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# Alexandria

# Gazette Packet

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PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

**Dancers from the Foley Academy of Irish Dance in Reston perform Aug. 25 at the Alexandria Irish Festival in Waterfront Park.**

## Dublin the Fun

Irish Festival raises funds for St. Patrick's Day parade.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**T**housands turned out Aug. 25 to celebrate all things Irish at the 2018 Alexandria Irish Festival and to pay tribute to the man regarded as the founder of the city's St. Patrick's Day Parade. Held at Waterfront Park, this year's festival was dedicated to Pat Troy, a co-founder of the Ballyshanners organization, which sponsors the annual parade. Troy died just days after serving as the grand marshal of the 2018 parade.

"It's been an incredible day," said Ballyshanners volunteer Maggie Hayes. "It's been way better than I thought it would be. People have been very generous." Hayes and fellow Ballyshanner Pat Gerrity spent the day in the "Pat Troy's Memories" tent. Memorabilia from Troy's Ireland's Own Restaurant along with items from his personal collection were sold to help raise funds for next year's parade. "My husband and I had a lot of dates at Pat Troy's," said Annie Malley Crowe as she browsed the memorabilia with her son Colin. "We even celebrated my husband's promotion to Lt. Colonel there so even though I didn't really know him, Pat and the restaurant are a part of my own history." Troy was known for his collection of pins from various law enforcement agencies and a hat from the New York Fire Department with various pins sold for \$300.



**Ballyshanner volunteer Pat Gerrity, right, helps Annie Malley Crowe as she browses some of the Pat Troy memorabilia for sale Aug. 25 at the Alexandria Irish Festival in Waterfront Park.**

The centerpiece of the day's sale was the table President Ronald Reagan occupied when he made a surprise visit to Ireland's Own on St. Patrick's Day in 1988. Tom Mooney, the owner of Murphy's Grand Irish Pub on King Street, purchased the table at an undisclosed price. "I'm glad that table has a home where it will be appreciated," said Troy's widow Bernadette. All proceeds from the festival will go to support the 2019 St. Patrick's Day Parade. See [www.ballyshanners.org](http://www.ballyshanners.org).

## 'A Knotty Problem'

Testing shows persistent student achievement gaps in public schools.

BY DAN BRENDEN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**S**tandardized test results for the 2017-18 academic year, released last week, indicate a few bright spots for Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS), but also room for improvement. While students did better in certain areas, they generally lag in statewide performance, and also suffer various enduring achievement gaps between demographic subgroups. Public schools annually assess proficiencies in reading, writing, math, science, and history/social

science. Tests measure against Standards of Learning (SOL), which are "minimum expectations for what students should know," according to the Virginia Department of Education. "The assessments also provide an objective means for measuring achievement gaps between student subgroups and for determining the progress ... toward closing these gaps." Compared to the 2015-16 school year, ACPS students improved most in writing. In particular, the pass rate for Hispanic students increased by six percentage points. Performance remained fairly flat

SEE TESTING, PAGE 8

## McCain Remembered

Political maverick, EHS grad dies at 81.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**P**hilip Birmingham was a new business owner in 1980 when a young Naval aviator and his soon-to-be bride walked into his photography studio on South Washington Street in Alexandria. The couple, at the time residents of Wolfe Street, wanted a formal wedding portrait taken. Thus began a friendship between Birmingham and John McCain, who would go on to be-

come one of the nation's most respected political leaders. "John was a Congressional liaison at the time," recalled Birmingham. "But he told me that he was retiring from the military to run for Congress. I told him to call me if he won and he did. I did the McCain's Christmas card photos every year for several years after that. They were



**John McCain was a 1954 graduate of Episcopal High School in Alexandria.**

SEE MCCAIN, PAGE 4

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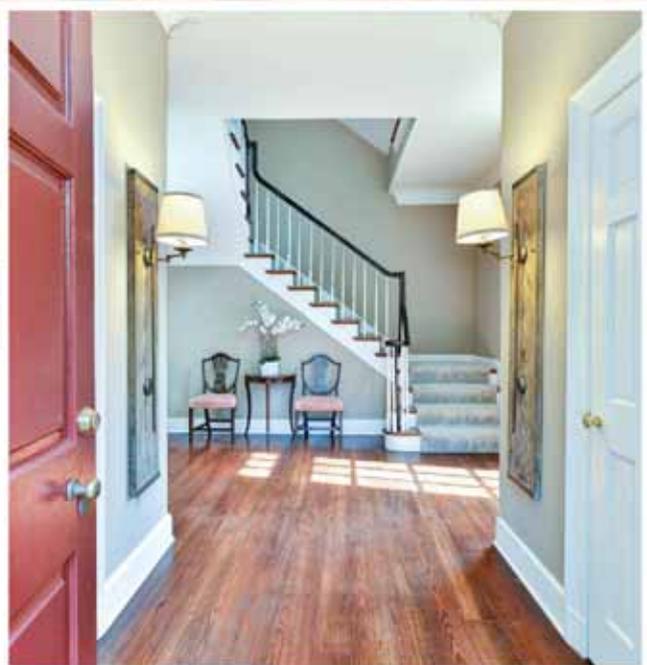
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PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria Fire Chief Robert Dube, third from left, joins firefighters and paramedics Aug. 28 at Station 209 in Potomac Yard to kick off the annual Fill the Boot campaign to raise funds for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Alexandria Fire Chief Robert Dube, right, kicks off the Fill the Boot campaign Aug. 28 at Station 209 in Potomac Yard. With Dube are MDA regional manager Jennie King and paramedic and Fill the Boot coordinator Michael Korht.

# 'Fill the Boot' Campaign Begins Firefighters raise funds for MDA.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

For nearly four decades, comedian Jerry Lewis and the Labor Day weekend were synonymous with raising funds for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. But the partnership between firefighters across the country, including members of the Alexandria Fire Department, and MDA spans more than 60 years and is still going strong. On Aug. 28, Fire Chief Rob-

ert Dube and local firefighters gathered at Station 209 in Potomac Yard to kick off the annual Fill the Boot campaign for MDA, now in its 62<sup>nd</sup> year. "Firefighters are our longest running and biggest partner," said MDA regional manager Jennie King of the fundraising effort that began in 1954 with the International Association of Firefighters.

IAFF Local 2141 and Alexandria's 10 fire stations are participating in the campaign, which runs from Aug. 30 through Sept. 8.

"From the East End to the West End, firefighters will be at various locations

throughout the city raising money for MDA," said Michael Korht, a paramedic at Station 209 and coordinator of this year's Fill the Boot donation drive. "Last year, Alexandria firefighters raised \$55,000. Our goal this year is to top that."

Firefighters will spread out across the city to ask pedestrians, motorists, customers and other passersby to make a donation to MDA. Monies raised through the Fill the Boot campaign fund research and life-enhancing programs such as support groups, Care Centers and MDA summer camp at no cost to

families. In 2017, more than 100,000 firefighters across the country participated in the drive, raising \$24 million for neuromuscular diseases, including muscular dystrophies, myopathies and motor neuron diseases.

"Since 1954, more than \$630 million has been raised through the Fill the Boot campaign," King said. "We definitely like our firefighters."

Donations can be made directly to local firefighters or online at <https://filltheboot.donordrive.com/team/5690>.

# 'A Singular Opportunity' Planning Commission, City Council to consider targeted housing affordability plan.

BY DAN BRENDEL  
GAZETTE PACKET

City officials will soon consider the Route 1 South Housing Affordability Strategy, a plan to preserve lower-income housing in southern Old Town through increased residential density.

"The strategy represents a singular opportunity" to stave off "the potential loss of affordability of 215 homes," according to the draft going before the Planning Commission next Tuesday. These homes comprise about five percent of the city's total stock of committed affordable units. Their loss would carry "tremendous human and economic costs."

The homes are spread between The Heritage at Old Town and Olde Towne West III, two properties in Old Town's Southwest Quadrant neighborhood. Ares, a private company, owns one and Alfred Street Baptist Church (ASBC) the other.

The 215 units in question currently receive a federal subsidy in the form of



project-based "Section 8" vouchers (PBVs). The vouchers make up the difference between the market rent and what a lower-income household could afford. Whereas half of Southwest Quadrant households

make more than \$100,000 per year, these PBV units currently serve households making less than half that amount.

"Many of the residents are seniors, some are disabled. But we also have a lot of fami-

lies and other people who are working people, they just need deeper affordability," said Helen McIlvaine, the city government's housing director.

Economic pressures could cause the loss of these units and the displacement of these households. Some of the initial PBV contracts already expired and now depend on annual renewal; others will expire starting next year. The owners may decide to pursue more lucrative options — say, redeveloping townhouses aimed at higher-income households — rather than renew the PBVs.

Ares and ASBC want to maintain housing affordability, said McIlvaine. But they also face other commitments.

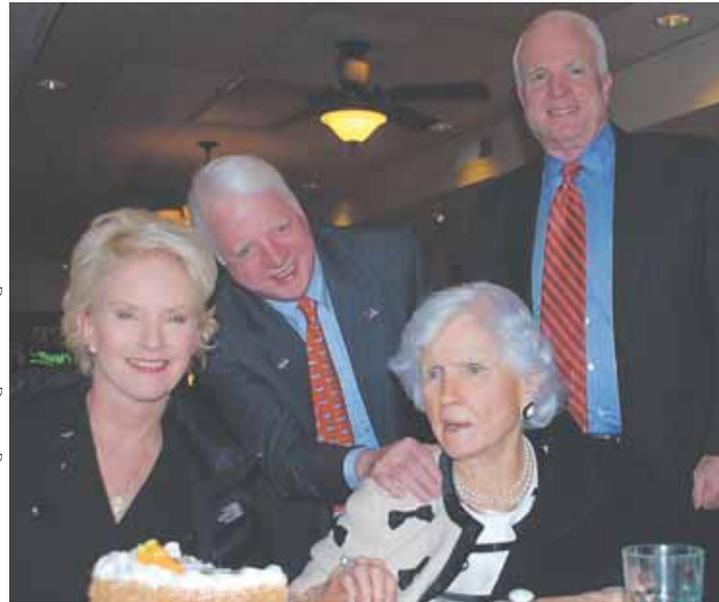
Ares is a real estate investment trust (REIT). A REIT pools investors' money like a mutual fund, except in a portfolio of income-generating properties rather than of one of dividend- or interest-generating stocks or bonds.

"In their current condition ... [Ares' units] will not be able to achieve the kind of returns they would like for their investors,"

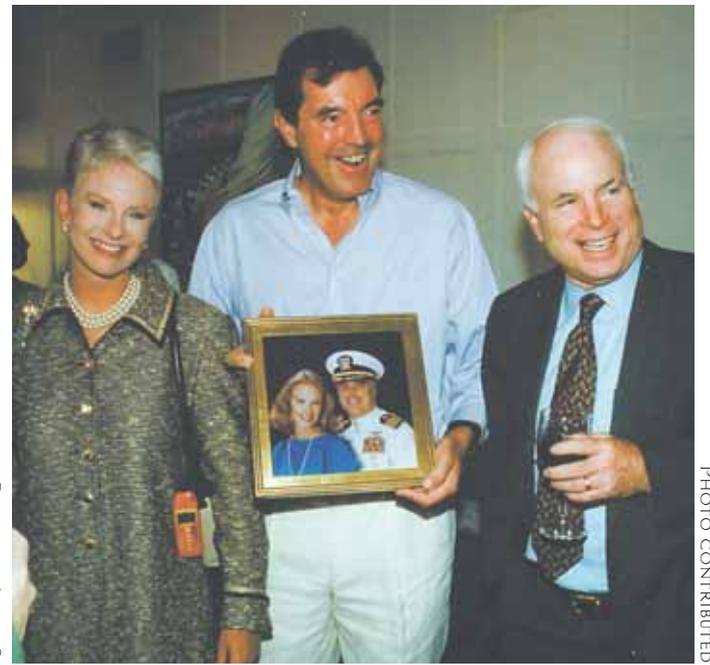
SEE HOUSING, PAGE 22



**The wedding portrait of John and Cindy McCain. The couple were residents of Old Town at the time of their marriage in 1980.**



**In February of 2011, John McCain, right, celebrated his mother Roberta's 99th birthday in Alexandria along with his wife Cindy and brother Joe McCain.**



**Philip Bermingham, center, holds the portrait he did of John and Cindy McCain for their wedding in 1980. At the time of their marriage, the McCains were residents of Old Town and Bermingham had a studio on S. Washington Street.**

# McCain: Political Maverick, EHS Grad Dies at 81.

FROM PAGE 1  
a lovely couple and always wonderful to work with."

McCain was no stranger to Alexandria. He was a 1954 graduate of Episcopal High School, where he developed a reputation as a bit of a rebel.

"I have many happy memories of being here," McCain said during a 2008 address to the school. "And a few that I'm sure former teachers, school administrators and I would rather forget."

While at EHS, McCain played football and tennis and was on the wrestling team. The self-described "mediocre" athlete would go on to greater glory in the political arena after surviving more than five years as a POW during the Vietnam War. On Aug. 25, the two-time presidential candidate died due to complications from a brain tumor. He was 81.

"It was heartbreaking to get the news of John's passing," Bermingham said. "All his compatriots and anyone who knew him will

tell you that he was a stand up guy." John Sidney McCain III was born Aug. 29, 1936 to John Sidney McCain Jr. and Roberta McCain. Both his father and paternal grandfather were graduates of the U.S. Naval Academy. McCain followed in those footsteps, graduating from the academy in 1958. He completed flight training in 1960 and served as a fighter pilot aboard the USS Forrestal. In October of 1967, McCain was taken as a prisoner of war when his A-4E Skyhawk was shot down by a missile over Hanoi. He survived more than five years of torture, much of that in the brutal prison known as the Hanoi Hilton, before being released on March 14, 1973.

McCain returned to Alexandria often, settling in Old Town with his future wife Cindy as he prepared for a career in politics. "I knew he had some difficulties when he returned from Vietnam," Bermingham recalled. "But all my interactions with him were wonderful and Cindy was always especially gracious." In 1977, McCain served

as the Navy liaison to the U.S. Senate. Following his military retirement in 1981, he moved to Arizona, Cindy's home state, and was elected to Congress in 1982. He was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1986, serving six terms before his death. He twice ran for President, losing the Republican primary to George W. Bush in 2000, and to Barack Obama in the 2008 presidential election.

His days as a rebel at EHS followed him into politics, where he earned the nickname "maverick" for his outspoken positions that sometimes broke rank with his fellow Republicans.

Survivors include his wife Cindy; daughters Sidney, Meghan and Bridget; sons Jimmy, John IV (Jack), Doug and Andy, and several grandchildren. McCain's younger brother, Joe McCain, still resides in Old Town, and his 106-year-old mother Roberta lives in Washington, D.C. His first marriage to Carol Schepp McCain ended in divorce. McCain will lie in state in the Rotunda at the U.S. Capitol on Aug. 31 with a celebra-

tion of life service Sept. 1 at 11 a.m. at the Washington National Cathedral. A private memorial service will be held the following day at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, where McCain will be buried next to his Naval Academy classmate and lifelong friend Admiral Charles R. Larson. McCain returned to Alexandria on several occasions, receiving the EHS Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1987 and the Philips Integrity in Action Award in 2001. He often cited the impact of the school's honor code, telling the student body in 2008 that "My exposure to the Honor Code has guided me throughout my life."

"John McCain had a quality about him that I greatly admired and respected," Bermingham said. "I was fortunate to know him through so many of his life's milestones — the celebration of his marriage to Cindy, his retirement from the Navy and his life of public service. It was an honor to work with him and all my interactions with him will be treasured."

## #WeAreAlexandria Spotlights Pop's Old Fashioned Ice Cream

**M**cEnearney Associates gathered on Wednesday, Aug. 22, to launch the first partnership of its #WeAreAlexandria campaign at Pop's Old Fashioned Ice Cream.

The #WeAreAlexandria campaign celebrates McEnearney's continued commitment to improving Alexandria through relationships in the community. Its #WeAreAlexandria campaign features a local business or organization that plays a significant role in Alexandria whether through preservation or community building.

The founder of Pop's Old Fashioned Ice Cream, Ray "Pop" Giovanni, was in the ice cream business since the 1940s with much of his early career spent ca-

tering events at the White House, including serving First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt her favorite ice cream.

Pop's is now owned by Landini Brothers, a local Alexandria business. Dave Hawkins, executive vice president and managing broker of the Alexandria office, said, "Pop's Ice Cream was the perfect place to launch the #WeAreAlexandria event. This place is a landmark in the local Alexandria business community, and is 'the' gathering place on a hot summer day. The purpose of the campaign is to support local businesses, like Pop's, and to preserve what truly makes our community special."

SEE #WEARE, PAGE 21



**From left: Sabrina Porta, Chris Robinson, Rachel Lee, Michael Day, Tony Ayala, David Hawkins, Lindsay Underwood, Amanda Wallingford, Bob Martini, Joan Shannon, and John Shannon at Pop's Old Fashioned Ice Cream.**

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PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/GAZETTE PACKET

Marie-Claire Wilson connects numerology, palm reading and originally created tarot cards with her own psychic ability to reveal Isaac Volbrecht's personality and challenges. She consults at Sacred Circle on King Street.

# Marie-Claire Unravels Spiritual Mysteries

BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
GAZETTE PACKET

Isaac Volbrecht sits down at the small table at Sacred Circle where Marie-Claire Wilson is doing a reading. Wilson reaches across the large gold stars and says, "Give me the numbers of your life." Using numerology she comes up with Volbrecht's life number, which is 5. She connects with her psychic ability to continue.

## PEOPLE AT WORK

"You are very energetic, a person of many talents — acting, dancing, public speaker."

"Yeah," Volbrecht replies, "I went to acting school and was building a career in New York City. But I didn't like the atmosphere or people around me."

Wilson continues, "You are a spiritual leader; you have a big goal in life. You will work hard, but you will need to overcome obstacles and be patient; this will be a big year for you. It will be sometimes difficult." She says, "You need to accept the challenge.

Only you control yourself. How you respond is the best test from the cosmos."

Volbrecht says, "Everything you have said is right on point."

Wilson continues, "I feel like I have been talking to a gray, an older soul, you have many older friends. You feel like you are a mature man."

Volbrecht nods.

She continues, "I want to see your hands." He places both hands on the table palms up. Wilson explains the left hand is how you were born and the right hand is what you will accomplish. "These lines change every 7 years."

"The more you are older, the more you will accomplish." But she says his love life has been complex. "You attract a lot but they are like a dog with no leash. You will not marry fast."

She says, "You have two lives in one life. The first can be very superficial but you use it to have a second life over it."

Wilson turns to her deck of 22 tarot cards that she has designed herself. The first is

Awakening. "This is a beautiful card. You dream a lot." She turns over the Foole card. "You deal with crazy people a lot."

He says, "Yes, I am around a lot of people I have to be around but don't think the same way."

Next she uncovers Transportation. "You are moving."

Volbrecht answers, "Yes, I am moving in two months."

The Moderation card is next. "You have a beautiful connection, peace of mind. You have a lot of spiritual guides and stuff like this."

Volbrecht replies, "I am a very spiritual person so this is very meaningful."

She tells him, "You have planets going in the wrong direction now and you have had a very bad month. But it will be over soon,"

He answers, "That is good because it has been a really awful month, very bad."

Wilson asks if he has any questions so he asks about his health. "You are a tree, in very good shape but you are very sensitive; if something hurts, you go into a depres-

sion." She said to deal with it he should imagine he is in a plane and looking down at the tiny figures on the ground as she demonstrates peering down from her chair at the floor. She says, "I think you already are on the plane." He nods yes.

Wilson first recalls being aware of tarot cards when she was 8-years-old in Marseille where she grew up and her mother took her along when she went to see someone. The woman told Wilson to take a nap because she wanted to talk to her mom. "But I sneaked out of bed and found the tarot cards. I asked what they were." She said, "little one, life is a question and people come to me with many questions. Someday you do like me."

Volbrecht concludes, "I feel like I know with my psychic ability but it is always good to hear it from another sensitive person. Marie Claire really knows." He turns to her, "Thank you for that."

*People at Work is a regular column focusing on people doing their jobs in the community. Suggestions slrbc@aol.com.*

## Shirley and Gillespie To Wed

Mr. and Mrs. Craig Shirley of Alexandria and Dunnsville, Va., are pleased to announce the September nuptials of their daughter, Taylor Macintosh Shirley to Mr. Kevin Andrew Gillespie. Miss Shirley, 26, is employed at Shirley & Banister and has already published her first novel, "Risen from Ashes" and is currently working on the sequel. Mr. Gillespie is the son of retired Air Force Colonel Gary Gillespie and his wife, Linda. Kevin will be joining the Air Force following their wedding. Miss Shirley's brothers, Matthew, Andrew and Mitchell, and their cousin Ethan Sirhal, as well as Mr. Gillespie's brothers, Michael, Joseph, and Jonathan will serve as ushers. Miss Tamara Taysom will serve as Maid of Honor and Mr. Joshua Fikentscher will serve as best man.



Taylor Macintosh Shirley and Kevin Andrew Gillespie.

The Sept. 8 wedding will take place at the 300-year-old Ben Lomond estate where Mr. and Mrs. Shirley reside in Dunnsville, Va. An outdoor wedding and reception are planned. The couple will honeymoon in the Outer Banks of North Carolina.

The bride's parents are longtime veterans of Republican politics and her mother, Zorine, was a regional director with the Republican National Committee under President Ronald Reagan and, for a number of years, directed the annual Conservative Political Action Conference. Miss Shirley's father, Craig Shirley, is an acclaimed biographer of President Ronald Reagan and a presidential historian. The groom's mother is a chemistry teacher at a Northern Virginia high school.

## Free School Supplies

One-hundred thirteen children will begin the school year with a free personalized backpack loaded with school supplies. Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington (CCDA) held its school supplies giveaway for children ages five to 17, on Aug. 24 at Christ House in Alexandria. Bishop Michael F. Burbidge of the Diocese of Arlington helped distribute the backpacks. In addition to receiving the backpacks, the children received a Payless gift card to purchase new shoes for their first day of school, and a water bottle filled with snacks.



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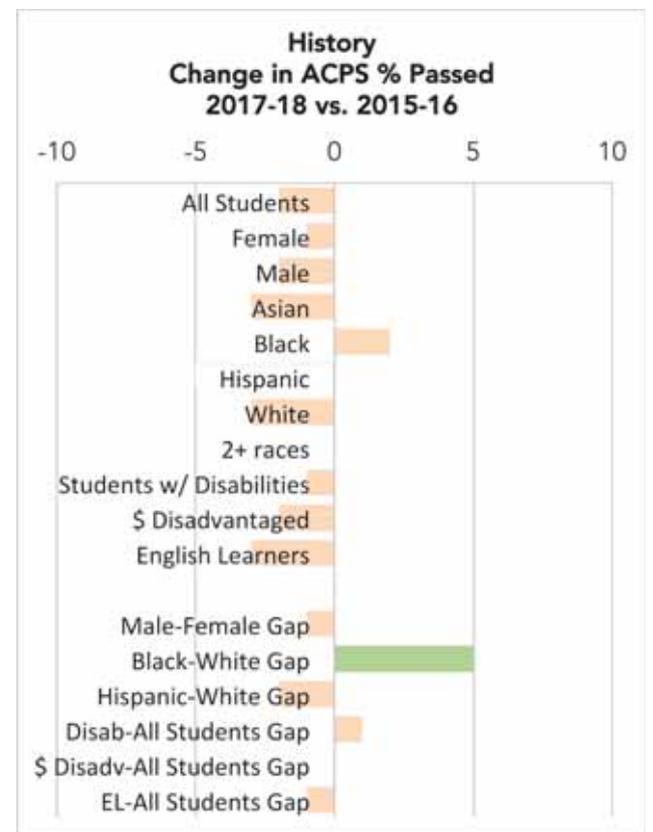
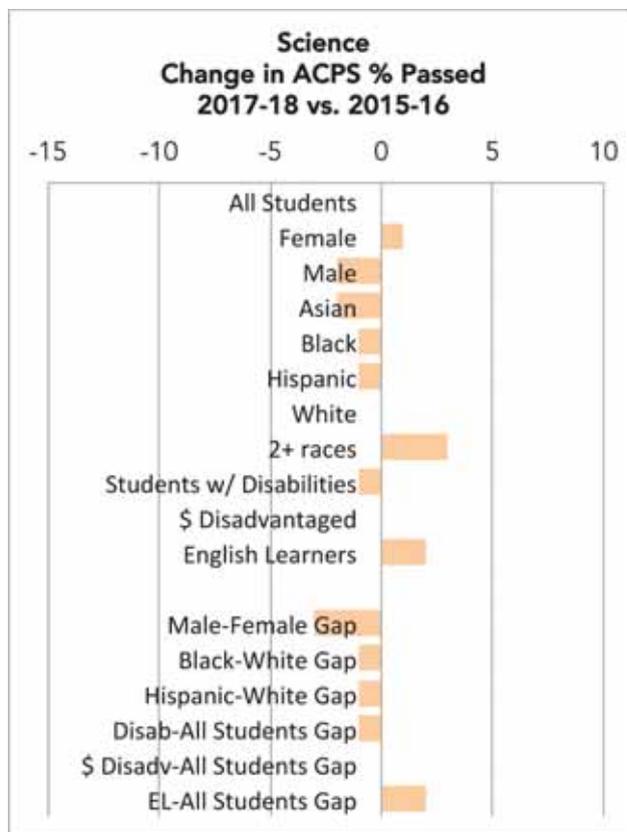
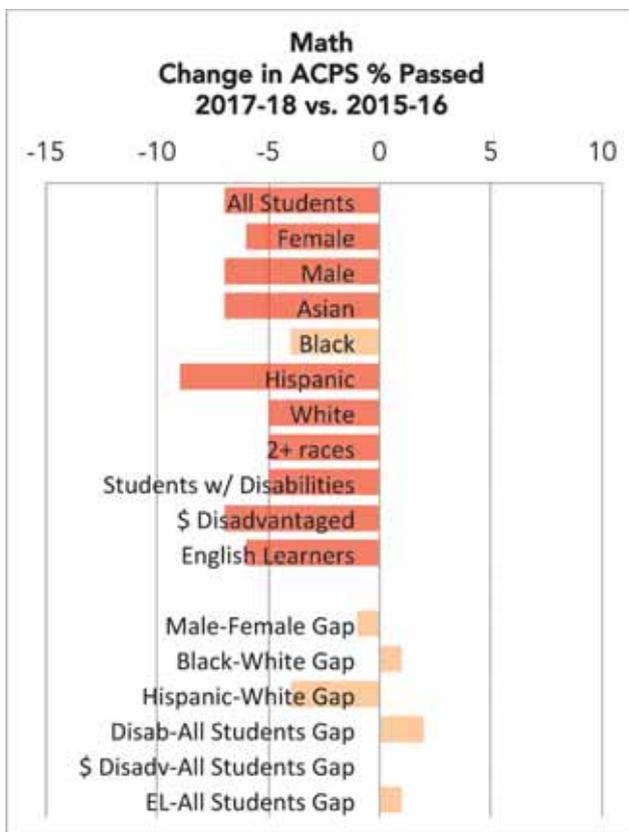
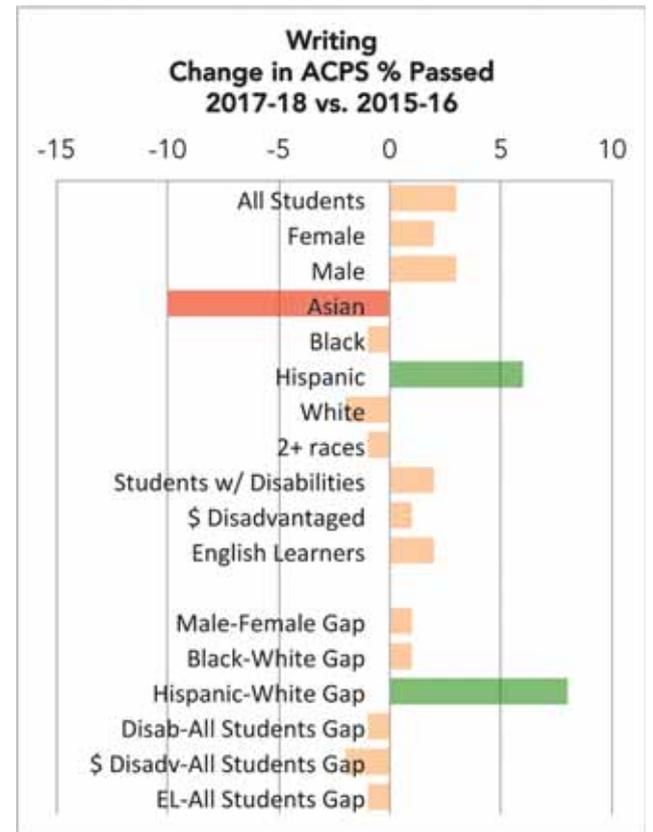
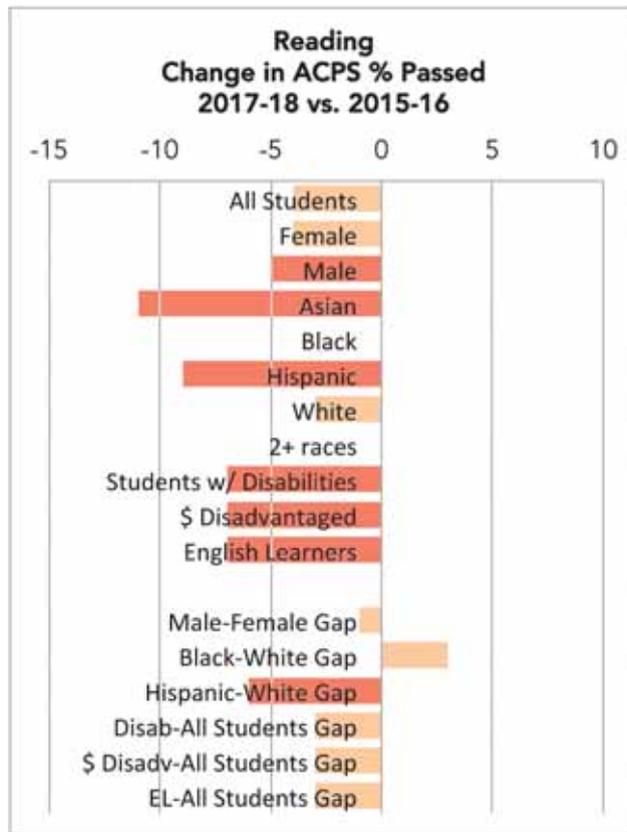
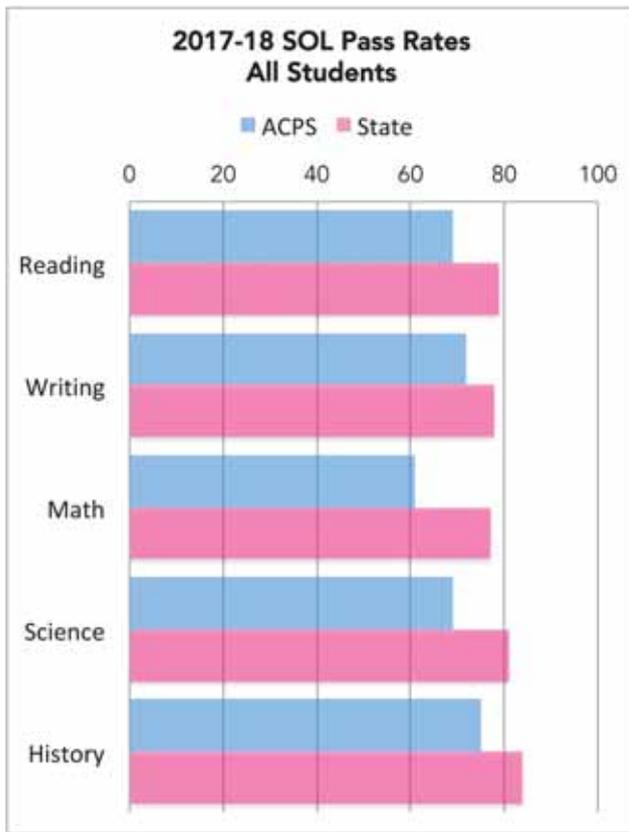
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For comparisons over time, green = improving, yellow = not much change, red = worsening. Data source: Virginia Department of Education, <http://schoolquality.virginia.gov/divisions/alexandria-city-public-schools>.

# Testing Shows Persistent Student Achievement Gaps

FROM PAGE 1

in science and history. By several measures, performance dropped off in math and reading.

For both ACPS and the state, boys consistently underperform girls; black and Hispanic students consistently underperform white and Asian students; students with disabilities, economically disadvantaged students, and English learners consistently underperform the aggregate. These pass rate gaps routinely enter double digits — except for the gender gap, which is less pro-

nounced. For example, in reading, ACPS shows a 37-point Hispanic-white gap; in science, a 26-point black-white gap.

Compared to the 2015-16 school year, showing improvement, ACPS's Hispanic-white gap in writing and the black-white gap in history narrowed by eight and five points. But the Hispanic-white gap in reading widened by six points and in math by four points.

Over the same timeframe, ACPS consistently lagged the state in every subject, both in aggregate and in most subgroups. This is particularly true in reading and math,

where differentials widened across the board. Although ACPS caught up with the state a bit in writing and science.

The starkest differential by far is in comparing Hispanic-white achievement gaps. ACPS's exceeds the state's by double digits in every subject. For example, in math, ACPS shows a 38-point gap whereas the state shows a 16-point gap — a 22-point difference.

"There's still work to be done, and I think we all know that," said Dr. Gregory Hutchings, ACPS's new superintendent. However, "The SOL data is just one data

point of several, and I think it's important for us to look at all of the different metrics to determine our progress."

For example, while SOL testing gives only a snapshot, it "doesn't gauge the [students'] progress over the year," he said. ACPS expects that, next month, accreditation data will indicate such progress.

Also, testing doesn't account for ACPS's "outstanding programs in music, art and drama," or when students "are the first in their families to attend college," said School

SEE 'A KNOTTY PROBLEM', PAGE 9

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# 'A Knotty Problem'

FROM PAGE 8

Board Member Margaret Lorber.

In any case, Hutchings says he's refining and ramping up "school improvement planning." For example, rather than annually, principals and department heads will now meet quarterly to evaluate goals and progress.

"What we're focusing on is building capacity with our instructional leaders so that, regardless of what student walks in the door and what needs they have, we're equipped to ... meet and serve them," he said.

Achievement gaps are not unique to ACPS. They're a "knotty problem" nationwide, which educators have been working to address for decades, said former ACPS Superintendent Herb Berg.

"It is rooted in, essentially, the whole issue of poverty," which negatively impacts learning and language acquisition at an early age, causing children to "start behind the curve," he said. "The focus needs to be on those three-year-olds and up. ... You've got to do everything you can in those early, early years."

Alexandria "has the challenging dichotomy of being a high-income (per capita) city but one whose public school demographics include more than 60 percent of our students being FRL [free and reduced

price lunch, a federal program and common proxy measure of poverty]. So many of the 'academic gaps' ... can really be traced back to the 'preparation and support gaps' amongst our families," said School Board member Bill Campbell. "We need to ensure that every FRL student in the city is provided quality Pre-K experiences. This needs to be a non-negotiable. ... Our families need additional resources, distributed in an equitable manner in order to begin to see more equal outcomes."

Hutchings also acknowledged a need to focus on "foundational skills" between pre-K and third grade.

"We can't say, OK, we have these challenges in math at high school, let's just change the high school math teachers. We have to change our whole mathematics program so that the continuum of that program, from kindergarten all the way through, is being revamped and being connected, so that kids are prepared to go to high school. ... It is a systemic effort," he said.

Nevertheless, "I believe all kids can learn, regardless of their circumstances and their backgrounds and their family situation. ... We can put things in place to catch them up," he said. "If I were a statistic, I wouldn't

SEE 'A KNOTTY PROBLEM'. PAGE 21

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# OPINION

## On the Death Of John McCain

U.S. Sen. Mark R. Warner (D-VA) issued the below statement on the passing of U.S. Sen John McCain (R-AZ):

"We lost a hero tonight. John McCain served this country with honor, purpose and courage for his entire life, regardless of the personal cost. He was a giant of the Senate. His service, sacrifice and patriotism should be an inspiration to every American.

"My heart goes out to Cindy and the entire McCain family. The prayers of a grateful nation are with them during this difficult time."

## Avoidable Congestion

To the Editor:

Recently, I praised the Alexandria Police for directing traffic at the Prince Street-Route 1 South intersection during peak traffic hours. Unfortunately, this was a short-lived event, since there is no longer any police involvement at that intersection during those critical hours. Therefore, my kudos to the police chief are regrettably withdrawn.

The day before the recent Irish Festival, I sent a short note to the mayor and city manager which read: "Hopefully, either or both of you have directed the police chief to have traffic control on and around the Union and King Street intersection tomorrow, as it will be a zoo in Old Town with the Irish Festival."

The response I received from the city manager was: "You are right about the crowds expected tomorrow. Police are aware of tomorrow's event, and will deploy as they see appropriate."

However, the police chief works directly for the city manager, so the city manager's response should have been that he had directed the police chief to take appropriate action at that intersection. The "appropriate action" should be previously agreed upon steps to reduce congestion.

During the Irish Festival, I checked the Union Street-King Street intersection, and found that traffic was backed up by a city block in both the north and south lanes, with pedestrians and cyclists attempting to cross under extreme duress, and no one attempting to control this fiasco. I did however, spot one police car in the unit block of King Street with a police officer sitting in it, not visibly doing anything to alleviate the situation. By not being proactive about congestion points and managing events that create congestion, the city continues to exhibit a failure in leadership, since the city's number one priority should be public safety.

The city manager should create a congestion management plan similar to that of the City of Austin Texas, this would be a step in the right direction. I realize that Alexandria is smaller than Austin, but there are some excellent short-term actions that are feasible, such as deployment of a dedicated Traffic Mobility Unit (TMU) using police officers located at key intersections to keep traffic flowing, activating a Traffic Management



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## Providing Backpacks

**TCC Verizon Wireless Retail, located at 803 South Washington St., was one of many wireless companies across the country partnering in "The Backpack Giveaway." At this location, Manager Tony Page extended the giveaway for three days due to weather. Above, back row from left, is activist Geri Baldwin, Leroyal Goodman of Verizon, and in front row, Maya and Malik who each received a backpack and supplies on July 22 for the new school year.**

Center (TMC) to provide limited coverage of both the AM and PM peak periods and peak event/commuter activities, and implementing a "Don't Block the Box" edu-

cation effort (a subject near and dear to my heart). Alexandria, we can do so much better.

**Townsend A. "Van" Van Fleet**  
Alexandria

## BULLETIN BOARD

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

**FRIDAY/AUG. 31**  
**Application Deadline.** 5 p.m. The

Alexandria City Council is seeking applicants to fill vacancies on boards, commissions and committees. All applicants must complete a Personal Data Record no later 5 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 31. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov/Boards](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Boards) for a list of vacancies.

## WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 5

**Senior Volunteerism Seminar.** 3:30-4:30 p.m. at the Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. RSVP, the region's largest volunteer network for people 55-years-old and better, provides individualized support to seniors who are seeking their ideal service opportunities in and around Fairfax County, Arlington County and the City of Alexandria. Free and open to the public. Email [chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org](mailto:chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org) or call 703-403-5360. Visit [www.rsvpnova.org](http://www.rsvpnova.org) for more.

**Community Meeting.** 6-8 p.m. in the Sister Cities Conference Room (Room 1101), City Hall at 301 King St. The Department of Planning and Zoning will hold an open house on T.C. Williams Parker-Gray Stadium Improvements. Staff will give a brief presentation and be available to answer questions about the submitted project plans and next steps in the review process. Visit [www.acps.k12.va.us/Page/1508](http://www.acps.k12.va.us/Page/1508) for more.

## SEPT. 5-14

**School Supply Drive.** 8 a.m.-6 p.m. at the CFNC main office, 3700 Wheeler Ave., Alexandria. The Child and Family Network Centers (CFNC)

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 12



## Newly Opened

**Glory Days Grill, a sports-themed family restaurant, recently opened in the Alexandria Commons Shopping Center. Former Alexandria Mayor William D. Euille became the Alexandria restaurant's first guest last week when he helped to kick off the celebration. At left, he signs the first dollar bill commemorating the new business. The Alexandria Commons restaurant, open seven days per week, features over 6,700 square feet of bar, dining, and banquet seating. Visit [www.glorydaysgrill.com](http://www.glorydaysgrill.com).**

## Alexandria Gazette Packet

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**NEWS DEPARTMENT:**  
[gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Steven Mauren**  
Editor, 703-778-9415  
[smauren@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:smauren@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Jean Card**  
Production Editor  
[jcard@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jcard@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Vernon Miles**  
Reporter, 757-472-3435  
[vmiles@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:vmiles@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Jeanne Theismann**  
[jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com)  
@TheismannMedia

**John Bordner, Mark Mogle**  
Contributing Photographers  
[gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Eden Brown, Shirley Ruhe, Dan Brendel**  
Contributing Writers  
[gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)

**ADVERTISING:**  
For advertising information  
[sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com)  
703-778-9431

**Debbie Funk**  
Display Advertising/National Sales  
703-778-9444  
[debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Julie Ferrill**  
Display Advertising, 703-927-1364  
[jferrill@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jferrill@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Tara Lloyd**  
Display Advertising, 703-740-7128  
[tlloyd@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:tlloyd@connectionnewspapers.com)

**David Griffin**  
Marketing Assistant  
703-778-9431  
[dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Classified & Employment Advertising**  
703-778-9431

**Publisher**  
Jerry Vernon  
703-549-0004  
[jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Editor & Publisher**  
Mary Kimm  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)  
@MaryKimm

**Editor in Chief**  
Steven Mauren  
**Art/Design:**  
Laurence Poong, John Heinly,  
Ali Khaligh  
**Production Manager:**  
Geovani Flores

**Editor Emeritus:**  
Mary Anne Weber

**CIRCULATION**  
**Circulation Manager:**  
Ann Oliver  
[circulation@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:circulation@connectionnewspapers.com)

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# HISTORY



**Richard W. Bentley (1850-1939).**



**Howard Dishman, Sr., and Inez Dishman.**

COURTESY OF MR. DISHMAN

## Richard W. Bentley 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century businessman.

BY CHAR MCCARGO BAH

**N**o one is more proud of his family heritage than Mr. Howard Dishman, Sr., whose great-grandfather, Richard W. Bentley, achieved a great deal in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

During the Civil War, Richard W. Bentley's family migrated to Alexandria. At the end of the Civil War, Richard contracted himself as a farm laborer to Henry and Amanda Brown in West Bloomfield, Ontario, N.Y. Many former slaves contracted themselves out for work during and shortly after the Civil War. For Richard, he was only 15 years old when the Civil War ended. After his contract ended in New York, he came back to Alexandria.

At a young age, Mr. Bentley knew what he wanted to accomplish. He returned to Alexandria in 1870 where he obtained a job with the railroad as a porter. With money from his job as a farm laborer and railroad porter, he bought two properties on North Patrick Street. He was a multi-talented person and a businessman. In his early life, each job he held prepared him for his lifetime goal of owning a business and managing his properties. In his lifetime he was a farm laborer, hotel waiter, porter, carpenter, store owner (coal and wood), grocery store owner, merchant, property owner and a builder. He built both his houses at 313 and 315 North Patrick Street. The original house structures were built of railroad boards from the railroad. Over several decades, these houses were

renovated to meet current standards. Some of Mr. Bentley's children also became entrepreneurs. Their businesses were broom-making, tanning, barber shops and embalming.

In 1850, Richard W. Bentley was born in Middleburg, Loudoun, Va. to William and Fannie Bentley. Prior to marrying Susan Craig on June 24, 1875 in Alexandria, he had purchased his land on North Patrick Street. Richard and Sarah raised 10 children at 315 North Patrick St., they were Laura, Lula, Raymond, William, Nettie, Mabel, Cora, Morrison, Frederick and Lewis. Richard provided a middle-class life for his family. His sons attended Snowden School for boys and his daughters attended Hallowell School for girls. The boys worked in their father's business before they had their own careers. Richard also provided his newlywed children residence in his 313 and 315 North Patrick Street properties. He was also one of the few Alexandria African Americans who had a car in the early 1900s. The last vehicle he owned was a 1923 Buick, Model 23-47 Sedan, 60 HP, 6 cylinder engine, which was a five-passenger-seat car. Mr. Bentley has three grandchildren living, Dorothea, Teresa and Frankie. He has many great-grandchildren including Lynnwood Campbell and Howard Dishman, Sr. Mr. Dishman inherited his great-grandfather's properties. These properties have been in the family for over 140-years. The property on 313 North Patrick St. was recently sold. With the help of Mr. Dishman, Sr., and by using primary source documents,

SEE RICHARD W., PAGE 21

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**Walk to End Alzheimer's  
in Northern Virginia  
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Additional Walks available.  
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or call **703.359.4440**.

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# Know Your City: Housing and Racial Diversity

BY DAN BRENDL  
GAZETTE PACKET

The Gazette Packet is piloting a series of maps intended to help citizens visualize relevant data, relationships, and trends in the city's whole geographic context.

This first installment depicts racial diversity by census block and the locations of different kinds of affordable housing.

Esri's 2018 USA Diversity Index "shows the likelihood [probability expressed as a percentage] that two persons, chosen at random from the same area, belong to different race or ethnic groups. The index ranges from zero (no diversity) to 100 (complete diversity)," according to Esri's Living Atlas.

In general, low diversity doesn't necessarily imply a preponderance. An all black or all Asian area would also have a low measure of diversity. However, in Alexandria's case, the preponderance of non-Hispanic whites generally accounts for low diversity. Higher proportions of black and/or non-white Hispanic residents accounts for higher diversity.

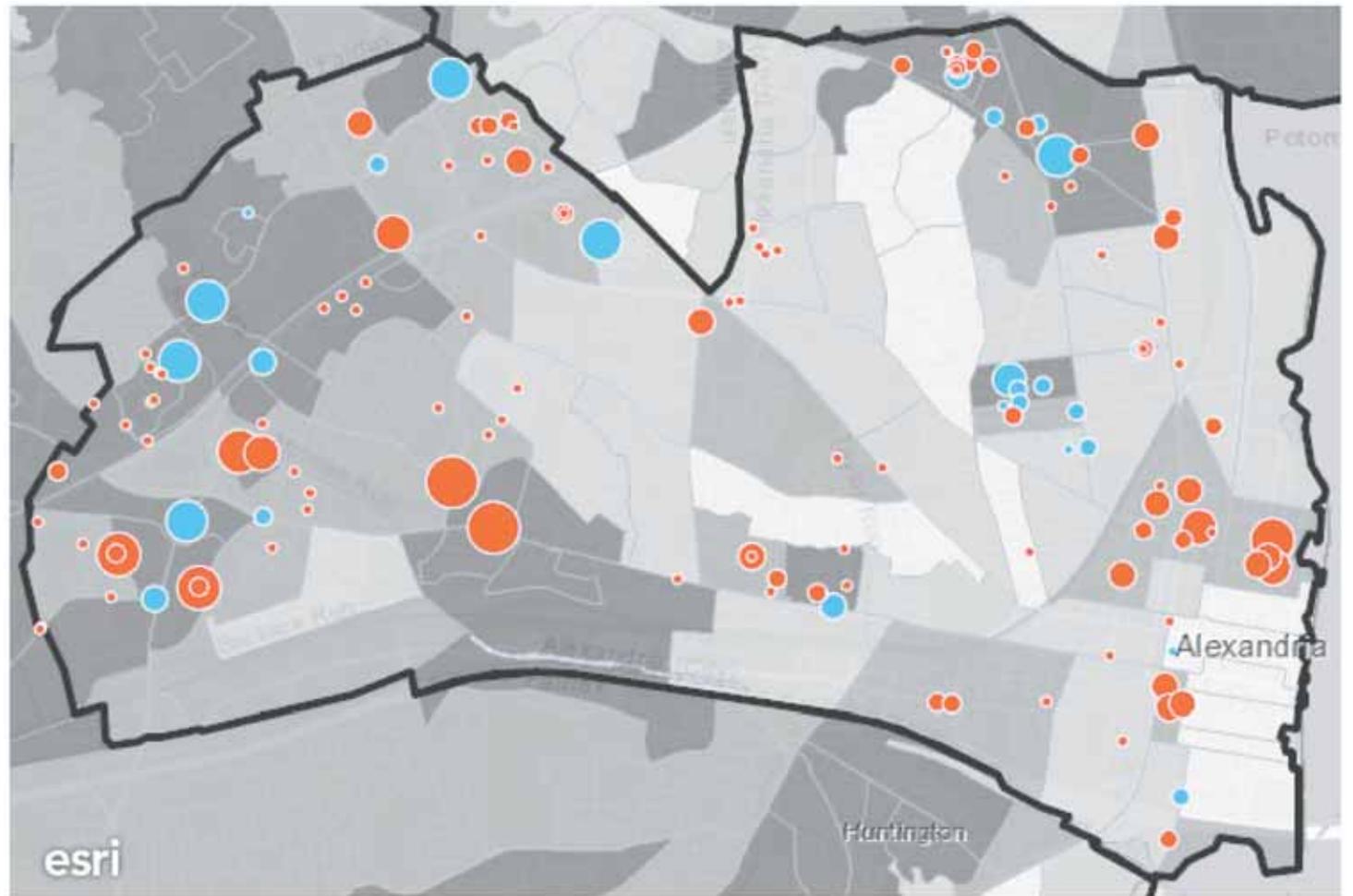
"Affordable" housing, which represents only a fraction of the city's housing stock, is categorized here as either "committed" or "market" affordable. Committed affordable units have contractually capped rents. Often, private and nonprofit developers have to keep rents at certain affordability levels in exchange for bigger building allowances from the city or federal tax credits awarded through the state. Several recent projects of this sort have targeted households making between 40-60 percent of the area median income (AMI) — roughly \$50,000-70,000 per year for a family of four.

The committed affordable category here also includes public or otherwise publicly assisted housing belonging to the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority (ARHA). Technically, public housing can serve households earning up to 80 percent of the AMI — nearly \$80,000 per year for a family of four. But in practice nearly all ARHA residents make \$50,000 per year or less; about two-thirds make \$25,000 or less; about a third make \$10,000 or less.

While not pictured here, ARHA also administers nearly over 1,900 Housing Choice Vouchers ("Section 8"). These help residents making up to 50 percent of the AMI — just under \$60,000 for a family of four — access the private rental stock. Vouchers make up the gap between what residents can afford and the market rent. To protect privacy, ARHA doesn't publish addresses where residents use vouchers.

Market affordable units have unfixed rents, which are affordable to lower-income households under market conditions at a given time.

Alexandria's market affordable stock has collapsed, from just over 18,000 units in 2000 to just over 2,000 this year. Pictured here are units accessible to households making 40-60 percent of the AMI. Without



## Committed Affordable Rental Units

- > 300 - 423
- > 150 - 300
- > 100 - 150
- > 50 - 100
- > 10 - 50
- 1 - 10

## Market Affordable Rental Units

- > 150 - 300
- > 100 - 150
- > 50 - 100
- > 10 - 50
- 1 - 10

## 2018 USA Diversity Index

- 76 - 100
- 51 - 75
- 26 - 50
- 0 - 25

**Data sources: Esri, U.S. Census Bureau, Alexandria Office of Housing. Margins of error not indicated for 2018 USA Diversity Index. Alexandria's 2018 Apartment Survey omits properties with fewer than 10 units, and certain others at the owners' request. Committed affordable unit locations have been combined where appropriate for ease of viewing.**

assistance, households making less than that can access little to none of the private

## BULLETIN BOARD

**FROM PAGE 10**  
invites area residents to invest in brighter futures for Alexandria's children — by collecting school supplies for one of their eight classrooms. Each classroom needs school supplies to start the year off right for not only students, but teachers as well. Call 703-836-0214 or visit [cfnc-online.org/school-supply-drive/](http://cfnc-online.org/school-supply-drive/) for more.

### THURSDAY/SEPT. 6

**Capital Region Business Forum.** 7:30-9:30 a.m. at Hilton McLean Tysons Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, McLean. Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam, Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan and D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser will discuss their plans to work cooperatively to bolster the regional economy. Visit [www.bot.org/](http://www.bot.org/)

housing stock. Write to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)

**upcomingevents/dmzbizforum** for more.  
**Community Input Wanted.** 7-8:30 p.m. at City Hall, 301 King St., in Sister Cities Room 1101. The City of Alexandria's Department of Transportation & Environmental Services will host public meetings to get feedback on the Phase 2 recommended Credit Policy that will be going to City Council for consideration in October. City staff will also provide background and answer questions about the adopted Stormwater Utility Fee and the adopted Phase 1 Credit Policy. Contact the Stormwater Management Division at [stormwater@alexandriava.gov](mailto:stormwater@alexandriava.gov) or 703-746-6499. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov/Stormwater](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Stormwater) to learn more.

with ideas for future of Know Your City installments.

### FRIDAY/SEPT. 7

**Thrift and Gift Shop Reopening.** 10 a.m. at Thrift and Gift Shop, Church of St. Clement, 1701 N. Quaker Lane. Shop for quality bargains in clothing for adults and children, jewelry, books, toys, housewares, collectibles, objet d'art, and more. Open Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. except Christmas and Easter. Donations accepted during open hours. Call 703 998-6166.

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 8

**Submission Deadline.** Rising 7th, 8th or 9th grader may up to \$100 this summer just by

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 20

[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

# OPINION



Meals on Wheels Volunteers Aron and Tom.



The Rotary Club of Alexandria delivers Meals on Wheels on a regular basis..

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

## Taking Care of Seniors *All summer long.*

Senior Services of Alexandria's volunteers have been busy this summer delivering Meals on Wheels, groceries, pet food, visiting and getting the information out to Alexandria's seniors. SSA thanks them for all they do in making a difference in their lives.



Friendly Visitor Pair - Meera and Alvenia



Friendly Visitor Pair - Haywood and Eli.



Animeals Volunteer Shannon.



Goodwin House Alexandria staff and residents volunteering to deliver Meals on Wheels.



Senior Information Corner Volunteer Gary at Beatley Library Senior Corner.



Groceries to Go Volunteers Jeff, Sharon, Foziya, Catherine and Giant cashier Elizabeth.

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## VDOT

Virginia Department of Transportation

**Duke Street over I-395 Bridge Rehabilitation**  
**City of Alexandria**  
 Public Information Meeting

**Thursday, September 20, 2018**  
 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
 Presentation begins at 7:15 p.m.

James K. Polk Elementary School  
 5000 Polk Avenue  
 Alexandria, VA 22304

**Find out** about plans to rehabilitate the Duke Street (Route 236) bridge over I-395 in order to improve safety for drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians. The bridge was built in 1965.

The planned improvements include a new concrete bridge deck and steel beams, replacing the westbound sidewalk with a shared-use path, and widening the eastbound sidewalk.

**Stop by** between 7 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. to view displays and learn more about the project and its preliminary design. A presentation will begin at 7:15 p.m. Project staff will be available to answer your questions.

**Review** project information at the VDOT project website ([www.virginiadot.org/projects](http://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 703-259-2607 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 **October 1, 2018** to Mr. Edwin Woo, P.E., Virginia Department of Transportation, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030, or email [meetingcomments@VDOT.virginia.gov](mailto:meetingcomments@VDOT.virginia.gov). Please reference "Duke Street over I-395 Bridge Rehabilitation" 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 Edwin Woo at 703-259-2607.

State Project: 0236-000-862, P101, C501, B621  
 UPC: 110032, Federal: STP-5A01 (792)



# ENTERTAINMENT

## MetroStage Presents 'Painted Rocks at Revolver Creek'

**Athol Fugard's take on apartheid in the 1980s and its impact on South Africa.**

BY STEVE HIBBARD

**M**etroStage in Alexandria is opening its 2018-19 season with "The Painted Rocks at Revolver Creek" by Athol Fugard from Aug. 30 to Sept. 30.

The play, directed by Artistic Associate Thomas W. Jones II, was inspired by the life of outsider artist Nukain Mabuza. In the play, Fugard depicts both the brutality of apartheid in the 1980s and the violence and ingrained patterns that continue to impact post-apartheid South Africa as well. The farmer's painted flowers and images of the rocks dotting the fields represent an abstract vision of the painter's life. And the interaction with the wife of the farm owner depicts South Africa yesterday and today as it struggles to reconcile its past and its future.

According to Producing Artistic Director Carolyn Griffin: "MetroStage has been associated with Athol Fugard plays since 1987 when we opened our first season in our first theatre (remember that strip shopping center on Duke Street across from the King Street Metro?) with 'Blood Knot' with Bill Grimmette and Nat Benchley, both of whom received Helen Hayes nominations in that two-hander. We followed with Fugard's 'The Island,' 'Sizwe Bansi is Dead' and 'Boesman and Lena,' all timeless plays that continue to be produced today. We followed our Fugard phase with the U.S. premiere of 'Mooi Street Moves,' by South African playwright Paul Slabolepszy, a playwright discovered by my daughter Jennifer Griffin when she saw his play and met him at the Market Theatre in Johannesburg. So, it is only fitting that as we approach our final season in our theatre here in North Old Town we would return to this iconic playwright."

Griffin said with "The Painted Rocks at Revolver Creek" being Fugard's most recent play, it is a fictionalized version of the life



The cast of "The Painted Rocks at Revolver Creek."

of farmer and outsider artist Nukain Mabuza, and his second play inspired by an outsider artist ("Road to Mecca" about Helen Martins and her "Owl House" being his first).

In "Painted Rocks," Fugard covers two decades of South African history placing the first act in 1980 under apartheid rule and then the characters' return 20 years later in post-apartheid South Africa. "It is a fascinating study of the impact of apartheid on both the farmers as well as the farm owners, through the lens of the playwright," she said.

Jeremy Hunter plays the role of Jonathan Sejake who is first experienced as an 11-year-old referred to as 'Bokkie.' The only real understanding of him is from his relationship with Nukain (his Tata or Outa). "It is your typical loving grandfather/grandson relationship, but what is most intriguing is the activity that is happening onstage," he said. "Bokkie is assisting Nukain paint 'The Big One'... a big rock at the top of the hill. As they talk and work, Bokkie witnesses a transformation in Nukain. The revelation is staggering for Bokkie, but it causes him to see Nukain in a completely new light; with tremendous pride and dignity. This is

shattered, however, when Mrs. Kleynhans interrupts their work," he said.

Following the events that transpire, Hunter said the audience doesn't see Nukain or Bokkie again for some time. Twenty years pass, Nukain has died, and Bokkie (who ran away from their home) is now returning a man. Seeking resolution and closure, Jonathan's journey has led him from apartheid South Africa to the newly liberated Zimbabwe and back again. Weathered, wise, and kind; Jonathan returns to explain the transformation and tell the story of his beloved Nukain.

Hunter said the challenge for him was creating the South African accent. "I've never been as immersed in a culture as to adopt an accent and the process has been jarring. Trying to remember the sounds words make; the placement of it in the mouth and body; it is extremely challenging," he said. "Even more so the fact that South Africa has 11 languages that are spoken and my character lived both here as well as Zimbabwe, which has its own dialect and flavor. Everything else for me has been, lol, relatively simple in comparison to this," he said.

Marni Penning Coleman plays the role of

Elmarie Kleynhans, an Afrikaner in her 40s who has grown up in South Africa and never known any way of life except the "way things are" in apartheid-era Revolver Creek. "She is the wife of 'Baas Hennie,' who runs the farm, and is a devout Christian who is sure that God will protect her and the people she loves from 'the trouble they are having up there in Johannesburg.' She thinks she is doing all the right things, but is fully benefiting from the oppressed society in which she lives," she said.

Fast-forward to post-apartheid South Africa in 2003 in the second act, and she's now in charge of the farm. But her faith is faltering as, like a modern-day Job, she sees the privileged life and society she's come to rely upon crumbling around her, and God seemingly nowhere to be found. Confronting "someone she used to know," she struggles to understand her place and role in the "story" of their "New South Africa."

She adds: "The sincere challenge of this role is not only the Afrikaans dialect (with which, luckily, I have a native Afrikaner who lives in D.C. to help me), but also playing someone who holds onto the belief that she has every right to be on land, which was stolen from the African people by her ancestors more than 150 years prior. Interestingly, we're talking about the same span of time that we are now from the American Civil War."

Actor Doug Brown returns to MetroStage having performed in "The Island" and "Mooi Street Moves" previously. Marni Penning played Roy Cohn in last year's "Are You Now or Have You Ever Been," and young Jeremiah Hasty, a rising seventh-grader, was last seen in the world premiere of "Uprising." Jeremy Hunter, last seen at Mosaic Theatre in "Hooded or Being Black for Dummies," is making his MetroStage debut.

MetroStage is presenting "The Painted Rocks at Revolver Creek" from Aug. 30 to Sept. 30. Performances will be Thursdays and Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m., Sundays at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets are \$55 with student and active military and group discounts available with Flex Passes available for four or more tickets. For ticket reservations or information about group sales, call 703-548-9044 or visit [www.metrostage.org](http://www.metrostage.org).

### CALENDAR

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

#### ONGOING

**Art Exhibit: "Off the Grid."** Through Aug. 31, gallery hours at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. "Off the Grid" is an exhibit of artwork by Fairfax County and City of Alexandria inmates. The inmates vary in age, background and artistic experience, with most having never drawn before their lessons with volunteer art instructor Kelli Schollard-Sincock. Visit [torpedofactory.org](http://torpedofactory.org).

**Fine Art Photography Exhibit.**

Through Sept. 2 at Multiple Exposures Gallery, located in Studio 312 at the Torpedo Factory Art Center in Alexandria. Show features 30 images juried by Mark L. Power. Exhibition hours are 11 a.m.-5 p.m. daily, except Thursdays, 2 p.m.-8 p.m. Visit [www.multipleexposuresgallery.com](http://www.multipleexposuresgallery.com).

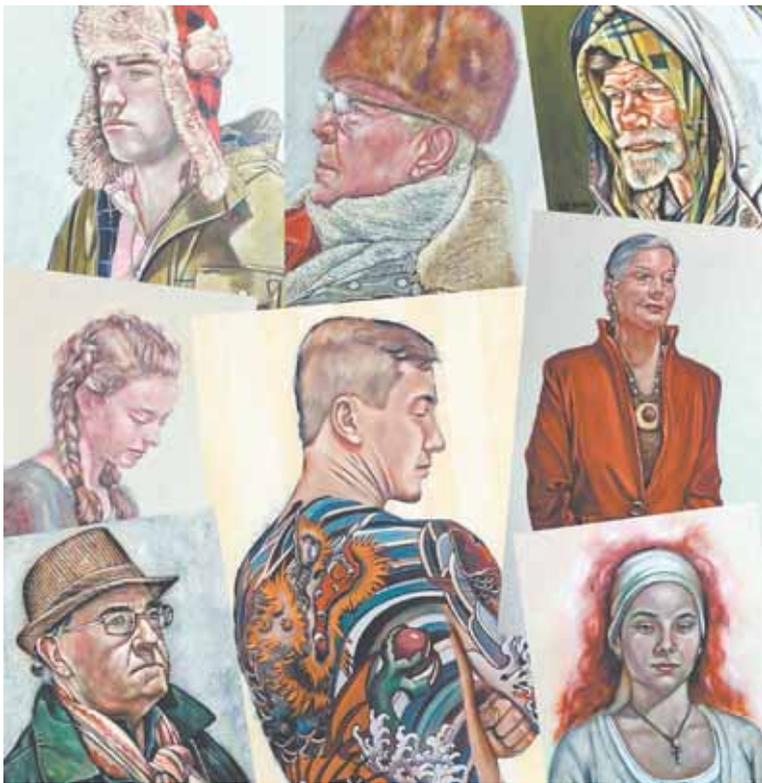
**Art Exhibit: "A Murder in Bruges: A Cast of Characters."** Through Sept. 2, gallery hours at The Art League Gallery, 105 North Union St., Studio 21. Artist Ito Briones's whodunit pays homage to the great mystery writers, from Sir Arthur Conan Doyle to Agatha Christie. This interactive exhibit, inspired by classic murder mysteries, presents viewers with a trail of clues that lead to a



**Stoneware lantern with geometric cutouts by Pam Eisenmann of Springfield; stoneware platter with indigo abstract framing by Jennifer Coffin of Fairfax; high-fire geometric shard dish by Bev Andrews of Alexandria; and crystalline-glazed vase with indigo highlights by Bikki Stricker of Falls Church.**

### Geometrics Kiln Club Show

Earthy Encore Spotlights Shapeshifting in Clay. Sept. 2-30 at Scope Gallery, 105 North Union St., Studio 19, Torpedo Factory, Alexandria. Monday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 13 open until 9 p.m. and Friday, Sept. 14 until 10 p.m. Call Scope Gallery at 703-548-6288, visit [www.scopegallery.org](http://www.scopegallery.org).



Portraits in Briones' Exhibit

## A Murder in Bruges: A Cast of Characters

Artist Ito Briones's whodunit pays homage to the great mystery writers, from Sir Arthur Conan Doyle to Agatha Christie. This interactive exhibit, inspired by classic murder mysteries, presents viewers with a trail of clues that lead to a suspect hidden in plain sight; the murderer's portrait is among the twenty five characters on display. Through Sept. 2, gallery hours at The Art League Gallery, 105 North Union St., Studio 21. Visit [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org) or call 703-683-1780.

suspect hidden in plain sight; the murderer's portrait is among the twenty five characters on display. Opening reception Thursday, Aug. 9, 6:30-8 p.m. Visit [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org) or call 703-683-1780.

**Art Exhibit: Art, Light, and Metaphor.** Through Sept. 2 at Target Gallery in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. New exhibition explores the connections between art, light, and metaphor. The opening reception will be the cornerstone of the Torpedo Factory Art Center's Late Shift: Bright Lights on Friday, July 20, 7-9 pm. A Gallery Talk with select artist comments will take place at 8 p.m. There will also be a special Illuminate pop-up exhibition in the Grand Hall. Learn more at [torpedofactory.org/target](http://torpedofactory.org/target).

**Ceramics Combust.** Through Sept. 2 at Scope Gallery, 105 North Union St., Studio 19, Torpedo Factory Art Center, Alexandria. Featuring "Brilliance: An Exploration of Heat and Light." Hours are Monday through Sunday from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., with Thursdays open until 9 p.m. Call Scope Gallery at 703-548-6288, visit [www.scopegallery.org](http://www.scopegallery.org), [www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope](http://www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope).

**Ancestry Art Exhibit.** Through Sept. 2, at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. The "Ancestry" exhibit at Del Ray Artisans showcases how the diverse, vibrant cultures of our members come together to form one strong community. Visit [www.DelRayArtisans.org](http://www.DelRayArtisans.org).

**Honoring Our Veterans Exhibit.** Through Labor Day, at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St., Alexandria. Included in museum admission - Adults: \$5, Children (ages 5-12): \$3. After his service in the Revolutionary War, Hamilton went home to contribute to his community and nation. As part of the World War I 100th Commemoration,

learn how returning veterans served Alexandria, including American Legion Post #24, which restored Gadsby's Tavern in honor of WWI veterans. See how the museum looked under their care and hear about the contributions veterans still make to the City of Alexandria today. Visit [www.gadsbystavern.org](http://www.gadsbystavern.org).

**"Dredging The Lethe."** On view through Sept. 14 at The Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Free admission. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org). Wrapped around the interior wall of a smokestack of the former munitions factory, Kara Hammond's mural, "Dredging the Lethe," uses recycled book-pages, collage, charcoal, gesso and ink to create large-scale drawings of Greek goddesses amid contemporary human events. Free admission. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org).

### FRIDAY/AUG. 31

**Four Mile Movies: Space Jam.** 6:30 p.m., film begins at dusk, Four Mile Conservatory Center 4109 Mt. Vernon Ave. A summer tradition in Alexandria 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](http://www.fourmilemovieseries.com).

**Mount Vernon Nights.** 7:30 p.m. at Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mt. Vernon Memorial Highway. This series of free, public concerts features a variety of musical performances reflecting Fairfax County's diversity, culture and community spirit. Bring a picnic dinner and a blanket and enjoy one of Fairfax County's special summer traditions. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/mt-vernon-nights](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/mt-vernon-nights).

**Twilight Hilltop Tour.** 8-9 p.m. at Historic Huntley, 6918 Harrison Lane, Alexandria. This historic site sits high upon a hill overlooking Hybla Valley and Huntley Meadows

## 4 Foodie Dates to Circle in September

BY HOPE NELSON \$89.

School's back in session, there's a hint of crispness to the air and life is getting back to normal from a season of vacations and patio parties. Here are four ways to ease back into regular life — while keeping the fun firmly intact.

### Nalls Produce Block Party, Sept. 8

One of Alexandria's most beloved plant and veggie purveyors is gearing up for its ninth annual block party. Families can munch on food, take part in activities and hop into the moonbounce. More than a dozen vendors and service providers from around the area will be on hand to showcase their wares. 7310 Beulah St. 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

### Catoctin Creek Cocktail Collaboration at Captain Gregory's, Sept. 12

Nearby distillery Catoctin Creek has teamed up with the cocktail magicians at Captain Gregory's to whip up four beverages featuring the distillery's brandy, gin and rye whiskey offerings. Each cocktail will pair with a small plate; nosh and sip at one of two seatings over the course of the evening. 804 N. Henry St. Seatings at 6:30 and 8:30 p.m.

### September Bingo Night at Stomping Ground, Sept. 16

Oktoberfest is the watchword of the night at Stomping Ground's monthly bingo night. Feast on bratwurst with apples and sauerkraut, as well as — what else? — German potato salad. Beer and wine for purchase. Once you're finished with dinner, get on with the business of Bingo. 2309 Mount Vernon Ave. Food at 6 p.m.; game at 7 p.m. Adults only. \$25.

### Mansion House Whiskey Tasting at Carlyle House, Sept. 29

As summer turns to fall, attention turns from lighter, cooler beverages to the hearty, full-bodied likes of whiskey. Take a trip back in time to the era of the old Mansion House Hotel — originally situated on the site of the Carlyle House — and hear about bygone Virginia from a local historian. Ticket price includes a house tour, heavy hors d'oeuvres and four whiskey samples. 121 N. Fairfax St. 6:30-9 p.m. \$75 general admission; \$35 for young professionals aged 21-35.

*Hope Nelson owns and operates the Kitchen Recessionista blog, located at [www.kitchenrecessionista.com](http://www.kitchenrecessionista.com). Email her any time at [hope@kitchenrecessionista.com](mailto:hope@kitchenrecessionista.com).*



PHOTO BY FRED ZAFRAN

## Fine Art Photography Exhibit

Show features 30 images juried by Mark L. Power. Exhibition hours are 11 a.m.-5 p.m. daily, except Thursdays, 2 p.m.-8 p.m. through Sept. 2, at Multiple Exposures Gallery, located in Studio 312 at the Torpedo Factory Art Center in Alexandria. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org).

**Park.** It's a dramatic setting made all the more stunning by the setting sun. Join this after-hours tour to see the house in a different light. Light refreshments will be served afterward. \$5. Call the park at 703-768-2525 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/historic-huntley](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/historic-huntley).

**Ulysses S. James Competition Prize of \$1,000.** Visit [www.wmpamusic.org](http://www.wmpamusic.org). Email WMPA Executive Director Esther Covington at [wmpa.execdir@gmail.com](mailto:wmpa.execdir@gmail.com).

**Autumn Show-Stoppers.** 10-11:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Find ways to jazz up your fall garden. Horticulturist Brenda Skarphol will discuss dividing perennials, planting cool-season plants and ways to beautify your garden with fall season show-stoppers. A special emphasis will be placed on plants that are good for pollinators and other wildlife. \$18. Call 703-642-5173 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/green-spring](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/green-spring).

**Story Time for Little Historians.** 11 a.m. at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St., Alexandria. Featuring The Spider Weaver: A Legend of Kente Cloth by Margaret Musgrove and Julia Cairns.

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 1

**Entry Deadline.** The Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic is accepting submissions for its 12th annual composition competition. The upcoming 2018-2019 season, Spotlight on Women Composers, will feature five concerts of music composed almost exclusively by women. The winning composition will be selected for two performances at the December philharmonic concert. The winner of the competition will also receive the

Children's story time in the Watson Reading Room (located next door to the museum). Join in cultural stories and creative craft activities. Explore the museum exhibits afterwards to learn about local Black History. All ages welcome, but most suitable for children 3-6 years old. \$3 admission ages 3-plus. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov](http://www.alexandriava.gov).

**The Spider Weaver: A Legend of Kente Cloth.** 11 a.m. at The Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St., Alexandria. By Margaret Musgrove and Julia Cairns. Visit [alexandriava.gov/Historic](http://alexandriava.gov/Historic).

**Welsh Choir.** 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Center, 4915 E. Campus Drive, Alexandria. Eschoir is a Welsh male choir based in London, formed in 2009 at the Borough Welsh Chapel near London Bridge. \$10-\$50. Visit [thewnaa.org/single-event-will-call-tickets.html](http://thewnaa.org/single-event-will-call-tickets.html).

### SUNDAY/SEPT. 2

**BBQ and Beer.** 5 p.m. at Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way Lorton. New Orleans Funk band Bonerama is performing in the Rizer Pavilion on the Workhouse Arts Center's newly remodeled center Quad. There will be food trucks and beer/wine/soft drinks available for sale. Early bird pricing: \$20 per person. Visit [www.workhousearts.org/event/bbq-beer-bonerama/](http://www.workhousearts.org/event/bbq-beer-bonerama/) for tickets.

### SEPT. 4-OCT. 14

**Photography Exhibition: Michael Borek.** Gallery hours at Multiple Exposures Gallery, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. "Aimless Walk Reprise" presents 22 photographs taken by Michael Borek in his native Czech Republic. Over the last 10 years, Borek continued to return to photograph an old blue-collar neighborhood in Prague, where he grew up. Visit [www.multipleexposuresgallery.com](http://www.multipleexposuresgallery.com).

## ENTERTAINMENT

# Meet Chef Mark Williams — at Al's Steak House

BY SHIRLEY RUHE

**E**ight rib eye steaks smothered in provolone cheese sit side by side on the grill at Al's Steak House in Del Ray. Chef Mark Williams says, "We cut the ribeye fresh every day from an 8-10 pound chunk of meat." They order twice a week, a total of about 200 pounds. And 200 mixed rolls a day, 400 on a busy day.

Williams is currently filling an order for eight Romas, the most popular Philly (or hot sub). He piles on rib eye with provolone, grilled onions, lettuce and tomato and spreads mayo on a 12-inch sub roll. Earlier he had sautéed a large portion of rib eye. "It is sliced real thin. We don't chop it, just slice it so it cooks up real well." He works around the meat on the grill for 10-15 minutes and adds the special seasoning.

Jim Breeding says, "We make the steak seasoning in-house. and people have been trying to duplicate it for years. It makes everything you put it on very tasty. I am the owner of Al's, sort of. My daughter is actually the owner. She is in med school. I am the kitchen help."

His wife, Dorothy, is the manager, taking orders and making all of the desserts. Dorothy Breeding interjects, "Pecan pie and sweet potato pie are the favorites."

Jim Breeding says they bought the restaurant in 2015. The restaurant was originally opened by Al Martino in 1955. Jim Breeding says, "We grew up in Del Ray and have been coming here since we were little."

Dorothy Breeding adds that now they run into people all the time who tell them stories about Al's. "One man we just met at the Arlington County Fair said his parents met 50 years ago at Al's. Another woman had a similar story. I didn't know Al's had such a relationship history."

But the day they opened, a fire broke out behind the grill and four hours later the restaurant had burned down. Dorothy Breeding says, "We were closed for a year but Del Ray really came together to support us. They raised \$20,000 to help us rebuild."

Williams has just moved from the breakfast crowd into the lunch bunch. "The most popular breakfast item is the bacon, egg and cheese on a homemade buttermilk biscuit."

Jim Breeding says, "We put on six pieces of bacon. It is called the Cathead because the biscuits are the size of a catfish." Another favorite is the corn beef hash with their Hobe sauce, "mayo based, our version of hollandaise."

Jim Breeding says, "Sue in the back makes the barbecue and the chili and house-made half smokes." They are pork spiced with seasonings like garlic, salt and pepper, onion powder, according to Dorothy Breeding, and then smoked at a low temperature for 3-4 hours in the smoker in the back. The half smokes come with raw onions, mustard and home made chili made with rib eye, no beans.

Sue also makes the cheese balls. Williams says at one time everybody had to get them. But then they couldn't find them anymore. So now Williams deep fries homemade cheese balls with chunks of American cheese coated with a light crust. "They have a little bit of spice at the end." He piles them into a white paper dish.



PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE

**An eight-ten pound rib eye is cut fresh every day for cheese steaks at Al's Steak House in Del Ray.**



**Chef Mark Williams cooks ribeye up on the grill for eight Roman cheese steaks, the most popular order at Al's.**



**Williams sautés the thin rib eye slices, then tops with American cheese and melts it for 30 seconds.**



**Jim and Dorothy Breeding manage Al's Steak House that is owned by their daughter who is currently in medical school.**

Williams received his degree at Johnson & Wales culinary school in Charlotte, N.C. He says he has had a dream of being a cook since he was 11 years old watching his mother cook big dinners every Sunday. She would have a pasta and soul food like fried chicken, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, chicken and dumplings. "I would tell her I wanted to be a chef someday."

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## ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO BY SHIRLEY RUHE

Le Refuge awaits the Friday lunch crowd.

## Joyeux Trente-et-Cinq Anniversaire

BY SHIRLEY RUHE

**L**e Refuge will celebrate its 35th year at 127 N. Washington St. on Sept. 27. Jean-Francois Chaufour came to this country with his wife and his desire to live out the American dream of owning his own restaurant in America. His daughter, Anne-Claire Fregnan, says he had worked in some of the finest hotels in southern France and England.

### PREVIEW

Fregnan readies the restaurant for the Friday lunch crowd as she sets fresh red carnations on each table in the dining room filled with French memorabilia. She says that the menu and tastes have stayed much the same for the 35 years. “The one thing that is different may be the gluten sensitivities but when people come to a French restaurant they like the sauces. They come for a particular dish they like.”

She says people flock to the soft-shelled crabs that are served with almonds and garlic butter. Another favorite is the bouillabaisse. “It has fresh rockfish, salmon, clams, mussels, shrimp and scallops.” One of today’s specials is the quiche Lorraine. Some people return time and time again for the frog’s legs.

And she says people like the specialty cocktails that appear hand written on the small chalkboard by the window such as the popular Cardinal which is chilled red wine, fresh raspberries and creme de cassis. Or the cocktail of the day, which today is champagne with passion fruit liqueur.

Le Refuge is open from 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. for lunch and 5:30-10 p.m. for dinner. Fregnan says this is a difference they have seen over the years. “We used to have people come in for dinner at 9 or 10. “Now it’s an earlier crowd, more like 5:30 or 6. We don’t know why.”

After 35 years, Fregnan says they hope to express customer appreciation on their anniversary. “Some people have been coming here for 35 years.”

### CALENDAR

#### WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 5

**Ambassador Tom Pickering.** 7:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon Kiwanis Club, 5111 Old Mill Road, Alexandria. Pickering is Vice Chair of Hills & Company. He served as Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs under President Clinton and as U.S. Ambassador to Russia, India, Israel, El Salvador, Nigeria, and Jordan. He was the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations in the first Bush Administration, and held positions including Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of Oceans, Environmental and Scientific Affairs, and Special Assistant to Secretaries of State William Rogers and Henry Kissinger. Call 703-780-8494 prior to Sept. 5 to attend.

#### THURSDAY/SEPT. 6

**First Thursday Del Ray.** 6-9 p.m.

Along Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. First Thursdays is a series of free outdoor street festivals along Mount Vernon Avenue. Every first Thursday of the month, the Del Ray Business Association features businesses along Mount Vernon Avenue, special events, food and music. Each month has a different theme with activities for children, live music and a festive atmosphere. Visit [www.visitdelray.com](http://www.visitdelray.com).

#### SEPT. 6-OCT. 7

**Exhibit: ‘Natural Reaction.’** Gallery hours at The Art League Gallery, 105 North Union St., Studio 21, Torpedo Factory, Alexandria. Sculptor and printmaker Brian Kirk courts chemical reactions to create ephemeral, phantom-like prints from rusting metal. A marriage of art and science, Kirk’s rust prints bloom in hues of lush amber, ochre, and

apricot. Born of rigid metal, from saw blades to steel wool, the prints that emerge are organic, almost cellular. Visit [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org) or 703-683-1780.

#### FRIDAY/SEPT. 7

**Solo Painting Exhibition Opening Night.** 5-8 p.m. at Gallery Underground, 2100 Crystal Drive, Arlington. Featuring work by Barry Barnett Keith, a graduate of T.C. Williams and The University of Delaware Art School. Call 301-518-9093.

**Opening Reception: ‘Eat, Drink, and Be Merry.’** 7-9 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. A national ceramic show that celebrates dining and food with a regional art exhibit echoing these themes. Visit [DelRayArtisans.org/event/eat-drink-be-merry](http://DelRayArtisans.org/event/eat-drink-be-merry).

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# ENTERTAINMENT



**Barry Barnett Keith, an Alexandria native and graduate of T.C. Williams having (juried) solo painting exhibit at Gallery Underground in Crystal City.**

## Solo Painting Exhibition

Featuring work by Barry Barnett Keith, a graduate of T.C. Williams and The University of Delaware Art School. Opening reception, Friday, Sept. 7, 5-8 p.m. at Gallery Underground, 2100 Crystal Drive, Arlington. Call 301-518-9093.

## CALENDAR

### SEPT. 7-30

**Art Exhibit: "Eat, Drink, and Be Merry."** At Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. A national ceramic show that celebrates dining and food with a regional art exhibit echoing these themes. Visit [DelRayArtisans.org/event/eat-drink-be-merry](http://DelRayArtisans.org/event/eat-drink-be-merry).

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 8

**Craft and Family Fun Fair.** 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 8009 Ft. Hunt Road, Alexandria. Featuring handmade arts and crafts, live piano music, baked goods prepared by parishioners, and children's games like plinko and a moon-bounce. Visit [www.saintlukeschurch.net](http://www.saintlukeschurch.net).

**Chicken BBQ and Yard Sale.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Fairlington United Methodist Church, 3900 King St. The United Methodist Men will hold a chicken BBQ and yard sale. A half-chicken meal with beans, cole slaw, roll and drink for \$10; pint of beans or cole slaw for \$2. All profits will support local community charities. Call the church office, 703-671-8557.

**T&ES Open House.** 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at 2900 Business Center Drive, Alexandria. The City's Department of Transportation & Environmental Services (T&ES) Open House will provide an up-close, hands-on look at the work of the department that oversees City refuse collection, street cleaning, sewer maintenance, recycling, water quality, traffic engineering, and transit services. This free, family-friendly event will allow residents and businesses to learn about important City services and meet staff who help keep Alexandria mobile, clean, safe and eco-friendly. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov/TES](http://www.alexandriava.gov/TES).

**Ceramics Workshop.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at The Clay Queen Pottery, 2303 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Ceramic artist Lisa York presents "Bowls and Plates with Nice Curves." The demonstration explores curves and form, surface decorations, thrown and alteration techniques. Visit [DelRayArtisans.org](http://DelRayArtisans.org).

**Celebrate Honey Bee Day.** 10 a.m.-noon at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Where would we be without the honey bee? Celebrate this wondrous insect with the Northern Virginia Beekeepers Association. Meet a beekeeper, see inside a beehive, learn a bee dance, do a bee scavenger hunt, learn how bees are important to the food supply and get tips on how to help honey bees. Free. Call 703-642-5173 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/green-spring](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/green-spring).

**Chakra Balancing On and Off the Mat & Chakra Mudras.** 2-4 p.m. at 532 Yoga, 532 North Washington St., Alexandria. Learn about Chakras and how to move inert energy. Cost: \$15 before Sept. 1, \$20 thereafter. Visit [www.532yoga.com](http://www.532yoga.com).

**Visual Arts Workshop: Seeing Beauty.** 2-4 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Cost is \$34/person. Register online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes) using code 290 431 3701 or call 703-642-5173 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/green-spring](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/green-spring).

**Platinum Moments.** 4-6:30 p.m. at Rachael M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, 4915 E. Campus Drive, Alexandria. Alexandria's hometown barbershop chorus is celebrating its 70th anniversary by reprising memorable songs from past performances and by hosting world-class barbershop ensembles from Florida and Toronto, Canada. \$35. Visit [www.harmonizers.org](http://www.harmonizers.org).

### SEPT. 8-OCT. 21

**Exhibition: 'Juxtaposed.'** At Target Gallery at The Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. New exhibition explores the Art of Contradiction and investigates opposing or conflicting themes through art. The exhibition features 25 artworks by 12 artists from all over the country. Juxtaposed was juried by Megan Rook-Koepsel, a D.C.-based independent curator.

### SUNDAY/SEPT. 9

**George Washington Patriot Run.** 8

a.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Admission: \$50 per runner if purchased prior to Sept. 3; \$60 per runner after Sept. 3; \$10 for spectator tickets at the finish line. A free Kids Run will be held near the finish line at Mount Vernon (registration required). All 10K and 5K runners will receive a T-shirt and a finisher medal. Call 703-780-2000 or visit [www.MountVernon.org](http://www.MountVernon.org).

**Apothecary Museum Geek Tours: American Sign Language.** 11 a.m.-noon at The Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 105 S. Fairfax St., Alexandria. Learn about the muggle botanical science that inspired the potions and herbology of J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter series, and make a magical sleeping potion. This tour will be conducted exclusively in American Sign Language. Admission \$15. Call 703-746-3852 or visit [www.alexandriava.gov](http://www.alexandriava.gov).

**Outlandish Fashion Show and Tea.** 2 p.m. at 121 N. Fairfax St., Alexandria. Do you love the Outlander books and/or the television show? Then stop by for tea and a special fashion show on the Magnolia Terrace. Members of the Appin Regiment, an 18th century Scottish Living History group, will model the fashions from the time period. \$45 per adult, \$25 per child (5-12), children under 5 are free. Tickets available online. Everyone in party must be registered. Visit [www.novaparks.com/parks/carlyle-house-historic-park](http://www.novaparks.com/parks/carlyle-house-historic-park).

**Factory Seconds Brass Trio.** 7 p.m. at Peace Lutheran Church, 6362 Lincolnia Road, Alexandria. Brass of Peace will host members of the Cleveland Orchestra that make up The Factory Seconds Brass Trio — Jack Sutte, Trumpet; Jesse McCormick, Horn; and Richard Stout, Trombone. Each musician occupies the Second Chair position in their respective section within The Cleveland Orchestra, and all are faculty members as well as Ensemble in Residence at Baldwin Wallace Conservatory. Visit [www.brassofpeace.org](http://www.brassofpeace.org).

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PHOTOS BY JEFF MCQUILKIN/GAZETTE PACKET

**T.C. Williams running back Anthony Eaton scored six touchdowns against Osbourn Park on Aug. 24.**

**T.C. Williams quarterback Ricardo Ross carries the ball during the Titans' victory over Osbourn Park on Aug. 24.**

## TC's Eaton Scores Six Touchdowns Against Osbourn Park

**Titan running back ties school record against Yellow Jackets.**

BY JON ROETMAN  
GAZETTE PACKET

Shortly after putting on a historic performance during T.C. Williams' season opener, junior Anthony Eaton informed a reporter that he had yet to commit to a college program.

Standing close by, Eaton's head coach offered reassurance.

"It won't," Jimmy Longerbeam said, "be long."

Indeed, Eaton's effort on Friday gave the indication that for No. 5, ample college opportunities would be right around the corner. Eaton produced 233 yards of total offense and scored six touchdowns, leading the T.C. Williams football team to a 65-32 home victory on Aug. 24.

Eaton's six touchdowns tied a single-game school record, according to Longerbeam.

"Nothing surprises me," Longerbeam said about Eaton. "He works hard. We've seen his ability all the time."

An Osbourn Park touchdown cut the T.C. Williams lead to 38-32 with 11:41 remaining in the game. But the Titans closed the contest with 27 unanswered points.

T.C. Williams showed off its playmaking ability throughout the game, producing



**T.C. Williams head coach Jimmy Longerbeam speaks to the Titans following the team's 65-32 win over Osbourn Park on Aug. 24.**

points with offense, defense and special teams. No player on the field was more dangerous than Eaton, who carried 10 times for 147 yards and five touchdowns and caught three passes for 86 yards and a score. His sixth touchdown, a 9-yard run, helped give the Titans a 52-32 lead with 7:48 remaining in the contest.

Eaton also scored on runs of 23, 1, 33 and 80 yards. With less than five minutes remaining in the opening quarter, a wide-open Eaton caught a quick pass from quarterback Jack Rossi and raced down the field for a 77-yard touchdown.

Eaton is listed at 6 feet and 185 pounds. Longerbeam said the talented ball carrier could build himself up to 215 or 220 pounds by the time he's in college.

"He's got great work ethic," Longerbeam said. "... He's a great kid and really good academically, and ... he's just really, really explosive. ... He can run and he's powerful. He's kind of the whole package."

Rossi, a senior, completed 9 of 15 passes for 141 yards, with one touchdown and one interception. Junior Ricardo Ross, who also saw time at quarterback, produced 50 yards and a touchdown on the ground.

Longerbeam said both could see time at quarterback moving forward.

"We figure both of them add a certain thing to the team," Longerbeam said. "Ricardo can run. I thought Jack made some nice throws. We may end up playing both of those guys — have packages for both of them — because it's just one more thing, defensively, that you have to prepare for."

Senior linebacker Lamont Williams returned an Osbourn Park fumble 98 yards for a touchdown in the second quarter.

Senior safety Tavarus Brown returned a kickoff 75 yards for a score, ran a punt back 50 yards to the Yellow Jacket 1-yard line, and intercepted a pass.

Junior receiver Robert Longerbeam scored the final touchdown of the game when he returned a punt 72 yards with 3:50 remaining in the fourth quarter. He also snagged an interception.

"It feels good," Eaton said about the victory. "[Hopefully] we can get better moving forward and blow more teams out."

The Titans did leave room for improvement. T.C. Williams turned the ball over six times against Osbourn Park and allowed multiple big plays on special teams.

Next up for the Titans is a road game against Gar-Field at 7 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 31. While T.C. Williams is a work in progress, the Titans know Eaton is a big-time playmaker in the backfield.

A playmaker with a bright future.

"[Eaton is] a young kid, he's getting better every day," Brown said. "I've seen him since he was 9 or 10. I love watching him play. He's a good kid."

### BULLETIN BOARD

**FROM PAGE 12**  
writing a simple essay or poem. Enter the 4th Annual "For Love of Country" Essay & Poetry Contest. This year's theme is "You're Eighteen, and Your Friends Say They Don't Want to Vote. What Do You Say?" Submit your essay at any Alexandria Library branch location. Email [iwest@alexlibraryva.org](mailto:iwest@alexlibraryva.org) for more.

**SUNDAY/SEPT. 9**  
"United in Faith for 186 Years." 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. at Roberts Memorial United Methodist Church, 606-A South Washington St. Celebrating Homecoming "United in Faith for 186 Years" with Rev. Dr. James G. Daniely and speaker Rev Charles Roberts of Leesburg, Va. Available parking at Damaine Funeral Home

and Lyles Crouch School, located on St Asaph Street. Visit [robertsumc.org](http://robertsumc.org) or call 703-836-7332.

**MONDAY/SEPT. 10**  
**Foster Parent Orientation.** 6-7:30 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. 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 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](mailto:Christine.Levine@alexandriava.gov).

**THURSDAY/SEPT. 13**  
**Volunteer Training – Historic**

**Alexandria.** 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. The Office of Historic Alexandria is recruiting volunteers to lead school programs at Alexandria Archaeology Museum, Alexandria's History Museum at the Lyceum, Gadsby's Tavern Museum, and the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum. To apply, email [Michele.Longo@alexandriava.gov](mailto:Michele.Longo@alexandriava.gov) or call 703-746-4242.



Kate Crawley and David Hawkins at Pop's Old Fashioned Ice Cream.

# #WeAreAlexandria

FROM PAGE 4

Supporting small businesses within the Alexandria community is an integral part of the #WeAreAlexandria campaign. Michael Day, managing broker of the Alexandria office, said, "Imagine Alexandria without the local restaurants, boutiques and coffee shops? Today, it's a bustling city

and community. Visit the Old Town farmers market on a Saturday, and you will get a real sense of pride meeting with all the local artisans, farmers, and craftsmen. And, it never fails, you will always run into friends ... this is Alexandria." To learn more about the #WeAreAlexandria campaign, visit [www.WeAreAlexandria.com](http://www.WeAreAlexandria.com).

# Richard W. Bentley

FROM PAGE 11

Richard's story came to light. On May 2, 1919, Richard's beloved wife, Susan Craig Bentley died. Richard lived for another 20 years. Based on his death certificate, he died on April 18, 1939 from a "diseased heart" at the age of 89.

Mr. Bentley's descendants inherited his longevity; his daughter, Cora Bentley-Howard Banks lived to be 104; his grand-daughter, Inez Howard-Dishman, lived to be 96; and his great-grandson, Howard

Dishman, Sr., just celebrated his 87<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Richard W. Bentley worked hard to achieve his goals in life, and Howard is proud of his great-grandfather's achievements. Howard Dishman, Sr., thanks his "Poppa" for leaving his family a great legacy.

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

# 'A Knotty Problem'

FROM PAGE 9

be the superintendent. ... The simple fact that I am says, it is possible. You can overcome life obstacles and ... change the trajectory of whatever your upbringing was."

"I look forward to hearing Dr. Hutchings and our administrators discuss the strategies" for improvement, said School Board member Chris Lewis.

The Education Association of Alexandria, which represents ACPs employees, didn't respond to a request for comment.

For more, visit [www.schoolquality.virginia.gov/divisions/alexandria-city-public-schools](http://www.schoolquality.virginia.gov/divisions/alexandria-city-public-schools).

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### Legals

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

Title: Request for Qualifications No. 768, Old Town North Linear Park Landscape Architecture Design Services.

Closing Date and Time: September 26, 2018, 4:00 p.m., prevailing local time.

There will be a non-mandatory pre-proposal meeting on September 6, 2018 at 10:00 am EST in the purchasing conference room located at 100 N. Pitt St., Suite 301 Alexandria, VA 22314

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

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

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### Employment

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 For more information, call Erika at 703-691-4700 ext. 205

### Obituary



**Jean Walden Young, age 95**, died peacefully on August 22, 2018 surrounded by her family. Social justice activist, founding member of an ecumenical organization providing assistance to the poor, and civil rights champion, her life embodied what it means to live the Gospel values in loving service to others.

Mary Jean Walden was born on July 8, 1923, in Denver, Colorado, the daughter of Alice Bridget McCarina and Ransom Post Walden and sister of Anne, Donn, Gregg and Jerry. She attended Denver University night school while working full-time as a secretary. Her adventurous spirit led her, at age 22, to travel to Washington D.C. where she continued her education by attending night school at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service. At Georgetown, Jean met Bob Young, a WWII Navy veteran, and after she graduated in 1949, they married in June 1950. They raised their four children in Alexandria, Virginia and built lifelong friendships with neighbors while being active in parish life at Blessed Sacrament.

Jean's deep sense of social justice led her to involve herself in the March on Washington, the Christian Family Movement, social justice activism, and as a founding member of ALIVE, Alexandria's largest nonprofit agency providing assistance to those in need.

In 1982, Jean and Bob moved to the rural village of Combermere, Ontario. She enjoyed researching genealogy, weaving, attending lively book club meetings, exploring the works of female theologians and spending time with her grandchildren.

Jean lived an intentional life. She loved her family deeply, she welcomed the stranger, and she saw the inherent goodness in people, especially those on the margins of society. She was an inspiration to us all to lead a life of compassion and loving service to others.

Jean is survived by her husband Bob, with whom she shared 68 years, son Robert (Jaquie), daughters Terry Jardeleza (Jack), Jenny Traynham (Mac), and Polly Young (Heidi), 24 nieces and nephews, nine grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and numerous friends, each of whom she treasured and loved.

A funeral Mass and celebration of life were held on August 28, 2018 at Holy Canadian Martyrs Church in Combermere, Ontario. Services provided by Heubner Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in her name to one of these organizations:

- ALIVE
- St. Francis Valley Healthcare Foundation
- Madawaska Valley Food Bank

### Obituary

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

Title: Request for Qualifications No. 00000748, Design, Engineering and Associated Services for Renovations to the Facilities of Minnie Howard Field.

There will be a non-mandatory pre-Proposal conference for this solicitation on August 31, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. in the Purchasing Conference Room located at 100 N. Pitt St., Suite 301, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Closing Date and Time: September 24, 2018, 4:00 p.m., prevailing local time.

For general inquiries contact Peter Tomaselli at [peter.tomaselli@alexandriava.gov](mailto:peter.tomaselli@alexandriava.gov).

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

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## Present and Future Danger



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Having recently been infused three weeks after my last treatment, no guarantee given certain lab results, I am now on track to have one more infusion before my Sept. 26 CT scan. The plan is, per my "Progressing But So Am I" column (8/15/18), to triple the amount of medicine I will have received before my next scan. This will compare quite favorably to the one infusion I received prior to my July 25 scan.

Moreover, as I've considered the previous quarter's infusion schedule trying to understand possible reasons for the 10-percent-ish tumor growth which occurred, I've come up with a hopefully plausible explanation. Other than that's what cancer so often does, that is.

As my previous years of scans continued to show "stable," my oncologist and I kept increasing the interval between infusions trying to strike a balance between treating the cause and me living with the effect. Over these years, we've gradually extended those infusion intervals from every three weeks, to every four, to five, to six and most recently to seven-week intervals, all the while maintaining my quarterly CT schedule.

Apparently, we've now struck out, so to speak and for the moment at least, we're in sort of a limbo. (Hopefully the bar isn't set so incredibly low that we can't slide under it.)

As for minimizing the growth, could the solution be as simple as more medicine?

As to what my oncologist thinks of this assessment, I've not mentioned to him as I've only recently theorized it (maybe he knew already and that's what contributed to his suggestion that we follow this course of treatment/action).

We did discuss changing medicines, but he was afraid of the side effects it might cause. We also discussed if he'd had other patients who had experienced tumor growth after a period of stability — like me, who after increasing the frequency of the previously stabilizing drug showed stable once again. He said he had — so, rather than presume all is lost, we've agreed to go forward into the great semi unknown. An "unknown" that will likely end in late September when my next scan's results will be reported.

Now that you know the foundation for this column, let me address the substance behind it. There is a scenario which worries me. It's premature I grant you, but it's difficult to play dumb all the time, especially when it involves cancer/your life.

Still, if I've learned anything from my oncologist, it is that discussing scenarios before the evidence is confirmed is a bit of a fool's errand, so waiting until the actual results are in is better. More accurate anyway.

Despite what I've been told, this patient might not be able to be so patient. Ergo: What if my late September scan shows growth — again? What if, even after tripling the amount of medicine I infuse, the tumors grow, maybe even grow more significantly than ever before?

I'd have to say that development would be a problem and a bit more disappointing than July's scan results. If that result in fact occurs, would that square me at a crossroads? I would think. Would that result obliterate the false sense of security I may have had? Hardly. Cancer patients don't have a sense of security, false or otherwise. We have a sense of inevitability.

Somehow, over the next month, I must find a path forward through this cycle of potentially impending gloom. Right now, nothing has happened. Right now, nothing has been determined. I don't feel any different than before and I don't believe I have any of the symptoms my oncologist has advised me about. I still have an appetite and I'm certainly not losing any weight.

I expect to have one more infusion before this next scan, and to feel the usual post-chemotherapy side effects that I do and then recover and feel as I do today: pretty well. One month, exactly, from the date I'm writing this column, to the date of my next scan and hopefully just a few days later for the results.

What worries me most is, sometimes the human body has a mind of its own, and despite the best of intentions and treatment, it is, to quote my late mother, "Enough already."

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

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## NEWS

# Housing

FROM PAGE 3  
said McIlvaine.

ASBC must manage its assets to support an expanding congregation and an array of ministries.

"We have to do what's in the best interest of the church, which includes our mission of affordable housing, but also staying economically viable," said James Garrett, a deacon and chair of the building committee at ASBC.

"In our real estate market it would be very likely that someone would allow these contracts to expire, and then they could demolish the buildings and do something else ... and do very, very well," said McIlvaine. "So we're trying to incent them to redevelop as more dense affordable rental housing, and really mixed-income housing, including the committed affordable units."

The city has no stick to force the preservation of affordable housing, but it can offer increased density allowances as a carrot.

The city would permit the owners to build bigger — namely, taller — buildings with more units, and thus to realize higher cash flow and property value potential. In exchange, the owners would commit to replace the existing affordable stock. While the details of such a tradeoff aren't yet ironed out, density would have to increase something like threefold.

For its part, the city government couldn't afford to subsidize or replace these 215 units wholly on its own. Doing so would cost \$43-98 million over 20 years — a "prohibitive" amount that "would likely stifle all other city investment in affordable housing" for years, according to the draft plan.

"Here we have a chance to leverage private investment to bring back the housing and federal money to do the subsidy," said McIlvaine. "The city might still be coming up with some gap funding, but this really means the city can use its housing money" elsewhere.

Through the community process leading up to the present draft, some homeowners expressed reserves about increased density. In particular, some worried about safety along an already choked and disproportionately accident-prone traffic corridor.

However, "most people, once they understood the development economics and why we're doing this strategy, have been satisfied," said McIlvaine. "It is a tradeoff, but density can bring other amenities they want, like better open space, better traffic mitigation, more safety improvements," and "quality architecture."

To access the draft and associated materials, visit [www.alexandriava.gov/Planning](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Planning). The public hearing before the Planning Commission will take place at City Hall on Tuesday, Sept. 4, starting at 7 p.m. Residents may also email comments to [PlanComm@alexandriava.gov](mailto:PlanComm@alexandriava.gov). The public hearing before City Council will take place at City Hall on Saturday, Sept. 15, starting at 9:30 a.m.

The author represented the Alexandria Housing Affordability Advisory Committee during part of the draft's development process.

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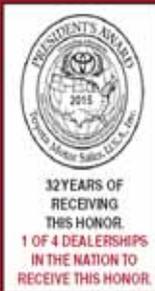
WE WILL RETRIEVE VEHICLE CODES & GIVE YOU AN ESTIMATE OF REPAIR COSTS.



NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 9/30/18.

*Jack Taylor's*  
**ALEXANDRIA  
TOYOTA**

3750 Jefferson Davis Hwy • Alexandria, VA 22305



**SERVICE & PARTS DEPT HOURS:**

Monday - Friday, 7:00am to 7:00pm  
Saturday, 8:00am to 5:00pm

**YOU HAVE SATURDAY OFF.  
THAT'S EXACTLY WHY WE DON'T!**

**ToyotaCare Customers**  
Don't Forget Your **FREE** Service.  
5,000 • 10,000 • 15,000 • 20,000 • 25,000  
**NOW AVAILABLE** Mile Services  
Call your ASM for details  
**ToyotaCare Plus \$329<sup>00</sup>**  
Covers up to 4 years/45,000 miles

**OIL & FILTER CHANGE**

**\$29<sup>95</sup>** NON-SYNTHETIC  
**\$44<sup>95</sup>** SYNTHETIC

Includes: Genuine Toyota oil filter, up to 5 qts of conventional oil\*, inspect windshield wipers, check tire condition, check battery (with print-out), inspect and adjust all fluid levels, inspect air & cabin air filters.

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**BRAKE SPECIAL**  
**\$79<sup>95</sup>**

Includes: Install Genuine Toyota front brake pads, inspect front & rear rotors & drums, check tire condition and inspect all hardware. Pads only.  
**MACHINE ROTORS ADDITIONAL.**

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**SIGHT LINE  
WIPER BLADES**  
**\$10 OFF**  
Sight Line only.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. PARTS CENTER ONLY. 3000 THRU 3000H.

**FREE  
BATTERY CHECK-UP**  
Check cold cranking amps and visual inspection of battery condition. Includes battery condition print out.

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**ALIGNMENT SPECIAL**  
**\$69<sup>95</sup>**

Your car's alignment suffers, and can cause uneven tire wear and steering problems.  
**INCLUDES:** Inspect suspension, ball joints, struts & shocks, tire condition and set tire pressure.

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**VARIABLE DISCOUNT**

**\$15.00 OFF** when you spend \$100.00 - \$199.99  
**\$30.00 OFF** when you spend \$200.00 - \$299.99  
**\$45.00 OFF** when you spend \$300.00 - \$399.99  
**\$50.00 OFF** when you spend \$400.00 or more

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**TRUESTART™ BATTERIES**  
**\$99<sup>95</sup>**

INCLUDES BATTERY INSTALLATION  
Includes: 84 month warranty, 24 month free replacement, 24 month free roadside assistance. Does not apply to hybrid batteries.

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*Jack Taylor's*  
**ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA**

Check your windshield. Does your sticker say **8/18, 9/18, or 10/18**? If so, your VA Safety Inspection is now due  
**VIRGINIA STATE INSPECTION  
FREE**

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 9/30/18.

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

# Celebrating 38 Years in Alexandria

McEneaney Associates has always had one motto in mind... not to be the biggest, but the best. This year marks our 38<sup>th</sup> year in Alexandria, and we are celebrating our investment in helping to build our town into the thriving community it is today. To learn more about our Associates and our firm, visit [www.WeAreAlexandria.com](http://www.WeAreAlexandria.com)



**OPEN SAT 9/1 & SUN 9/2, 1-3 PM**

**Old Town | \$646,000**  
Offering sophisticated one-level living in a hip and vibrant community, this bright, freshly painted, 2-bedroom, 2-bath corner unit at The Prescott includes 12 windows, upgrades galore, handicap accessibility, tons of storage/ built-ins and 2 garage spaces. 1115 Cameron St #107  
**Ann Duff 703.965.8700**  
[www.annduff.com](http://www.annduff.com)



**Alexandria | \$1,135,000**  
Four finished levels of custom upgrades! This ideal Colonial checks all of the boxes! Brand new white quartz kitchen, gracious room sizes, master suite with marble bath and dressing area. Third level family room with exposed beams. Heated garage!  
**Janet Catterson Price 703.622.5984**  
[www.janetpricehomes.com](http://www.janetpricehomes.com)



**OPEN SUN 9/2, 2-4 PM**

**Porto Vecchio/Alexandria | \$745,000**  
Spacious and elegant 2-bedroom plus library features open, expansive floor plan with freshly-painted, neutral décor. Kitchen remodeled in 2017, hardwoods, built-ins. Double exposure includes views of both river, formal gardens and west views of trees. 1250 S Washington St  
**Susan Taylor 703.927.3000**  
[www.callsusantaylor.com](http://www.callsusantaylor.com)



**Alexandria | \$630,000**  
Rarely available! One-level stunner on an acre of lovely, fully-fenced mature land. Large bedrooms with huge master walk-in closet. Chef's kitchen opens to three large living spaces. Fourth room is a convenient "flex space" that would be perfect for a home office or bedroom.  
**Sandy McMaster 571.259.2673**  
[www.mcmasterrealestate.com](http://www.mcmasterrealestate.com)



**Alexandria | \$599,999**  
Fantastic 3-bedroom, 2.5-bath home on top of cul-de-sac. Large fenced lot with custom deck. Professionally landscaped. Beautifully updated, custom paint and flooring. Updated bathrooms and kitchen. Large full basement with tons of storage.  
**Vicki Binkley 703.994.0778**  
[www.vickibinkley.com](http://www.vickibinkley.com)



**Alexandria | \$545,000**  
Spacious 5-bedroom, 3-bath home in Riverside Estates. This home features refurbished hardwood floors, large living room, separate dining room, master bedroom with ensuite and a finished basement with fireplace. Opens to brick patio, perfect for entertaining.  
**Suzanne Morrison 703.863.3110**  
[www.suzannemorrison.com](http://www.suzannemorrison.com)



**Old Town | \$1,279,000**  
A distinctive community of luxury condos. This beautiful home is graciously appointed with wood flooring, custom moldings, gourmet kitchen features granite counters, Viking stainless appliances, custom built-ins with Peter Pan views, plantation shutters, newer HVAC.

**Klanci Vanderhyde 703.919.4460**  
[www.klancivanderhyde.com](http://www.klancivanderhyde.com)



**Old Town | \$679,900**  
2 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1,170 sq ft. Lovely historic home just 2 blocks from King St, Metro, shopping, and restaurants. Fresh paint, wood floors. Open floor plan on main level, lots of space for grilling and outdoor living in lovely private backyard. Attic stairs added for additional storage.

**Delaine Campbell 703.299.0030**  
[www.delainesells.com](http://www.delainesells.com)

**BLOOD DRIVE**

**SEPT. 6 10AM- 3PM**

**MCENEANEY ASSOCIATES + CHILDREN'S NATIONAL BLOOD DRIVE**

109 S. PITT STREET  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

Please Register Today at [bit.ly/MCEAlexandriadrive!](http://bit.ly/MCEAlexandriadrive!)

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