGS Community Celebration and Scholarship Fundraiser. The evening's events include a cocktail hour, silent auction, dinner buffet provided by La Prima, live music by The Tyler Rose Band, raffle, door prizes and a live auction finale. Admission is free. Visit hgsauction.weebly.com.

Children's Storytime with a View. 7 p.m. at Historic Huntley, 6918 Harrison Lane. Bundle the children (2-12) up in their jammies, toss a blanket on the ground and snuggle in while listening to stories the way the Mason family may have when they owned the property in the 1800s. \$5 per child, and children must be accompanied by an adult. Call 703-768-2525 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/historic-huntley.

Community Dance. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Live music with the Mount Vernon Swing Band. Open to the community. \$4, at the door. Call 703-765-4573, TTY:711.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 18-20

Spring Wine Festival and Sunset Tour. 6-9 p.m. at George Washington's Estate, 3200 Mount Vernon Hwy., Mount Vernon. Sample wines from Virginia's finest wineries while enjoying views at the estate. Celebrate the history of wine in

Virginia with exclusive evening tours of the Mansion and cellar, appearances by George and Martha Washington, and a live music. Tickets: \$38-\$48. Visit mountvernon.org.

SATURDAY/MAY 19

The Big Plant Sale. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. More than 40 local garden vendors descend on Green Spring Gardens with beautiful and unusual plants to fill spring gardening needs. Growers and Master Gardeners are on hand to help with plant selections and gardening advice. Proceeds benefit the gardens. FROGS members receive 10 percent off plants in the Garden Gate Plant Shop. Visit www.greenspring.org.

Fort Tours. 10-11:30 a.m. and 2-3:30 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site, 4301 West Braddock Road. Soldier-led tours of historic Fort Ward will be held in honor of Armed Forces Day. Tours are free, and begin in the Museum. No reservations are required. Tours are weather dependent. Visit www.fortward.org or call 703-746-4848.

T&ES Open House. 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at 2900 Business Center Drive. Join the City of Alexandria in recognizing the contributions of public works professionals during National Public Works Week. The City's Department of Transportation & Environmental Services (T&ES) will kick off the week by hosting its second annual Open House. This free event will take place rain or shine. Activities will include: Touch-a-Truck; Children's Traffic Garden; Composting Station; and representatives from GO Alex, DASH, Capital Bikeshare, Vision Zero, and Eco-City Clean Waterways

will be on hand to talk about these programs and initiatives. Visit alexandriava.gov/TES.

Civil War Firefighting Walking. 1-3 p.m. at Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 South Alfred St. Explore Alexandria's Civil War firefighting history on the "We've Been Burned: Alexandria Firefighters During the Civil War" tour. When Virginia joined the Confederacy, Union troops occupied Alexandria and most municipal functions were assumed by the U.S. Army. The walking tour explores firefighting during the occupation. Ages 10 and older. Admission is \$6 for adults and \$4 ages 10-17. Reservations are required; space is limited. Purchase tickets at www.shop.alexandriava.gov or by calling 703-746-4994.

Photography Reception. 2-4 p.m. at Multiple Exposures Gallery, in The Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St., Studio 312, Alexandria. With "Along the Poet's Narrow Road," photographer Fred Zafran returned to Japan in 2016 to photograph along the pilgrimage of Japan's most famous poet Matsuo Basho. Visit www.multipleexposuresgallery.com.

"Troubles & Triumphs." 3 p.m. at Del Ray United Methodist Church, 100 E. Windsor Ave. Sopranessence presents its last show of the 2017-18 season to raise funds and awareness for the Alexandria-based nonprofit, We Will Survive Cancer. "Troubles & Triumphs" is a concert of songs that will take you from the trials and tribulations of everyday life to the triumphs that thrill. Tickets are \$25 at www.sopranessence.org.

Paws for the People: Dog Show. 3-6 p.m. at Market Square in Old Town Alexandria. The Olde Towne School for Dogs and Frolick Dogs Canine



"Sunflowers"

'Here, Now'

An exhibition of Nina Tisara's mosaic art, "Here, Now," will be exhibited through June 15 at Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce office, 6821 Richmond Highway, Alexandria.

Sports Club will sponsor Paws for the People. The event will be comprised of three show rings running concurrently: Obedience, Agility, and The Center Ring. All proceeds benefit the Lazarus Food Pantry of Christ Church Alexandria, a supermarket-style food pantry in Alexandria. Competition slots will be limited; online registration can be found at

bit.ly/Paws4thePeople.
Country-Western Dance. Lessons, 6-7 p.m.; open dancing, 7-9:30 p.m. at Lincolnia Senior Center, 4710 North Chambliss St. The Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association will hold a dance; a DJ provides music. Couples and singles of all ages welcome. Admission for NVCWDA members \$10; non-

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SATURDAY, MAY 19, 7 P.M.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Mia's: American-Italian Flair Arrives on King Street

BY HOPE NELSON

Half a year after the closure of European transplant Carluccio's, there's a new bustle of activity down on the 100 block of King Street. The smells of Italian food waft through the door anew, thanks in large part to the showpiece pizza oven now taking up residence near the restaurant's entrance, adjacent to an eat-in counter where several patrons are usually found lingering over a square slice.

APPETITE

Say hello to Mia's, the newest resident of a property that has seemed to change hands more than most. According to Alexandria Restaurant Partners' corporate executive chef Graham Duncan, the idea of a "cursed location" is only folklore.

"I keep hearing about it's a cursed space, but it's the best corner in Old Town," Duncan exclaimed. "I think all you have to do is put a good restaurant here and it'll fly. That's really the only thing that's missing is a good restaurant. ... Carluccio's to me was very European, and I don't think it translated well."

Mia's, however, is a more American Italian experience, both in cuisine and décor. Gone are the cool, almost sterile hues of the former occupant; enter warm, rich colors upstairs and a friendly, homey vibe on the main floor. And the food, too, is less high-brow and more accessible, especially in the pizza kitchen downstairs, lending the space a "neighborhood restaurant" feel.

That's not to say that the food is pedestrian: It's not. But the dichotomy between a more casual downstairs and a more formal upstairs opens Mia's to a wider audience, no matter the day or time.

"What I love about this restaurant is it lends itself to multiple dining experiences during the week," Duncan said. "Downstairs is pizza by the slice and meeting somebody for a beer at the bar, and it's kind of lively and boisterous ... then you come upstairs

and it's quieter, more laid back. Even with the kitchen it's not very loud."

As far as the food itself, expect an American Italian focus to reign supreme. From the square pizza to some pasta favorites, all the classics are represented, and then some. One of Duncan's current top pizzas is a rendition on clams casino, but "our signature is really the Nonna's pie, which is like a grandma pie," he said. "It's Sicilian-style crust, hand-crushed tomatoes. ... it lends itself to popping in for a slice."

Though Mia's has plenty of options on hand for the carnivorous set, vegetarians won't go home hungry. Duncan is especially excited about the roasted eggplant and porcini polpetta, a take on an Italian meatball but lacking, well, the meat.

And lest diners leave the table parched, the bar is stocked with beer, wine and cocktails to match any appetite.

"One of our more popular ones is our True Dillight," says bartender Daphne Escuet. Dill-infused gin marries some muddled cucumbers and is topped off with soda water for a refreshing beverage sure to hit the spot after a long hot day.

Or try one of Mia's dessert drinks, such as the Vices: A smoked cocktail glass is filled with espresso and bourbon and garnished with a chocolate-covered walnut.

Vice-filled cocktails or, Mia's tempts diners into becoming gluttonous, even just for one meal. And while Mia's dishes require few ingredients, don't mistake that for easy cooking, Duncan warns.

"Our pasta dishes are fairly technical. You know, Italian food is very simple. And that makes it more difficult. When you only have three or four ingredients in a dish, there's nothing to hide behind. It all has to be the highest quality and it all has to be prepared perfectly every time."

Hope Nelson owns and operates the Kitchen Recessionista blog, located at www.kitchenrecessionista.com. Email her any time at hope@kitchenrecessionista.com.

If You Go

Mia's, 100 King St.

Hours: 11 a.m.-midnight Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-1 a.m. Friday; 10 a.m.-1 a.m. Saturday; 10 a.m.-midnight Sunday.

Try this: The vegan panna cotta. "This literally took three months to come to fruition. What we do is a mixture of almond milk with coconut milk, and then we infuse it with vanilla bean, lime zest, and orange zest, and then we bind it with agar. So we get this silky consistency," corporate executive chef Graham Duncan says.

CALENDAR

members \$12; children under 18 accompanied by a paying adult \$5. Smoke-free, alcohol-free. BYO refreshments. Visit www.nvcwda.org.

Navy Band Concert. 7 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 4915 E. Campus Drive. The United States Navy Band will perform a wide variety of bluegrass and country tunes that follows the band's history throughout the years. Free, open to the public and no tickets are required. Call 202-433-4777 or visit www.navyband.navy.mil.

SUNDAY/MAY 20

Senior Walk. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Oronoco Bay Park near United Way Worldwide Building, 701 North Fairfax St. Help us to get seniors on their feet and walking. The event will raise funding for Alexandria non-profits. Net proceeds benefit United Way of the National Capital Area. \$25. Call 703-539-2549 or visit

www.seniorwalk.org.

Classics & Critters: A Celebration of Spring. 2 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. The Mount Vernon Flutes, a quartet ensemble from the Mount Vernon Community Band, will perform a seasonal concert with lush melodies, interesting harmonies, and engaging rhythms drawn from a variety of genres. Free. Call 703-548-0035 or visit nvfaa.org.

Photography Exhibit Reception. 2-3:30 p.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Presented by the Confucius Institute at George Mason University, China in My Eyes offers a window into China today, taken by a diverse group of photographers living in northern Virginia. The exhibit will run through June 24. Free. Call 703-746-1714 or visit alexlibraryva.org.

The Ocean Orchestra in Concert. 7 p.m. at George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Sponsored by FocusMusic, Ocean Orchestra is where ancient ballads

meet cutting-edge electronics, where the Bagpipes meet the Beatles, and where fans of all generations and musical tastes can enjoy the same concert. Tickets are \$18 in advance at www.focusmusic.org/buy-tickets and for members, \$20 at the door.

MONDAY/MAY 21

Writing Poetry: Poetry about Diversity. Celebrate the richness and importance of diversity; address the issues of race, culture, sexual orientation, and other topics of diversity through poetry. Wendi R. Kaplan, Poet Laureate, City of Alexandria invites you to join her for three Mondays in May where poetry can be read and written. RSVP at poet@alexandriava.gov.

Garden Buds. 10-11 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. For ages 2-3. Meet in the Children's Discovery Garden one Monday a month. Children enjoy different sensory materials out in the

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Register: www.JobZoneOnline.com (Post and link resume)

For more info: Janet.Giles@JobZoneOnline.com / 540-226-1473

ENTERTAINMENT

garden, rain or shine. Cost is \$5/child. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes using code 290 202 8602 or call 703-642-5173. Visit www.greenspring.org.

TUESDAY/MAY 22

Twilight & Tipple Tuesday Tours.

6-9 p.m. at Woodlawn & Pope-Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Highway. A rare opportunity to experience Frank Lloyd Wright's Pope-Leighey House by twilight. This tour is a chance to see one of Wright's houses illuminated against a night sky, bring a new dimension and radiance to the typical tour experience. Grab a drink, included in the price of the ticket, and take an informative and fun guided tour with plenty of time to take stunning photos. Visit www.woodlawnpopeleighey.org.

Book Talk. 7-9 p.m. at St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, 2300 Mt. Vernon Ave. Reading from "Steel" by Brooke C. Stoddard, local author. Reading from "Dreaming America" by Larry Moffi of Settlement House Books. Books and items for sale to benefit the production of the documentary film: "Why They Left: Migration of the Scots." Opening celebration for Yellow Dot Shop: History and Culture in Print, a new online store featuring local authors and publishers and items of interest. Visit scottishmigration-film.com or yellowdotshop.com for more.

MAY 22-JUNE 24

Doubling Up Show. 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. daily at The Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery, in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, Studio 29, 105 North Union St., Alexandria. The theme focuses on duality, as in the use of two or more techniques in one piece or work created collaboratively with another gallery artist. Themed work will be eligible for recognition by the jurors. Visit Potomacfiberartsgallery.com or call 703-548-0935.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 23

Lecture: Exploring the Covert Capital. 7:30 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S Washington St. The Alexandria Historical Society and the Office of Historic Alexandria present Dr. Andrew Friedman's Covert Capital. Learn how U.S. foreign policy following World War II played out in the suburbs of northern Virginia, which furnished cover for clandestine activity. \$5 for non-members, and free to members of the Alexandria Historical Society. Memberships can be purchased at the door. Doors open at 7 p.m. Visit www.alexandriahistorical.org.

THURSDAY/MAY 24

Getaway to River Farm and Mount Vernon. 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Meets at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Cost is \$98. Includes motor coach, admission and lunch. Visit the home and gardens of the American Horticultural Society at River Farm. Tour the gardens and enjoy a picnic lunch. Then visit George Washington's Mount Vernon to tour the mansion and the gardens followed by a sightseeing cruise on the Potomac River. Visit www.greenspring.org.

Garden Tour and Tea. 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Tour the springtime demonstration gardens with a master gardener docent who will inspire you with stories of Green Spring past and present. Afterwards, enjoy a traditional English afternoon tea. Programs are by reservation only. \$32/person. Call 703-941-7987, TTY 703-324-3988. Visit



Caroline Hatfield: Unearthing

Growing up in a Southern Appalachian coal mining community, the subjects involving environmentalism and land use have a lot of personal significance to Hatfield and she recalls the region's ironic juxtaposition of protected wilderness and mined land as a major influence on her work. Hatfield's work explores concepts of utopia and science fiction through the experience of sites, landscape, and materiality in her interdisciplinary practice. Exhibit runs May 25-July 15 at Target Gallery in the Torpedo Factory Art Center. Visit www.torpedofactory.org.

www.greenspring.org.

Celebrate Mount Vernon At Home.

4:30-7 p.m. at George Washington's River Farm, American Horticultural Society, 7931 East Blvd. 10th annual gala celebration for Mount Vernon At Home honors Executive Director Barbara Sullivan who will be moving out of the area. Gala features food, entertainment, silent and live auctions. Tickets are \$75, available at www.mountvernonathome.org.

FRIDAY/MAY 25

Four Mile Movies: Coco. 6:30 p.m., film begins at dusk, Four Mile Conservatory Center 4109 Mt. Vernon Ave. A summer tradition in Arlandria returns with a host of new and old favorites on the last Friday of the month this summer. Fun with friends and family, a picnic dinner, and a blanket or chair. Free. Visit www.fourmilemovieseries.com.

MAY 25-JULY 15

Caroline Hatfield: Unearthing. At Target Gallery in the Torpedo Factory Art Center. Growing up in a Southern Appalachian coal mining community, the subjects involving environmentalism and land use have a lot of personal significance to Hatfield and she recalls the region's ironic juxtaposition of protected wilderness and mined land as a major influence on her work. Visit www.torpedofactory.org.

SATURDAY/MAY 26

Outdoor Pool Season Begins. The City of Alexandria's three outdoor pool locations and the Potomac Yard Park Interactive Fountain open for the season. For a complete list of City pools, operating hours, fees and additional information, visit alexandriava.gov/Aquatics.

❖ **Old Town Pool,** 1609 Cameron St. This complex includes a 25-yard pool with a diving well. A separate training pool is available for children up to 42 inches tall. Easily accessible by ramp, the training pool has a depth of 1 to 3 feet. For added convenience, a parking lot, picnic area and tot playground are adjacent to the pool.

❖ **Memorial Pool** at Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St. This small pool can accommodate a maximum of 45 guests at one time. Due to its smaller size, access is limited to Alexandria residents 13 years of age and younger, and their parents or guardians. Operating

hours are subject to change.

❖ **Warwick Pool,** 3301 Landover St. This newly constructed, 25-yard shallow pool features a sloped entry pool and five swimming lanes. The pool is accompanied by a new bathhouse with restrooms and day lockers.

❖ **Potomac Yard Park Interactive Fountain,** 2501 Potomac Ave. Located between Potomac Yard Park's two playgrounds, the fountain features 36 water jets and lighting for nighttime effects. The fountain offers three programmable sequences, and sensors control the water jet height based on wind speed in the area, adjusting the jets accordingly. For added public safety, the fountain features a secondary ultraviolet water treatment system. Shoes required.

Under the Same Roof. 2-3:30 p.m. at Lee-Fendall House Museum, 614 Oronoco St. Explore the Lee-Fendall House from the perspectives of the enslaved and free African Americans who lived and worked in the home as domestic servants, both before and after the Civil War. \$8 in advance, \$10 at door. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org.

SUNDAY/MAY 27

An Afternoon with Good Queen

Bess. 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Actress Mary Ann Jung gives a performance as Queen Elizabeth I, the monarch who presided over England's Golden Age from 1558 to 1603. Setting aside politics, Good Queen Bess demonstrates the lighthearted aspects of the Elizabethan court, including food, fashion, manners and dance. Programs are by reservation only. \$45/person. Call 703-941-7987, TTY 703-324-3988. Visit www.greenspring.org.

MONDAY/MAY 28

Memorial Day Jazz Festival. 1 p.m. at Waterfront Park, 1A Prince St. The 41st Annual Memorial Day Jazz Festival will feature a variety of musicians and diverse styles of jazz throughout the day. Attendees are welcome to bring lawn chairs, blankets and picnic baskets. Food will be available for purchase. Grilling and alcoholic beverages are prohibited, and pets should be left at home. Admission is free. Visit alexandriava.gov/Recreation, or call the Special Events Hotline at 703-746-5592.

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PEOPLE



From left: Lt. Gov. Justin E. Fairfax accepts the Man of the Year Award from City Council member John T. Chapman.



Mistress of Ceremonies Angela Stribling of WHUR 96.3 welcomes guests to the NVUL 28th Annual Community Service and Scholarship Awards Gala.



From left: Tracey Walker (NVUL Board Chair) accepts Proclamation from Mayor Allison Silberberg.

PHOTOS BY KEL B PICS PHOTOGRAPHY

Honoring State, Community Leaders and Students

Northern Virginia Urban League awards \$32,500 in scholarships at annual gala.

The Northern Virginia Urban League (NVUL) honored Virginia Lt. Gov. Justin E. Fairfax, former Virginia Gov. L. Douglas Wilder and Fairfax, Virginia native Cadet Simone Askew, first African-American female commander at West Point, all of whom represent groundbreaking firsts for the state and the nation.

Over \$32,500 in scholarships were awarded to local minority Northern Virginia students, including a first-time youth award to 11-year old Naomi Wadler, the Alexandria fifth grader who spoke at the March for Our Lives in Washington, D.C.

The honors were presented at the 28th Annual Community Service and Scholarship Awards event on April 27th at the Hilton McLean Tysons Corner. Additionally, the gala program, emceed by radio personality Angela Stribling of WHUR 96.3, paid homage to the historic landmark, Freedom House Museum in Alexandria and kicked off a Capital Campaign to preserve the site, which was once headquarters for the largest domestic slave-trading firm in America and now serves as headquarters for the NVUL. Mayor Alison Silberberg presented a proclamation to NVUL Board Chair Tracey Walker and paid tribute to NVUL's work in the areas of education, jobs, and justice in her remarks.

Honorees recognized as Community Champions included:

❖ Lt. Gov. Justin E. Fairfax - Man of the Year Award.

❖ Former Gov. L. Douglas Wilder - Lifetime Achievement Award.

❖ Cadet Simone Askew (First African-American female to hold the position of First Captain of the U.S. Military Academy's Corps of Cadets - commanding a brigade of 4,400 (West Point) - Emerging Leader Award.

❖ Naomi Wadler (Youth Activist) - Young



From left: Scholarship winners Tylan L. Reeves, Tuscarora High School, Leesburg; Adriana H. Jones, Heritage High School, Leesburg; Zoe Price, T.C. Williams High School; Naomi M. Nero, Oakton High School, Vienna; and Justin H. Moore, Forest Park High School, Woodbridge.

Emerging Leader Award.

❖ SunTrust Bank Greater Washington - Outstanding Corporate Sponsor Award.

Board Chair Tracey Walker said, "Preserving Our History and Empowering the Future' is a fitting theme for the evening. The dark memories of the antebellum past are now inspiring achievements of these amazing leaders and scholars. Their accomplishments represent hope, pride, reconciliation and effective pathways forward to an empowered tomorrow. The League is proud to

serve the community with programming to make a difference for the future."

Seniors receiving a college scholarship in the amount of \$5,000 each were: Clarence T. Brown III, Charles J. Colgan, Sr. High School, Manassas; Adriana H. Jones, Heritage High School, Leesburg; Justin H. Moore, Forest Park High School, Woodbridge; Naomi M. Nero, Oakton High School, Vienna; Zoe Price, T.C. Williams High School; Tylan L. Reeves, Tuscarora High School, Leesburg.



From left: Naomi Wadler (Youth Activist) and recipient of the Young Emerging Leader Award is being introduced by Diane McLaughlin (NVUL Gala Chair and Board Vice Chair) to give remarks.

Monies raised from the gala will support Preservation of the Freedom House Museum and its new Capital Campaign, STEM Education Programs, STEM Summer Camps, STEM Technology Expositions, Mentoring Programs, Leadership Development Programs for Young Professionals, and \$32,500 in Scholarship Awards to Minority Youth.

For more information about the Northern Virginia Urban League, visit www.nvul.org or call 703-836-2858.

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PEOPLE

Ceremony Honors Local Girl Scout Gold Awardees

The Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital (GSCNC), which serves 60,000 girls and encompasses 25 counties in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia, hosted the 2018 In Your Honor ceremony on Saturday, May 12, at which 188 young women were recognized for earning the highest honor in Girl Scouting, the Gold Award.

Among the honorees were Carole Beckhorn and Monica Omans from Ambassador Troop 5747 in Alexandria. Carole's Fast Feet Futsal project created the first, winter, indoor soccer skills program for developmentally disabled athletes in the City of Alexandria. Kristen Omans's Urban Orchard project promoted an appreciation for agriculture, an understanding of where food comes from and the level of effort it takes before it gets to market.

"Gold Award Girl Scouts demonstrate exceptional leadership and a higher commitment to service," said Lidia Soto-Harmon, chief executive officer of the Girl Scouts Nation's Capital. "They exemplify

intellect, confidence and drive. We are thrilled that 188 girls have taken on this challenge and succeeded."

Both girls worked through the lengthy Gold Award approval process, developing and presenting their project ideas, building partnerships, and leading their respective project teams through project completion. They each spent about 2 years on their projects.

The Gold Award is equivalent to the Boy Scout rank of Eagle Scout. Fewer than 6 percent of Girl Scouts earn the Gold Award.

From left: Lydia Soto-Harmon (Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital CEO), Carole Beckhorn, Kristen Omans, and Faye Fields (Board President Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital).



'Book Talk:' Readings by Local Author and Publisher

The Alexandria-based graphic designer Ellen Hamilton of Yellow Dot Designs has started a new online store called Yellow Dot Shop: History and Culture in Print. The shop sells mostly books and music, and is organized by theme. In this case Scotland is a main theme, in support of the documentary film that Hamilton is working on about the history of one Scot who immigrated to Alexandria from Ayrshire, Scotland.

In the early 1800s the majority of Alexandria's inhabitants were from Scotland. They shared news from home with each other, reporting on people's relatives and friends. The documentary film is underway with a hoped-for completion of early 2019.

"Book Talk," to be held at St. Elmo's Coffee Pub in Del Ray on May 22, will celebrate the opening of Yellow Dot Shop. The celebration will include readings of two books on the website. Brooke C. Stoddard is a writer working in Old Town Alexandria,



Brooke C. Stoddard



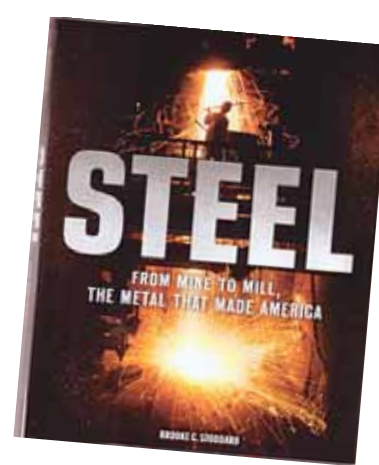
Larry Moffi

who has written "Steel: From Mine to Mill, The Metal that Made America." "Steel" is an in-depth look at the history of how steel production turned countries into wealthy and modern nations. Before the production of steel, Germany, Britain, Japan and the United States were small and had small economies. Steel production created an economic boom and building spree that made each of these countries world powers.

Larry Moffi, publisher of Settlement House Books in Silver Spring, Md. will read



from his recent best selling book, "Dreaming America: Voices of Undocumented Youth in Maximum Security Detention." Settlement House Books takes its name from the Settlement Houses of the late 1800s and early 1900s in the United States, that provided a community to new immigrants. "Dreaming America" is a bilingual collection of poems by children who are in-



carcerated in a detention center for immigrants.

These and other books, and vinyl records and CDs will be on sale at the event.

Hamilton is charging a \$5 fee for Book Talk. Tickets for Book Talk can be gotten through the shop website, yellowdotshop.com. The film website is scottishmigration-film.com.

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School Board Seeks To Address Growing Enrollment

FROM PAGE 1

imminently in FY 2019 as the school system plans for high school capacity expansion. The project, not yet defined, with \$124 million earmarked through FY 2021, represents the schools' largest single planned investment by far.

On the one hand, multiple campuses with student populations closer to the ideal cap of 1,000 would be more conducive for strictly academic achievement. On the other hand, on top of the challenge of land acquisition, building new high schools might raise questions of equity.

According to a report accompanying Nuland's presentation: "The racial composition of Alexandria City's [zip codes] among those ages 0 to 17 drastically differ and have grown even more segregated during the 2011 to 2015 period; such segregation is likely to increase the difficulty of maintaining racial balance and equity among [public] schools. ... Disparities in the median household income [have also] grown wider over time, which may impact inequalities in student access to resources across neighborhoods and schools."

School Board member Chris Lewis said: "Equity ... happens when people put in the work to make sure that it happens. So it's not that we can't have two high schools, or ... one high school, or ... three high schools. It's that in one, two, or three high schools, we have to serve all students well and all students equitably."

The considerations discussed will also

come to bear as the schools consider expanding PK access, also discussed Thursday.

Along with high school, PK is a principal subject of recent recommendations from the Long Range Educational Facilities Plan (LREFP) Work Group, a joint schools-city planning effort.

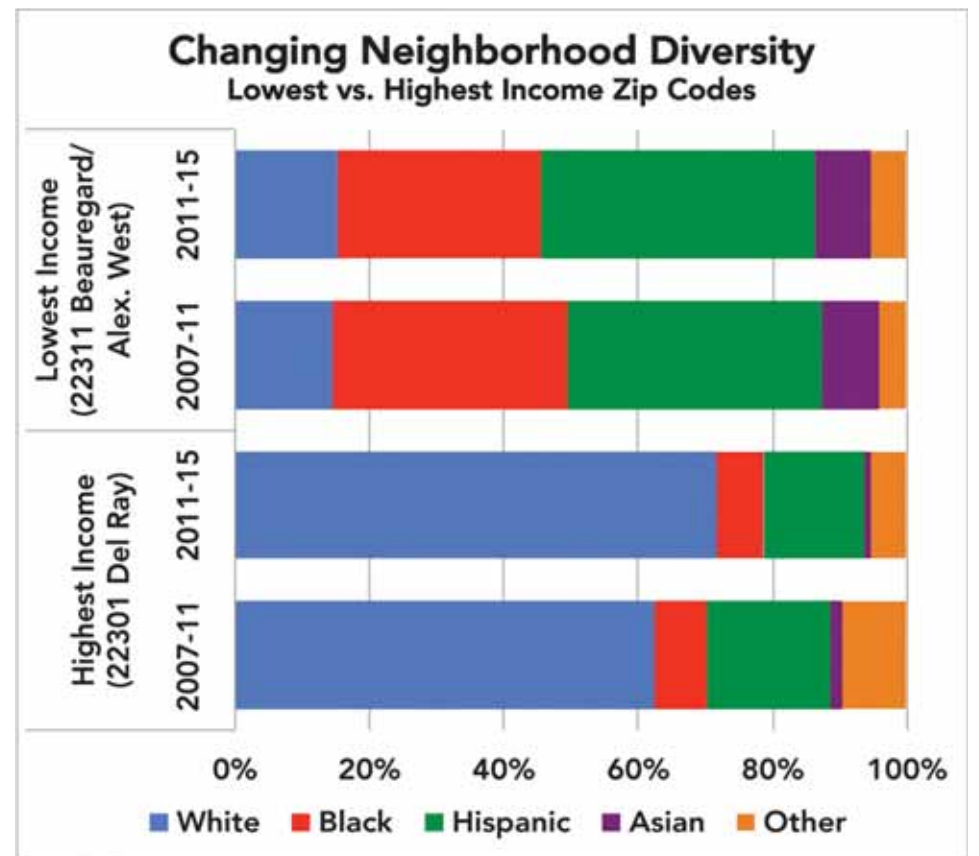
While it's generally preferable to integrate PK into elementary schools and to minimize transitions between schools, Alexandria's elementary schools have little room to spare.

As it is, all exceed 90 percent capacity and nine exceed 100 percent.

"Elementary student enrollment is projected to grow over the next 10 years by about 800 students, further constraining the use of existing classroom space for early childhood education without expansions or a new school," according to the working group's draft recommendations.

"[Alexandria] does not have a PreK plan. I think this board should consider being drivers of that, because all I hear is a huge vacuuming sound: nobody's filling that gap right now," said School Board member Karen Graf. She thinks expanded partnerships with private and nonprofit PreK providers could help to meet the need in the elementary schools' neighborhoods, though perhaps not in the elementary schools themselves.

The School Board will revisit the LREFP recommendations at its next meeting on Thursday, May 24.



A research firm reports that "The racial composition of Alexandria City's [zip codes] among those ages 0 to 17 drastically differ and have grown even more segregated ... Such segregation is likely to increase the difficulty of maintaining racial balance and equity among ACPS's schools. ... [Alexandria City Public Schools] is likely to witness increases in students of color yet may encounter racial segregation across schools as a reflection of neighborhood segregation."

Meals Tax Incease: Celebrations and Lamentations

FROM PAGE 1

nesses. While nearly all of the speakers made it clear in their comments that they support affordable housing, they said restaurants were picked to carry that weight because they made an easy target with a taxing mechanism already in place.

"I think it is inherently wrong to put the entire burden of affordable housing increase on restaurant industry," said Mark Tate. "Not fair that it's not spread out amongst the community. Don't think restaurant industry should shoulder the whole blame."

Nicole Jones from the coffee shop Stomping Ground said the tax would hurt the kind of working class people affordable housing was supposed to protect.

"This tax will hinder ability to offer staff two weeks paid vacation, maternity leave, health insurance," said Jones. "[Of the staff] 100 percent, myself included as an owner, all are apartment dwellers and many in affordable housing. I'm speaking on behalf of myself and my staff, many of whom this tax is supposed to be helping."

"There is an appearance that restaurants are making a killing, but they're not," said Sue Kavalski from the Del Ray Business Association. "It's a day-to-day budgeting process. This is one more item that makes it difficult. Restaurants and retail businesses up and down King Street and across Alexandria are closing their doors every day. This is one more item that makes it difficult for

them to keep their doors open."

Some of those against the increase noted with dismay that they were arguing a lost cause.

"It's a dog and pony show," said Bill Blackburn. "This is already in the budget. It's disturbing, and I'm going to use the phrase [Councilman Willie Bailey] used about kicking can down the road. He's right. But we've also kicked the can down the road on small business and growing commercial tax base. I'm concerned about damage to fragile reputation of city. Long term: we've made a mistake."

But for those working in affordable housing, the tax was another necessary stop-gap measure to offset the downward spiral of affordable housing properties in Alexandria. For a decade, market-rate affordability in the city has been on a rapid decline, and 2017 was the first year in the city's history the number of committed affordable units surpassed the number of market-rate affordable units.

"I realize restaurant owners are concerned, but I hope to bring a positive aspect to the change," said Betsy Faga from the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection. "How much do you pay for a meals tax in Arlington or Falls Church? I don't know, and I don't look at my checks for that reason. Would it make a difference where you ate? I would certainly expect no."

"I strongly support affordable housing,"

said Louise Bennett, "our need is too great not to. I'm very pleased you have taken this action. We may never hear or see the others who will be thanking you: the police officer guarding our street who can live close to where she works, or the teacher teaching our neighbor's children."

On the dais, many of the arguments that had become familiar throughout the add/delete process resurfaced. Mayor Allison Silberberg said she tried to push for an alternative, while Councilman John Chapman and Councilman Timothy Lovain shot back that vague promises to add to next year's budget aren't viable alternatives. The meals

tax votes were passed on a four to three vote, with Vice Mayor Justin Wilson, Councilmen Lovain and Paul Smedberg voting against over disagreements for how the funding would be allocated.

In a surprising move, however, the divided council did present a rare moment of open agreement between Mayor Allison Silberberg and Vice Mayor Justin Wilson. During the final discussion, both agreed that in the future there needed to be a public hearing scheduled during the add/delete process instead of afterwards, when the ordinances voted on are already baked into the approved budget.

Removing Invasive Plants

The City of Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities has scheduled contractors to remove invasive plant material from public lands. Weather permitting the work will occur over the next two to five weeks.

The purpose of the work is to improve environmental conditions for native trees, plants, and animals by reducing the negative impact of invasive plants. The contractors will post signs in the areas where activity is occurring.

The following areas will receive care

within the timeframe indicated above:

- ❖ Four Mile Run Park - control of invasive plants along the shoreline, from the tributary behind the softball field east to Route 1;
- ❖ Landmark & Van Dorn ROWs - control of invasive plants within the two circle interchanges at Duke and Van Dorn; and
- ❖ Holmes Run Greenway & Park - between Duke Street and the confluence with Backlick Run along the banks of Holmes Run in this location.

Citizens Outraged over Potomac Yard Metro Changes

FROM PAGE 1

sharply since plans began in 2015. With this came news that the project would also be pushed back to 2022.

One of the major selling points of the station was that it could be funded without tapping into city revenue, leaving limited options for managing costs. Last week City Manager Mark Jinks announced that the Metro design would need to be scaled back to fit the increased cost estimates. The southern entrance, accessible to residents of Potomac Yard, was taken off the project. At the first public hearing since the announcement, the residents of Potomac Yard said they felt betrayed by the city.

“The residents and businesses want what was proposed and promised to them,” said Mila Yochum, president of the Potomac Yard Civic Association. “We want to be able to fully utilize the station as it was originally created and promised.”

Yochum pointed to several reasons a single entrance and exit to the facility could be a problem. The bridge crossing over the tracks will require pedestrians and cyclists to share the same confined space. Yochum also worried that equipment failures, like elevator or escalator outages, could make the whole station inaccessible.

What was more disturbing for many residents was that the staff had known about the budget problems for nearly a year but had made internal decisions about the station design without public feedback.

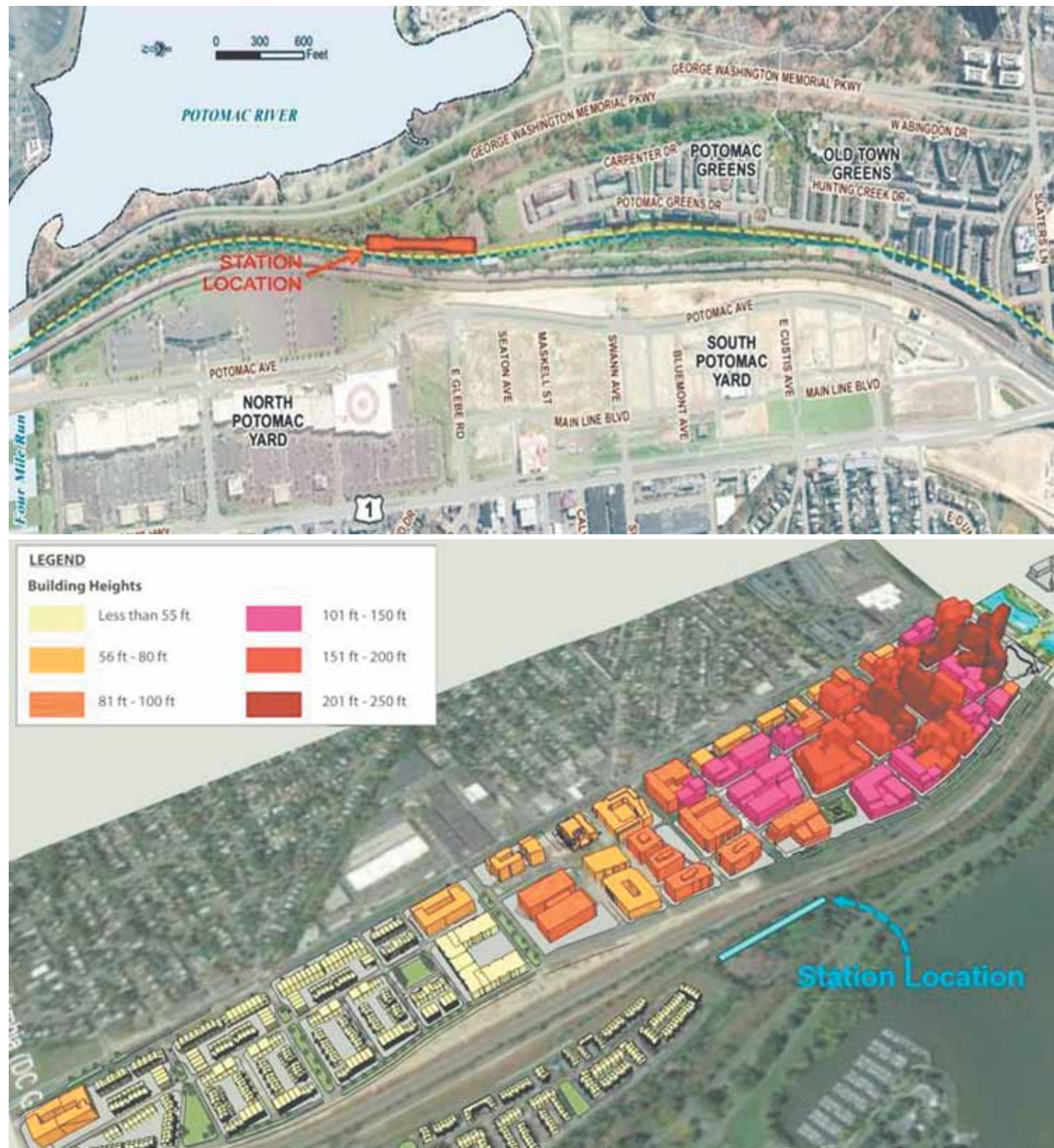
“This was not a decision for city staff to make,” said Yochum. “[Staff] should have included other people to consider alternative solutions.”

Jinks’ only response at the meeting was to say that he believed the situation had been handled appropriately. Mayor Allison Silberberg defended the city’s actions, saying that in dealings with the Metro the city’s hands were tied by necessary confidentiality agreements. Moving forward, Silberberg said that now that the information was public there would be more outreach and engagement with the citizens.

“There is a conversation that is ongoing here with regard to the Potomac Yard Metro Station,” said Silberberg. “We welcome the input of the community.”

But many of the Potomac Yard residents took little comfort in the city shielding itself behind the non-disclosure agreements. Yochum said the hindsight that city staff knew about the elimination of the southern entrance meant their activity in October supporting a master plan amendment that increased residential density, height variation, and two multifamily residential buildings all centered around what was to be a Metro hotspot was acted on in bad faith.

“Repeatedly, the council cited a desire to increase density based on proximity to the station, then we learned earlier this year that staff knew in July that the entrance was going to be eliminated,” said Yochum. “[There is a] lack of leadership, lack of true community engagement, lack of transparency, and an inability for city staff to act in



Plans for the Potomac Yard Metro Station

good faith. We want a Potomac Yard Metro Station with south entrance. Find a way to lead the city through this situation ... without new and additional tax burdens. Start to restore the trust that has been lost.”

Others went further. Susan Richards, a resident of Potomac Yard, called for Jinks to offer his resignation to the City Council.

“[There is an] irrevocably broken trust,” said Richards. “Last fall, when they learned the southern entrance to the Metro station was going to be eliminated, they had a [non-disclosure agreement]. But they continued to champion increase in density. Staff sat in front of you all and testified it was within a quarter of a mile radius [of the Metro station], which they knew not to be the truth... The ax has to fall somewhere. These are not the actions of an ethical city manager.”

According to city documents, the original bids that exceeded cost estimates were received in March 2017. Until January 2018, the city was still working with WMATA to look through alternative design changes and potential procurement processes. In February 2018 the final revised bids were received, lower than the ones from March 2017 but still higher than the construction cost estimate.

For residents of the Potomac Yard, the change to the Metro station plans had upended life plans.

“My family and I moved here from Florida eight years ago,” said Dino Siervo. “We settled in Arlington, then moved into Potomac Yard in 2013. One of the big reasons was the Metro. It’s a long process and it’s taken many changes and turns. I’m here

today because when I heard about the southern entrance being eliminated, I wanted you to know that the Potomac Yard Metro doesn’t rightfully belong to Potomac Yard anymore. I was willing to pay for the Metro, but now I feel it’s almost out of reach.”

Later in the meeting, the City Council voted to sunset the Tier II Potomac Yard Tax District that would have gone towards the Potomac Yard Metro Station. The sunsetting is dependent on the city receiving compensation from Dominion Energy. For the residents of Potomac Yard, it’s small compensation for the loss of the entrance.

“I don’t feel that anyone on the council has our interests in mind,” said Scott Yokum. “There’s going to be serious economic and financial impacts to the delay.”

SPORTS

Crew Captures 4 More Medals at State Championships

Men's First 4 repeats as State Champs.

The T.C. Williams Crew Team brought six "upper" boats to Day 2 of the Virginia Scholastic Rowing Association (VASRA) championship series on May 12, and came home with three more State Championships and a Silver Medal from a promising young Women's Light 8 squad.

VASRA Day 2 featured 205 boats from 47 schools/clubs. Five of the six TC boats included seniors, including the Men's Light 4 and the Women's First 4x (no coxswain), boats that rowed as a team at most a couple times this season. Those experienced rowers brought years of calloused hands, early morning practices, scores of regattas with jubilant wins and "almost" finishes, and sheer will power to Day 2 morning heats to fight their way into afternoon finals in mid-summer-like heat and humidity.

In those finals, the Titan seniors on the Men's First 4, and the Women's First 8 and Second 8 boats ended their high school rowing careers at the Occoquan Reservoir with a trip to the medals dock to claim Gold.

"Practices during the week before States were challenging," said TC Men's First 4 rower Connor McGivern, "but it was gratifying to see our training pay off." Following their first-place morning heat time of 5:15.0, teammate Ian Willmore noted that the 1-V-4 was "very excited to have earned the spot that we wanted" in the finals, a middle lane next to a tough competitor from Great Bridge, which had won their morning heat and bested the Titans in their only other meeting this season, and a strong Forest Park boat that also won their heat.

The championship race "was nerve-racking, but definitely exciting," Willmore said. After a difficult first 100 meters for the Titans that saw Great Bridge jump to a sizable lead, the 5 TC seniors on the 1-V-4 clawed their way back to the front of the



TCW Women's Second 8 — 2018 Virginia State Champions

pack at the 1000-meter mark, when many boats start to raise their stroke rate for the last third of the contest.

As the crowd in the viewing stands screamed support and Great Bridge made their move for the finish, the race tightened, but the Titans answered with their own sprint to cross the finish line at 5:03.2, only .9 second ahead of Great Bridge. Forest Park finished third at 5:07.2. With their victory, TC has won the Men's First 4 State title three of the last four years, and four of the last eight.

While McGivern, Willmore, oarsmates

Jake Souza and Stefanos Psaltis-Ivanis, and coxswain Michaela Gleeson all had been to the VASRA medals dock to claim Gold before, winning their final State Championship was particularly satisfying. Gleeson, who received the third VASRA Gold Medal of her TC career, said: "I'm proud of all the work we've put in over the last four years.

It's great to see the fruit of our labor."

T.C. Williams Men's First 4 Coach Pete Hearing agreed: "They rowed well when it mattered most — I'm extremely proud of them. They have had lots of hard-earned success over the past four years. It was a

SEE TC CREW, PAGE 35



TCW Men's First 4+ — 2018 Virginia State Champions



TCW Women's First 8 — 2018 Virginia State Champions

SPORTS

TC Crew Seizes Three Golds and One Silver

FROM PAGE 34

great and fitting way to close out their last race at the Occoquan.”

TC senior and Women’s First 8 rower Rachel Knapp saw the Men’s 1-V-4 race from the water as her boat rowed up to the starting line for their shot at a State Championship. “Seeing our teammates in the Men’s First 4 row to victory was incredibly inspiring for me,” she said. “But once those flags dropped at the start of our race, all I thought about was how much I love those girls in my boat and how proud I would be of them if we got gold. We knew all we had to do was trust each other, trust our training, relax, and swing.”

The Titan Women’s First 8 also claimed their place in the finals following a victory in their morning heat, along with strong boats from Georgetown Visitation and Arlington’s Washington-Lee that also won their respective heats to winnow the state title field to 6. The three boats’ individual heat times spanned only 2.7 seconds, indicating a nail-biting chase for the top prize.

As the race got underway, however, the TC Women gained a solid lead at the half-way point and never let up. They finished their gold-medal sprint in 5:12.8, almost 8 seconds ahead of W-L and over 11 seconds

ahead of Visitation, margins that are rare for elite First 8 state championship races. For TC rowers who previously had experienced the heartbreak of missing the top prize at States by fractions of a second, it was a sweet reward for years of hard work.

“Our victories at States have all come from individual groups of rowers who found strength in boat unity by keeping a positive focus while dealing with loss and struggling through a rigorous training program.”

**— Women’s Head Coach
Patrick Marquardt**

“Every team has early mornings and seemingly impossible practices, but what really brought our boat together was our bond,” said TC senior Grace Asch. “I’ve never been part of such a tight knit group of girls and I know all of us were racing not only for ourselves but for each other. I will

always remember this day and the amazing feeling of finally winning.”

“Our boat feels like a family and our bond as a boat has helped us tremendously throughout this season,” said TC senior Grace Vannatta. “I’m so glad that after four years I was finally able to stand on the States medals dock with some of my best friends.” In addition to Knapp, Asch, and Vannatta, the Titan Women’s First 8 includes seniors Grace Hogan and Charlotte Carey, juniors Grace Fluharty and Blythe Markel, sophomore Madeline Toaso, and junior coxswain Paula Filios.

TC seniors Cleo Lewis and Emma Carroll of the Women’s Second 8 also were seeking one last shot at a state title as their boat stroked to the top 2-V-8 time in morning heat racing. In their midafternoon final, as partial cloud cover gave way to brilliant, hot sunshine, the 2-V-8 field started out relatively evenly in the first 500 meters, but over the middle of the race turned into a two-boat duel between TC and W-L, which also prevailed in their morning heat.

As these two boats lunged towards the finish, the TC 2-V-8s summoned grit, technique, and power to finish in a fast 5:12.3, 1.8 seconds and about a third of a boat length ahead of W-L. Robinson finished third at 5:25.1. Along with Lewis and Carroll, the 2018 State Champion Titan

Women’s Second 8 includes Ailysh Motsinger, Madeleine Allen, Elspeth Collard, Charlotte Milone, Julia Clements, Lydia Greenwood, and coxswain Sara Rider.

TC’s fourth medal of VASRA Day 2, a Silver, was earned by the Women’s Light 8 boat, which finished their final in 5:22.8, behind Woodson’s 5:16.0 and ahead of Lake Braddock’s time of 5:40.0. The Light 8s include Ava Elkins, Chloe Marsh, Anna Jane Guynn, Felicity Brock, Alaina Browand, Lila Arnold, Anna Hill, Caroline Surratt, and coxswain Candace Goodman.

For the two-day VASRA championship series, TC entered 14 boats, each of which made the finals as one of the six fastest boats in their category in the Commonwealth. Ten of those boats and 86 TC student athletes rowed to the medals dock to claim their hardware.

“Our victories at States have all come from individual groups of rowers who found strength in boat unity by keeping a positive focus while dealing with loss and struggling through a rigorous training program,” said Titan Women’s Head Coach Patrick Marquardt. “The entire coaching staff is really proud of our team and this positive step forward.”

On May 18-19, TC Crew coaches take that team to Philadelphia for the Stotesbury Cup Regatta, the largest high school rowing event in the world.



VIDEO SCREENSHOTS

T.C. Williams’ Brody Dickson (3) scored a goal during Tuesday’s Gunston District championship game.



West Potomac’s Sam Crane, left, sends T.C. Williams’ Jason Townsend to the ground during Tuesday’s Gunston District championship game.

West Potomac Girls Defeat TC in District Championship

West Potomac and T.C. Williams faced off in a Gunston District lacrosse championship double-header on Tuesday at West Potomac High School.

In the girls’ contest, West Potomac captured the district title with a 19-9 victory. The Wolverines improved their record to 13-2-1 and will enter the region tournament

Boys’ game suspended due to weather.

riding a nine-game win streak. West Potomac went undefeated in district play.

The boys’ game was suspended due to inclement weather with West Potomac leading 8-4 with 2:25 remaining in the third quarter. It was scheduled to be finished at

5 p.m. on Wednesday, after this newspaper’s deadline.

Sam Crane scored three goals for the Wolverines and JT Tucker had two. Matt Treadway, Declan McPherson and AJ Stamos each had one goal for West Potomac.

Andrew Poore, Brody Dickson, Ethan Hall and John Sprinkle each netted one for T.C. Williams.

TC’s Poore scored the game’s first goal with 5:32 remaining in the opening quarter, but West Potomac responded with five straight goals and led 6-2 at halftime.

— JON ROETMAN

HOME SALES

In March 2018, 254 Alexandria homes sold between \$1,950,000-\$85,000. This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$1,950,000-\$560,504 range. For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal City	Sold Price ...	Type	Lot AC.	PostalCode	Subdivision
102 FRANKLIN ST	4	...	4 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,950,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	BACKYARD BOATS
628 LEE ST S	5	...	4 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,950,000	Semi-Detached	0.16	22314	OLD TOWN
1905 COMMONWEALTH AVE	5	...	4 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,869,298	Detached	0.19	22301	DEL RAY
619 POMMANDER WALK	4	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,480,000	Townhouse	0.04	22314	POMMANDER
10 LURAY AVE W	5	...	4 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,380,000	Detached	0.15	22301	DEL RAY
223 MASON AVE E	6	...	4 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,350,000	Detached	0.16	22301	DEL RAY
118 FAYETTE ST S	4	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,315,000	Semi-Detached	0.06	22314	N/A
804 CHALFONTE DR	4	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,310,000	Detached	0.33	22305	BEVERLY HILLS
1605 WALLESTON CT	4	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,265,000	Detached	0.41	22302	ALEXANDRIA
530 COLUMBUS ST N	3	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,260,000	Semi-Detached	0.07	22314	CARRIAGE WORKS
2 ALEXANDRIA AVE E	4	...	4 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,201,075	Semi-Detached	0.15	22301	DEL RAY
417 FAYETTE ST N	3	...	3 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,197,500	Detached	0.10	22314	PARKER-GRAY
2414 CAMERON MILLS RD	5	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,180,000	Detached	0.13	22302	BRADDOCK HEIGHTS
1323 WILKES. ST S	3	...	4 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,165,000	Attach/Row Hse	0.03	22314	MAJESTY WEST
1327 WILKES ST	3	...	4 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,165,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	MAJESTY WEST
1329 WILKES. ST	3	...	4 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,155,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	MAJESTY WEST
2423 CAMERON MILLS RD	5	...	4 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,099,000	Detached	0.13	22302	BRADDOCK HEIGHTS
3722 TEMPLETON PL	4	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,075,000	Detached	0.28	22304	SEMINARY RIDGE
1859 POTOMAC GREENS DR	4	...	3 ... 2	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,040,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	POTOMAC GREENS
106 OXFORD AVE E	3	...	3 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,039,000	Detached	0.13	22301	DEL RAY
3505 CAMERON MILLS RD	3	...	3 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,035,000	Detached	0.21	22305	BEVERLEY HILLS
1416 KINGSTON AVE	4	...	3 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$995,000	Detached	0.47	22302	BALLANTRAE
910 MONTGOMERY ST	3	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$979,900	Townhouse	0.02	22314	OLD TOWN COMMONS
1404 ORCHARD ST	4	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$970,000	Detached	0.31	22302	VICTORIAN HILLS
403 PRINCESS ST	3	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$970,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	CHATHAM SQUARE
725 ALFRED ST N	3	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$950,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	OLD TOWN COMMONS
220 ALFRED ST N	3	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$930,000	Townhouse	0.04	22314	OLD TOWN
435 COLUMBUS ST N	4	...	2 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$929,500	Townhouse	0.05	22314	CARRIAGE WORKS
603 N. HENRY ST	3	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$900,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	SLADE
140 MONCURE DR	4	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$900,000	Detached	0.12	22314	GLENMORE
705 FORDS LANDING WAY	3	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$895,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	FORDS LANDING
725 ANNIE ROSE AVE	3	...	4 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$879,000	Townhouse	0.04	22301	POTOMAC YARD
220 PAYNE ST S	3	...	2 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$875,000	Detached	0.02	22314	OLD TOWN
1824 CARPENTIER RD	3	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$870,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	POTOMAC GREENS
722 GIBBON ST	3	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$867,500	Attach/Row Hse	0.04	22314	GOLDFARBS
303 MOUNT PL	4	...	3 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$865,000	Detached	0.19	22305	ECHOWOOD BEVERLY HILLS
1200 ROUNDHOUSE LN	3	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$865,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	OLD TOWN VILLAGE
817 WATER PL	3	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$865,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	RIVERGATE
8 MUIRS CT	2	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$865,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	OLD TOWN
733 ALFRED ST N	3	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$860,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	OLD TOWN COMMONS
301 HENRY ST S	3	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$855,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	OLD TOWN VILLAGE
720 DIAMOND AVE	3	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$850,000	Townhouse	0.04	22301	POTOMAC YARD
909 SAINT ASAPH ST	3	...	2 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$850,000	Semi-Detached	0.06	22314	YATES GARDENS
609 JOHNSTON PL	5	...	2 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$840,000	Detached	0.12	22301	ROSEMONT PARK
309 SECOND ST	3	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$840,000	Townhouse	0.04	22314	HEARTHSTONE
730 SNOWDEN HOLLOWELL WAY	3	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$835,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	OLD TOWN COMMONS
305 SKYHILL RD	4	...	3 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$820,000	Detached	0.21	22314	CLOVER
2707 HOLLY ST	3	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$813,500	Detached	0.09	22305	GROVES
5000 JOHN TIGER DR	4	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$800,000	Townhouse	0.04	22304	CAMERON STATION
419 EUILLE ST	3	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$800,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	CHATHAM SQUARE
1752 POTOMAC GREENS DR	2	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$799,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	POTOMAC GREENS
422 STABLER LN	4	...	3 ... 2	ALEXANDRIA	\$797,433	Townhouse	0.00	22304	CAMERON PARK
430 STABLER LN	4	...	3 ... 2	ALEXANDRIA	\$791,109	Townhouse	0.00	22304	CAMERON PARK
425 PATRICK ST N	3	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$789,200	Attach/Row Hse	0.04	22314	OLD TOWN
2409 JEFFERSON DAVIS HWY #102	3	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$775,897	Townhouse	0.00	22301	UNIT 466 PH 2 POTOMAC YD
2110 POTOMAC AVE #102	3	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$775,000	Townhouse	0.07	22301	POTOMAC YARD
713 PITT ST S	2	...	2 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$765,000	Townhouse	0.07	22314	YATES GARDENS
2207 JEFFERSON DAVIS HWY #102	3	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$764,900	Garden 1-4 Floors	0.00	22301	POTOMAC YARD
411 GREEN ST	3	...	2 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$750,000	Townhouse	0.04	22314	YATES GARDENS
2181 JAMIESON AVE #409	3	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$742,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	0.00	22314	CARLYLE TOWERS
752 FIRST ST	2	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$740,000	Townhouse	0.00	22314	900 NORTH WASHINGTON
4542 LA SALLE AVE	4	...	3 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$735,000	Detached	0.19	22304	VARSITY PARK
134 CAMBRIA WALK	3	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$724,990	Townhouse	0.00	22304	CAMBRIA SQUARE
1754 POTOMAC GREENS DR	3	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$721,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	POTOMAC GREENS
110 PEYTON ST	2	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$715,000	Townhouse	0.04	22314	OLD TOWN
900 JANNEYS LN	3	...	2 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$710,000	Detached	0.20	22302	CLOVER
1324 DUKE ST	3	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$710,000	Townhouse	0.00	22314	DUKE CONDOMINIUM
300 WEST ST	3	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$700,000	Townhouse	0.00	22314	DUKE CONDOMINIUM
323 HENRY ST N	2	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$699,000	Detached	0.04	22314	OLD TOWN
809 GREEN ST	2	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$695,000	Townhouse	0.04	22314	HUNTING CREEK
1109 CROSS DR	3	...	2 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$691,000	Detached	0.11	22302	OVERLOOK TERRACE
4905 RUTLAND PL	4	...	4 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$691,000	Detached	0.23	22304	SEMINARY VALLEY
5275 COLONEL JOHNSON LN	3	...	2 ... 2	ALEXANDRIA	\$685,000	Townhouse	0.05	22304	CAMERON STATION
4632 KIRKLAND PL	3	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$685,000	Townhouse	0.07	22311	STONEGATE
1706 CLIFF ST	3	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$683,000	Semi-Detached	0.04	22301	RUST
2211 MAIN LINE BLVD #101	3	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$681,000	Townhouse	0.00	22301	POTOMAC YARD
5009 BARBOUR DR	3	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$680,000	Townhouse	0.04	22304	CAMERON STATION
2108 POTOMAC AVE #101	3	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$675,000	Townhouse	0.00	22301	POTOMAC YARD
1158 PITT ST N	3	...	2 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$675,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	CANAL WAY
1335 CHETWORTH CT	3	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$674,000	Townhouse	0.04	22314	BASHFORD LANE CLUSTER
3820 ELBERT AVE	4	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$672,800	Detached	0.13	22305	SUNNYSIDE
321 ROYAL ST	2	...	1 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$665,000	Townhouse	0.03	22314	OLD TOWN
303 LANNON CT	4	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$660,000	Townhouse	0.02	22304	CAMERON STATION
114 SANBORN PL	3	...	2 ... 2	ALEXANDRIA	\$659,000	Townhouse	0.06	22305	MT VERNON CT COMMUNITY
121 CAMERON STATION BLVD	3	...	3 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$655,000	Townhouse	0.02	22304	CAMERON STATION
316 LANGLEY ST N	3	...	3 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$650,000	Detached	0.22	22304	SEMINARY VALLEY
1529 ORONOCO ST	2	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$650,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	COLECROFT
5116 KNAPP PL	3	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$639,900	Townhouse	0.03	22304	CAMERON STATION
625 PROSPECT PL	3	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$630,500	Detached	0.19	22304	SEMINARY VALLEY
1220 FRANKLIN ST	3	...	2 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$628,900	Attach/Row Hse	0.03	22314	JEFFERSON HOMES
2 GLEBE RD W	3	...	2 ... 2	ALEXANDRIA	\$625,000	Townhouse	0.11	22305	DEL RAY/COMMONWEALTH CROSSING
625 FAYETTE ST S	3	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$625,000	Attach/Row Hse	0.05	22314	JEFFERSON HOMES
327A ASHBY ST	2	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$615,000	Duplex	0.06	22305	DEL RAY
237 BURGESS AVE	3	...	2 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$613,500	Townhouse	0.07	22305	WARWICK VILLAGE
535 COLECROFT CT	2	...	2 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$613,000	Townhouse	0.02	22314	COLECROFT
41 MOUNT VERNON AVE	2	...	2 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$601,500	Attach/Row Hse	0.03	22301	ROSEMONT
717B MASSEY LN	3	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$599,950	Townhouse	0.00	22314	OLD TOWN GREENS
828 SLATERS LN #306	2	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$599,000	Garden 1-4 Floors	0.00	22314	OLD TOWN CRESCENT
2943 LANDOVER ST	3	...	2 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$584,000	Townhouse	0.04	22305	WARWICK VILLAGE
726 FRANKLIN ST	2	...	1 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$583,000	Attach/Row Hse	0.02	22314	GOLDFARBS
4920 GARDNER DR	3	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$577,000	Townhouse	0.03	22304	CAMERON STATION
2813 MOSBY ST	3	...	2 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$575,000	Duplex	0.07	22305	WARWICK VILLAGE
1237 PORTNER RD	2	...	2 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$575,000	Townhouse	0.01	22314	VIRGINIA VILLAGE
1023 ROYAL ST N #110	1	...	2 ... 0	ALEXANDRIA	\$565,000	Garden 1-4 Floors	0.00	22314	ABINGDON ROW
2438 GARNETT DR	3	...	2 ... 1	ALEXANDRIA	\$564,000	Townhouse	0.03	22311	STONEGATE
3807 BRIGHTON CT	3	...	2 ... 2	ALEXANDRIA	\$560,504	Townhouse	0.02	22305	BRIGHTON SQUARE

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New Headquarters

More than 100 members, partners, and friends were on hand as the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute officially opened its new headquarters building in Alexandria Monday, May 7, marking a new stage in the growth of the association. Thirty years ago the OPEI board of directors moved the association from Washington, D.C., to Alexandria to build and own its headquarters building. In 2017, OPEI’s board voted to sell its existing building and acquire 1605 King St. The new building, in the heart of Old Town Alexandria, sits one block from the D.C. Metro, and just four miles from National Airport. It has a state-of-the-art conference center designed to accommodate OPEI’s increasingly large committee meetings. See www.OPEI.org.

BUSINESS NOTES

Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos encouraged.

Foulger Pratt has announced pre-leasing for **The Thornton Apartments**, a luxury apartment building located in Old Town Alexandria. The Thornton offers 439 studio, 1-bedroom, and 2-bedroom units ready for occupancy in March 2018. The Thornton is situated in Old Town Alexandria near restaurants, retail, and some of the best recreational resources in the region, including the adjacent 18-mile Mount Vernon trail. Visit TheThorntonApts.com or call 703-751-1047.

Exclusive Creations Design LLC, 4711A Eisenhower Ave., has signed on as a U-Haul neighborhood dealer to serve the Alexandria community. Exclusive Creations Design at will offer U-Haul trucks, trailers, towing equipment, moving supplies and boxes. Visit uhaul.com.

Hoffmann Architects, an architecture and engineering firm specializing in the rehabilitation of building exteriors, has promoted **Daniel L. Bishop**, AIA a member of the firm’s Arlington-based technical staff.

Bishop, an Alexandria resident, earned a promotion to Project Architect, in recognition of his advanced professional

credentials and technical skill. In November 2011, Bishop joined Hoffmann Architects as Project Representative, and he earned a promotion to Project Coordinator in February 2014 and to Senior Project Coordinator in November 2015. A graduate of the State University of New York at Buffalo with a Master of Architecture degree, Bishop studied at the Aarhus School of Architecture in Denmark and is a member of the Association for Preservation Technology. His recent projects include roof and facade restoration and design for Verizon, the New York City Department of Design and Construction, the Smithsonian Institution, the George Washington University, and the United States Capitol.

Weichert, Realtors’ Alexandria/Old Town office was recognized for exceptional performance in January. The office led the entire company for dollar volume and resale dollar volume. In addition, it led its Weichert sales region, which is comprised of locations throughout Arlington, Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudoun, Orange, Prince William and Warren counties, in resale listings, re-sales, resale revenue units and resale dollar volume for the month. Individually, sales associate **Christine Garner** led the Weichert region in resale listings, while **Suki Yoon-Kang Woodward** led for resales during January.



‘Let’s Make A Deal’

Angela Chapman from Alexandria had a chance to join host Wayne Brady as a featured “Trader” on “Let’s Make A Deal” airing on Thursday, May 17 at 3 p.m.

Conviction

FROM PAGE 4

sis is a clear and present danger to communities across the country, and Alexandria is not immune. This case, in which a high-level, recidivist heroin and fentanyl dealer was held accountable for the human misery he has produced, is illustrative of a simple fact: the citizens of our city are aware of the opioid problem and are outraged by the actions of these complex drug organizations."

Alexandria Police Chief Michael L. Brown said: "We are very pleased with the collaboration with our state partners and the Virginia Office of the Attorney General is this complex investigation. The cooperation and 'team-work' was unprecedented. We are very proud of how this investigation went and it demonstrates our collective commitment to stemming the opioid threat in our communities."

This case is part of a long-term investigation by the Alexandria Police Department, the Virginia State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigations (Fairfax Field Office), the Office of the Attorney General, and the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney for the City of Alexandria.

The case was prosecuted by Senior Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Patrick O'Brien and Assistant Attorney General Marc J. Birnbaum. This case was investigated by the Alexandria Police Department's Vice and Narcotics Unit and the Virginia State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigations (Fairfax Field Office). The Fairfax County Police Department's Organized Crime, Narcotics, and Intelligence Bureau provided resources at trial.

BULLETIN BOARD

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/JUNE 1-2

Youth Mental Health. Friday, 4-8 p.m.; Saturday, 8 a.m.-noon at New Day Help Center, 6000 Stevenson Ave., Suite 304. This 8 hour course certifies adults to provide mental health first aid to youth. \$20. Visit www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org/take-a-course/course-types/youth/ for more course info. Visit newdayhelp.org/events/ and click on the "Registration" button. Call 571-406-5902 or visit www.newdayhelp.org for more.

TUESDAY/JUNE 5

Alexandria Democratic Committee City Council Primary Debate. 7 p.m. at Francis C. Hammond Middle School in Alexandria, Virginia, is located at 4646 Seminary Road. Visit www.alexdem.org.

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Legals

Annie B. Rose House PUBLIC NOTICE Waiting List

The waiting list for the Annie B. Rose House will reopen on Friday, June 1, 2018. Applications will be accepted Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Applications may be filled out in person or mailed to you. If your name is already on the waiting list, you do not need to take any action. The Annie B. Rose House Management will maintain your name, date and time you applied to the waiting list. You are responsible to keep your personal information up to date on the waiting list by calling (703) 548-4946.

Obituary

We celebrate the life of **Stanley Tracy Heflin**, who passed away on May 8 at the age of 99. He was born in Alexandria, the 10th of 11 children, and raised during the Great Depression. He graduated from George Washington High School, lettering in football, basketball, and baseball. He served as a cannoner in the 13th armored division in World War II, and worked as a tool and die maker for the US Bureau of Engraving and Printing. He was a member of the Arlington County Disabled Veterans Chapter 10.

In the summer of 1949, he met and married Edith Elora Mann. Together they raised one daughter, Margaret Ann. They enjoyed 47 years of marriage and were loving partners, parents and friends.

Stanley is survived by daughter, Margaret H. Gentges; grandson Douglas Gentges and his wife, Helen and their daughters, Emma and Amanda of Littleton, Colorado; Granddaughter Sharon Gentges and her daughter Aiden of Boston, Massachusetts.

Services will be held at Everly Wheatley Funeral Home. Visitation at 10:00 and Funeral at 11:00 on Wed, May 16. Burial at Mount Comfort Cemetery to follow. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Capital Caring Hospice.

Family Info:
Sharon Gentges (granddaughter)
244 R Webster St, Boston, MA 02128 • 617-943-5750

Obituary

Announcements

Announcements

Public Notice

Notice is hereby given that Adwa Transportation Services, LLC, of 6395 Little River Turnpike, Alexandria, Virginia 22312, has applied for authority to operate as a Common Carrier over Irregular Routes Passenger service in the geographic area consisting of the Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Fredericksburg, Manassas, Manassas Park, Richmond, and Winchester, Virginia and the Counties of Arlington, Caroline, Clarke, Culpeper, Fairfax, Fauquier, Frederick, Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, Loudoun, Louisa, Orange, Prince William, Rappahannock, Spotsylvania, Stafford, and Warren, Virginia.

Any person who wishes to support or oppose the application but does not wish to be a party to the matter must send a written statement to: DMV, MCS-CMU, P.O. BOX 27412, RICHMOND, VA 23269-0001. The statement must be signed and contain the applicant's name and DMV case number (MC1800042SC).

Any person who wishes to protest the application and be a party to the matter must contact DMV at (804) 367-0503 to receive information on filing a protest. The deadline for filing letters of support, opposition or protest is May 31, 2018.

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Public Hearing will be held by the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, City of Alexandria, Virginia, on Saturday, June 23, 2018, at 9:30 a.m., or as soon as may be heard on the hereinafter described item.

ORDINANCE

An Ordinance approving and authorizing the transfer of ownership of four Combined Sewer Outfall structures and associated infrastructure and access easements to the City of Alexandria, Virginia Sanitation Authority d/b/a Alexandria Renew Enterprises.

WHEREAS, City of Alexandria, Virginia Sanitation Authority d/b/a Alexandria Renew Enterprises ("Alexandria Renew") provides wastewater treatment and conveyance to City residents in accordance with the Sewerage Service Agreement between the City of Alexandria, Virginia Sanitation Authority and the City of Alexandria, Virginia dated 1st day of September, 1954 as amended June 25, 1974 (collectively referred to as the "Service Agreement"); Alexandria Renew owns and operates a treatment plant, interceptor sewers, pump stations and related facilities (referred to herein as the "Authority System" and described as the Sewage Disposal System in the Service Agreement);

WHEREAS, the City owns and operates both a combined sewer system and a separate sanitary sewer collection system (referred to herein collectively as the "City Collection System" and described as the City System in the Service Agreement). Combined Sewer Outfalls (CSO) 001, 002, 003 and 004, and associated control structures shown in Exhibit A ("CSO Outfalls") are currently included in the City Collection System;

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality ("VDEQ") has issued Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("VPDES") Permit No. VA0087068 to the City ("City VPDES Permit"), including effluent limitations and monitoring requirements, for the City's Combined Sewer System ("CSS"). This VPDES permit requires the City to develop, periodically update, and implement a Long Term Control Plan ("LTCP") to reduce combined sewer overflows;

WHEREAS, VDEQ has issued VPDES Permit No. VA0025160, including effluent limitations and monitoring requirements, and General Permit Registration No. VAN010059 for the Alexandria Renew Enterprises Water Resources Recovery Facility to Alexandria Renew ("Alexandria Renew VPDES Permit");

WHEREAS, The City submitted a LTCP Update ("LTCPU"), as required by its VPDES permit for the City's CSS in 2016 and Alexandria Renew is developing a plan to address sanitary sewer overflows ("SSOs") from the Hooffs Run Junction Chamber as required by the Alexandria Renew VPDES Permit;

WHEREAS, During the 2017 General Assembly a law was enacted accelerating the schedule provided in the Final 2016 LTCPU Report (2017 Va. Acts. Reg. Sess. Ch. 827 (unmodified)) ("2017 CSO Law"). The 2017 CSO Law requires 1) "By July 1, 2023, (the City shall) initiate construction activities necessary to bring the CSO outfalls into compliance; 2) "By July 1, 2025, (the City shall) bring the CSO outfall into compliance with Virginia law, the Federal Clean Water Act, and the Presumption Approach described in the EPA CSO Control Policy, unless a higher level of control is necessary to comply with a TMDL and 3) "The City shall report annually to VDEQ on progress". In addition, the General Assembly required VDEQ to determine what actions by the City are necessary to attain compliance no later than July 1, 2018;

WHEREAS, the City and Alexandria Renew agree that a global solution is more efficient and that Alexandria Renew is better suited to finance, design, permit, construct, operate, own and maintain such a solution;

WHEREAS, the City and Alexandria Renew agree that Alexandria Renew needs to own the CSO Outfalls in order to implement the global solution; and

WHEREAS, the city council in adopting this ordinance expressly finds that the transfers of the CSO Outfalls and associated rights described herein is in the public interest and will advance the public interest, now therefore,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That the transfer of ownership to Alexandria Renew of the CSO Outfalls be and the same hereby is, approved and authorized.

Section 2. That any necessary easements for placement of the CSO Outfalls and access to the CSO Outfalls authorized pursuant to Virginia Code 15.2-5147, be and the same hereby are, approved and authorized.

Section 3. That the city manager be and hereby is authorized, on behalf of the City of Alexandria, to do all things necessary and desirable to carry out the transfer of ownership described in Sections 1 and 2, including, but not limited to, the execution and delivery of a deed and other appropriate documents.

Section 4. That the city clerk be and is hereby authorized to attest to the execution of the deed and other necessary documents executed by the city manager pursuant to Section 3, and to affix thereon the official seal of the City of Alexandria, Virginia.

Section 5. That this ordinance shall become effective upon the date and at the time of its final passage.

THE PUBLIC IS ADVISED THAT AMENDMENTS OR ADDITIONS MAY BE MADE TO PROPOSED ORDINANCES WITHOUT FURTHER PUBLICATION. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT PERSONS INTERESTED IN ANY OF THESE ORDINANCES OBTAIN FREE FULL-TEXT COPIES FROM THE CITY CLERK AT CITY HALL. If the mayor finds and declares that weather or other conditions are such that it is hazardous for members to attend the meeting, this meeting will be continued to the following SATURDAY. GLORIA A. SITTON, CMC, CITY CLERK

Musing About Infusing

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Seven weeks between chemotherapy infusions; I could get used to this. Here I am sitting and writing on Wednesday, May 9 and my next scheduled infusion isn't until Friday, June 1. That's another three-plus weeks. It's a "staycation," of sorts, meaning: I'm not going anywhere, but due to the new extended chemotherapy infusion interval – from six weeks to seven, I don't have to.

Though it's hardly an ideal vacation – either staying or going – for a cancer patient still undergoing treatment, not having to go the Infusion Center is about as good as it gets. What's even better is receiving scan results (which at present are still scheduled quarterly) which show "stable," "shrinkage," or even "N.E.D.," which means "no evidence of disease" (I'm "stable"). All of which I can live with. Despite ending that last sentence with a preposition.

With respect to "N.E.D.," unfortunately, being asymptomatic as I generally am – and mostly have been, is not necessarily an indicator that all is well.

Neither do symptoms always confirm "progression" (medical jargon for growth and/or movement). Sometimes the pain is scar tissue. Other times it's a side effect of the medicine you've been infusing or the pill you've been swallowing. (Presently, there are targeted treatment options which enable patients to take pills at home, tarceva being one example. Which if I may quote the late Maurice Chevalier singing in "Gigi:" "I remember it well" from the 11 months a few years ago when I didn't have to commute to the infusion center.)

Throw in the occasional phone appointment I've had with my oncologist, post-scan, when he and I both know – per an email he usually sends, that the results continue to show "stable," and when an in-office examination is likely not to "present" (more medical jargon; this one meaning, show) any contradictory findings and I've definitely had my moments of relative/comparative calm. Moments which, when they do occur, need to be cherished because, in the terminal cancer world, the news is not always good.

And since you have to take the good with the bad, with minimal control over both – acknowledging the good and not giving into the bad, become your stock and trade. It's easy, maybe even inevitable that a cancer patient will get overwhelmed by his or her circumstances so finding a way to navigate the slings and arrows of the outrageous misfortune which has befallen you is more than crucial; it's life sustaining.

Practically speaking though, how does one absorb the news and subsequent reality of a cancer diagnosis? What word I used to describe what I felt and heard at the initial Team Lourie meeting with my oncologist when he told me I had a "terminal" form of cancer: non-small cell lung cancer, stage IV, was "surreal."

It's a word I've heard many other cancer patients use when describing the moment when they first heard their devastating news. At that ground-zero moment, the words "non-small cell lung cancer," at least for me, were almost incomprehensible, especially if there's no cancer history in your immediate family (which was true for me). I mean, I understood him well enough, I just didn't process the information.

Similar to when I received a call at work, from my internal medicine doctor, a few days after my biopsy (and a week or so before meeting my oncologist), advising me of the results. He asked me if I wanted to meet him at his office (that can't be good I thought – and it wasn't). I said, "No. Just tell me" And so he did.

He told me that they found tumors in my lungs which were malignant. My knee-jerk reaction? "What does that mean?" Upon hearing that kind of news/maybe just that word, "malignant," you sort of lose control of your faculties. (At least I did.)

Thinking straight? Hardly. You're thinking crooked. But as time goes by and you somehow begin to assimilate/compartamentalize your diagnosis/prognosis, it becomes quite clear: anything you can do to bring some normalcy into your life is a win-win for you and a lose-lose for cancer.

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

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BULLETIN BOARD

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 13

Champions of Children Awards Reception.

At Vola Lawson Lobby in City Hall, 301 King St., Alexandria. Individuals who have worked to improve the lives of children, youth and families in Alexandria will be honored at the Children, Youth and Families Collaborative Commission's (CYFCC) Champions of Children Awards reception. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/DCHS for details.

THURSDAY/JUNE 14

Foster Parent Orientation.

6-7:30 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. The City of Alexandria will hold a free, no obligation information session for prospective foster parents. An agency representative will be on hand to answer any questions and explain the requirements to foster and/or adopt. For questions or to RSVP, call 703-746-5858 or email Christine.Levine@alexandriava.gov.

TUESDAY/JUNE 19

Awards Reception.

5:30-6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 301 King St., Alexandria. The Alexandria Commission on Persons with Disabilities (ACPD) is seeking applications for the Gerry Bertier Scholarship, and nominations for the John Duty Collins III Outstanding Advocate for Persons with Disabilities Award and two Disability Awareness Awards presented in conjunction with the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce. The awards will be presented at a reception on June 19. Visit www.alexandriava.gov.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 27

New to Medicare.

1-5 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Learn the basics of Medicare coverage and choices. This class is presented by Medicare Counselors from the Division of Aging and Adult Services, and the Virginia Insurance Counseling and Assistance Program. There is no cost. Registration is not required. Call 703-746-5999 or email DAAS@alexandriava.gov.

SATURDAY/JUNE 30

Nomination Deadline.

The Alexandria Archaeological Commission (AAC) is now accepting nominations for the Bernard "Ben" Brenman Archaeology in Alexandria Award. The award is open to businesses, organizations, families, professional preservationists, volunteers, students and other individuals who have demonstrated work or efforts in archaeological investigation, research, site protection, education, public interpretation, open space design, collections, or conservation. Nomination forms are available at alexandriava.gov/historic/archaeology/default.aspx?id=28180 or by calling the Alexandria Archaeology Museum at 703-746-4399.

THROUGH JULY 4

The Poppy Project.

Alexandrians have given over 1,600 poppies, many in memory of family members who served, but the community art project needs even more. The poppies will be assembled into a display at community events throughout the city this summer. The final product will be displayed at the City of Alexandria's Armistice Day Commemoration the afternoon of Nov. 11, 2018. Knitted or crocheted poppies can be any shade of red and two to four inches in diameter. Drop-off at the Lyceum: Alexandria's History Museum (201 S. Washington St.) or Gadsby's Tavern Museum (134 N. Royal St.) by the 4th of July. Please include the names of those contributing with the poppies. Visit historicalalexandria.org.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 22

New to Medicare.

1-4 p.m. at Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Learn the basics of Medicare coverage and choices. This class is presented by Medicare Counselors from the Division of Aging and Adult Services, and the Virginia Insurance Counseling and Assistance Program. There is no cost. Registration is not required. Call 703-746-5999 or email DAAS@alexandriava.gov.

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