Haunted Graveyard Maze

Spooky Bean Halloween returns Oct. 28 from 5-8 p.m. following the Del Ray Halloween Parade. The brainchild of Bean Creative's Layla Masri, the theme for this year's haunted graveyard maze is "It Came From the Mist." The event is free and open to the public and is suitable for all ages. Sponsored by Del Ray Realtor Jen Walker, this year's event also features the Gruesome Garage tailored to older children and adults. 2213 Mount Vernon Ave. For more information visit www.facebook.com/pg/spookybeanhalloween.

‘One Step at a Time’

Curran laces up for Marine Corps Marathon.

By Jeanne Theismann

Brooke Sydnor Curran has run hundreds of marathons. It’s how the founder of the nonprofit RunningBrooke has raised more than a million dollars for numerous Alexandria children’s charities. But Sunday’s Marine Corps Marathon will be different. When Curran lines up with 30,000 other runners Oct. 28, it will be her first competitive race since suffering a brain aneurysm that nearly ended her life earlier this year.

“I honestly don’t remember a lot,” said Curran, who was out on a normal run when she experienced an excruciating headache and profuse vomiting the morning of March 17. “It was the worst pain of my life and in hindsight I did everything wrong after I collapsed.”

Between bouts of nausea, Curran convinced her husband Chris that she just needed to sleep for a few hours.

“That is the last thing someone experiencing those symptoms should do,” Curran said.

When the pain and vomiting continued into the evening, Curran’s husband took her to Inova Alexandria Hospital, where an aneurysm was diagnosed via CT scan. She was immediately rushed to Inova Fairfax Hospital in a high-urgentency ambulance. Due to heavy bleeding on her brain, it took doc

See Curran Laces. Page 6

In the Race For School Board

16 candidates vie for 9 seats, 4 incumbents not running.

By Dan Brendel

Public education comprises a significant portion of the city’s total budget. For example, of the city’s $748 million FY 2019 general fund budget, the schools got $224 million — nearly a third. Of the city’s $2.2 billion 10-year Capital Improvement Program, the schools got $475 million — over a fifth.

For this reason, the School Board election on Nov. 6 is important for all residents and taxpayers, regardless of whether they have children in the public school system.

The School Board, consisting of nine members, is essentially a second local legislature, governing everything having to do with public education in the city. Except, unlike City Council, it doesn’t exercise its own power of the purse. Rather, it receives an annual funding allocation from council, which is the only body between the two with taxing and bonding authority.

Whether or not School Board candidates have clear partisan preferences, state law requires that they run as independents. Unlike City Council members, whom voters elect at large, School Board members are elected from three separate districts. District A

See Reflecting. Page 20

Historical Perspective

Former City Council members reflect on local politics.

By Dan Brendel

Six former city council members offered a critical appraisal of Alexandria’s political climate and processes at a panel discussion on Monday, Oct. 22.

The panel, hosted by Agenda:Alexandria, a nonprofit, comprised a bipartisan mix. Panelists included Wiley Mitchell (Republican), Jim Moran (Democrat), Carlyle “Connie” Ring (Republican), David Speck (Republican-turned-Democrat), Lennie Rich (Democrat) and Frank Fannon (Republican). They served a combined half-century, with terms going back to the 1960s.

See Reflecting. Page 20
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HAPPY HALLOWEEN

The Peele Group is a sponsor of the Del Ray Business Decorations Contest. Don’t miss the Del Ray Halloween Parade on October 28th at 2:00pm! #WeAreAlexandria

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District A

Bill Campbell

Briefly tell us about yourself and why you’re running.

I'm a retired educator and business executive with a passion for excellence in our public schools. I’ve brought to the Alexandria School Board the same rigor and discipline I’ve applied in my business career. This experience gives me the ability to lead a district that is facing significant challenges.

District A

Jacinta Greene

District A

For your highest priority issue area above, sum up what you propose to do about it.

One of my primary concerns is the implementation of the Full-service Community Schools (FSCS) model. This model integrates multiple services, such as health and social services, into schools to support the holistic development of students. As a former teacher, I understand the importance of providing a safe and supportive environment for students. I propose to allocate additional resources to ensure the successful implementation of FSCS in our schools.

District A

Michelle Rief

District A

For your highest priority issue area above, sum up what you propose to do about it.

Improving the academic outcomes for all students is my top priority. I will focus on providing additional support for teachers and students, such as by increasing the number of counselors and social workers. I also propose to allocate more resources to special education programs to ensure all students have equal opportunities to succeed.

16 Candidates in Race for School Board

District A

W. Christopher Harris

District A

Women.

For your lowest priority issue area above, sum up what you propose to do about it.

As a former coach, I believe in the importance of extracurricular activities. I propose to increase funding for extracurricular programs to ensure that all students have the opportunity to pursue their interests outside the classroom.

District A

For your highest priority issue area above, sum up what you propose to do about it.

The School Board’s responsibility is to advocate on behalf of the needs of the school system. Alexandria’s local government is intimately connected and we should be aware of when something could be detrimental to the students, teachers, and parents.

For your lowest priority issue area above, sum up what you propose to do about it.

I believe that education is a shared responsibility between the schools, community, and families. I will work to increase our partnerships with nonprofits and businesses but will oppose measures such as vouchers and charter school efforts.

District A

For your highest priority issue area above, sum up what you propose to do about it.

As a former coach and director of a grants and partnerships program, I believe in the importance of public-private partnerships. I propose to leverage these partnerships to explore all opportunities for funding and support.

District A

For your lowest priority issue area above, sum up what you propose to do about it.

The School Board’s responsibility is to advocate on behalf of the needs of the school system. Alexandria’s local government is intimately connected and we should be aware of when something could be detrimental to the students, teachers, and parents.

See School Board Race Page 16

Alexandria Gazette Packet ❖ October 25-31, 2018 ❖ 3

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com
Margaret Lorber is a passionate and effective advocate for children. In her first term on the board she has:

- Spearheaded an evaluation of Special Education
- Addressed critical capacity and funding needs
- Increased salaries and benefits for teachers and all staff
- Worked to reduce suspensions and expulsions
- Championed parent involvement and outreach

"Margaret has been a valuable partner to children with special needs. She does her homework and asks the right questions. We need her on the board."

Janet Slaughter Eissenstat, Chair, Special Education Advisory Committee, ACPS*

Paid for by Lorber for School Board, Kristin Langlykke Treasurer

*Affiliations for identification only

A major contribution to a School Board candidate’s campaign became known to the public three years late.

On Sept. 17 of this year, Veronica Nolan, a School Board incumbent who’s seeking reelection, filed an amendment to her campaign finance report covering Oct. 1-22, 2015. The amendment added a $27,000 contribution from Leadership for Educational Equity, a nonprofit, on Oct. 22, 2015. This contribution carried forward to the present, accounting for half of Nolan’s most recently reported campaign fund balance of just over $54,000.

Nolan made an electronic entry in the state’s online reporting program on Nov. 22, 2015 for the full amount. She thought this sufficed for public disclosure.

The entry showed “as publicly available on my individual portal for COMET, the Virginia finance reporting system. … Once I began fundraising in earnest again for reelection, I became aware that my complete list of contributions were not showing up externally (even though they were internally),” she said.

There’s also some discrepancy between certain Department of Elections’ informational resources from 2015 about the applicable reporting deadline for the contribution in question. Certain resources, in agreement with the relevant state statute, say that the regular reporting period ended Oct. 22. In that case, Nolan should’ve disclosed the contribution by the Oct. 26 deadline for that period.

Other documents indicate that the regular reporting period ended Oct. 21, the day before Nolan received the contribution. Citing these, Nolan says she thought the donation in question fell in a one-day gap before the reporting period for “large pre-election contributions” began on Oct. 23. In close proximity to an election, candidates must report donations of $500 or more no later than the day after receiving them, and under no circumstance later than the day before election day. Discerning that the contribution in question fell in neither the regular nor large pre-election reporting periods,

SEE FINANCE DISCLOSURE. PAGE 17

News

Campaign Finance Confusion?

A large School Board campaign contribution disclosed three years late.

By Dan Brendel

Gazette Packet

A major contribution to a School Board candidate’s campaign became known to the public three years late.

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People

Federal Perspective

By Shirley Ruhe
Gazette Packet

T he Eastern District of Virginia (EDVA) is a large geographical area extending from Northern Virginia to Richmond over to the Tidewater area. G. Zachary Terwilliger, an Alexandria native, was appointed United States Attorney for EDVA in May 2018. He has spent the last four months immersing himself in traveling to the field offices and repairing, making and building personal connections with law enforcement officials and his staff of 300. This includes 120 criminal attorneys and 30 civil attorneys as well as 150 support staff. Seventy-five staff are located in Alexandria as well as 25 in Rich- mond. The criminal division is divided into national security, white collar, drugs, cyber and violent crime.

The criminal cases can range from complex and lengthy cases such as the recent charge against a Russian national for her alleged role in a Russian conspiracy to simpler “buying and selling” firearms cases which can be more straightforward. While he is not free to discuss the ongoing Russian case, Terwilliger does volunteer he is passionate about firearms cases where individuals lie on Federal forms and then sell to prohib- ited people. “We can do a lot. This is im- portant for community safety and for of- ficer safety.” He says prosecuting these cases has led to deterrence. “We are hearing you are too hard on firearms. We wouldn’t come to Virginia to buy a gun.”

How do you manage such a large staff?
Terwilliger: I manage a large bureaucracy by surrounding myself with competent people I trust. You can’t try to do it all your- self. I tell them BLP (bottom line up front). Lay out the main points and the recommen- dation first. I work long days trying to man- age the shop during the day but turning to the “atta boy” personal touch after hours. “Great job, condonence on a death in the family.” It’s critical to morale. I try to be transparent with my staff. Regular memos on “what I’m up to. Here is how bonuses will work. Here’s why we put up flags in front of the building.”

Also after 18 months previously at DOJ I knew this office inside and out. I got to travel to 25 other offices. I learned just by being there.

How do you prioritize resources, cases?
Terwilliger: Opiates, national security and violent crime are all important priorities. There are multiple levels of discretion in making these decisions on what to priori- tize. We prosecute but many more agencies have met with 175 Federal, state and local law enforcement officials. We ask what types of cases are we will- ing to take. We make an individual assess- ment on what is creating a massive prob- lem in a community. For instance, it might be middle school recruitment into gangs by sex traffickers. There is no intake threshold on fentanyl, for instance, where there might be a threshold on marijuana. In law enforce- ment a low number of people commit an excessive amount of crime.

The EDVA has been called a rocket docket. Can you explain what that means?
Terwilliger: it predates me. You had a judge who said we are going to respect the Speedy Trial Act, which requires a case to be brought to trial in 70 days. Many Dis- tricts don’t do this. We may be the fastest. There can be ways around it like if you have an overseas witness, the case is particularly complex or there is a lot of translation in- volved but in general the rule is followed.

Can you compare your experience as counsel to Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley from September 2015- September 2016, 2015 with your current position as U.S. Attorney?
Terwilliger. Sure. I was surprised by the level of skills and competence of lawyers on that committee. It was eye opening to me. But I was disappointed in how little we could accomplish on a bipartisan basis. There were so many more things I wish we

United States Attorney G. Zachary Terwilliger.

such as the FBI investigate. We ask what are the local counterparts investigating. I have met with 175 Federal, state and local law enforcement officials.

We ask what types of cases are we will- ing to take. We make an individual assess- ment on what is creating a massive prob- lem in a community. For instance, it might be middle school recruitment into gangs by

Alexandria native oversees Eastern District of Virginia.

Brooke Sydnor Curran celebrates after winning the women’s title in the 2012 Antarctica Marathon. Curran will compete in the Oct. 28 Marine Corps Marathon just six months after suffering a brain aneurysm.

Brooke Sydnor Curran on her first outside excursion (for a mani-pedi) after suffering a brain aneurysm in March of 2018.

Brooke Sydnor Curran recovers from brain surgery at Inova Fairfax Hospital in March of 2018.

Curran Laces Up for Marine Corps Marathon

From Page 1

Brooke Sydnor Curran is scheduled a craniotomy , which was success- ful after she nearly a week to locate the aneurysm. Unable to close the aneurysm with the less invasive angiogram procedure, doctors scheduled a craniotomy, which was success- fully performed on March 26.

“I don’t remember any of this,” Curran said. “Chris is the one who has to fill me in on the details of what happened in the hos- pital.”

Curran was moved out of the Intensive Care Unit on March 31 and was able to return home in early April.

“Three months of my life were just erased,” said Curran, who still has memory gaps from about a month before the inci- dents through her time in the hospital. “My memory got zapped from before the aneu- rysm but I am slowly coming out of the fog and rebuilding those memories.”

Curran began physical therapy in April and slowly returned to running in May. With the blessing of her neurosurgeon, she will line up for her third Marine Corps Marat- hon.

“I’m excited and nervous at the same time,” Curran said. “I don’t know how it will feel to cross the finish line. It’s something I used to take for granted but life is fragile and I am incredibly appreciative now to be able to do something like that.”

Curran, whose best marathon time is 3 hours and nine minutes, would normally hope to finish the race in under four hours. But this year her attitude is different.

“I’m not sure I care about my time as much,” she said. “I want to feel good and run a smart race. I was dealt a blow and plan to take it one step at a time.”

Curran, who turned 50 in April, was quick to point out that the aneurysm was not a result of her running.

“This could happen to anybody,” Curran said. “It wasn’t caused because I was running – that’s important for people to know. Doctors told me one of the reasons I am able to run this weekend and survived in the first place is because I had my physical health in order. The fact I’m even alive is because going in I was in top health. Oth- erwise I would have been a goner.”

Curran credits running for making her happier, healthier and a better mother.

“Running is often not about the legs,” she said. “It gives you mental clarity, strength and a ‘can do’ attitude.”

Curran founded the nonprofit RunningBrooke in 2009 to help get children to participate in outdoor activities.

“It’s all about getting kids physically ac- tive,” Curran said. “Kids who are more active are far more successful in school and in life.”

Since founding RunningBrooke, Curran has raised more than $1.5 million. Funds have been used to build community play- grounds in underserved neighborhoods and for grants to nonprofit organizations that serve children both in the classroom and in extracurricular programs.

“I want to be sure kids can afford to par-
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because there are still pumpkins to pick

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Taste For Giving
Rotary Club raises $70k for local charities.

The Rotary Club of Alexandria held its 11th annual Taste For Giving gala Oct. 19 at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. More than 300 attendees sampled food and wine from 17 area restaurants, raising over $70,000 for local charities and nonprofits. Diamond sponsors of the event included Everly-Wheatley Funerals and Cremation, Anderson Orthopedic Clinic and Cassaday and Company Wealth Management.

"It was a fun and exciting night for everyone who attended," said Rotarian event chair John Moorman. "We owe a huge thank you to all our sponsors and restaurant donors. It is because of them and all those who came out to support us that our Rotary grants will be able to help so many local organizations in the community."

— JEANNE THEISMANN

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*APY = Annual Percentage Yield. APY accurate as of August 1, 2023. Rates and terms are variable and may change after account is opened. When your Kasasa Cash® account qualifications are met during a Kasasa Cash® Qualification Cycle, Kasasa will pay an APY of 0.20% on balances over $10,000 and balances over $18,000 earn a 3.00% APY, provided the account qualifications are met each month. Kasasa will pay 0.20% APY on balances not over $10,000, which will be rounded down to the nearest cent and credited to your Kasasa Cash® account each month. Federal law limits the number of transactions you may make from your Kasasa Cash® account. Please see Kasasa Cash® online or mobile banking for full details. Kasasa reserves the right to close your account and refund any rewards if you violate these terms of service or Kasasa determines you engaged in fraudulent or illegal activity. Kasasa is a service mark of Kasasa, LLC. Kasasa is not a bank. Kasasa accounts are not insured by the FDIC. Kasasa, LLC is not responsible for, and does not provide, advice regarding your investments, financial planning, or tax advice.® Kasasa is a registered trademark of Kasasa, LLC. Kasasa, LLC reserves the right to change or discontinue the Kasasa program at any time without notice. Kasasa, LLC makes no warranties, express or implied, regarding the accuracy or completeness of any information or data contained herein or any information or data contained in any other website. Talk to your tax advisor before making any financial decisions.

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Alexandria Gazette Packet  October 25-31, 2018  9
Implementing Obamacare in Alexandria.

By Dan Hawkins
Co-directors, Alexandria Cares for the Uninsured

With the adoption of Medicaid Expansion by the General As-
sembly earlier this year (fol-
lowing four years of denial), Virginia joins 33 other states in fully imple-
menting the Affordable Care Act (ACA), oth-
erwise known as Obamacare. It has never been widely understood that the ACA is composed of two separate but related provisions: (1) pro-
viding low-to-middle income uninsured greater access to Medicaid cov-
erage in the individual insur-
ance marketplace; and, (2) at each state’s op-
tion, expanding the Medicaid program to in-
clude all adults – even the “working poor” – who earn between 138 percent of pov-
erty — about $16,700 for an individual.

Alexandria’s Department of Community and Human Services estimates that between 4,700 and 6,000 uninsured adults (about 300 to 400,000 in the Commonwealth) are expected to qualify and enroll in the expanded Medi-
caid program following implementation begin-
ing Jan. 1, 2019.

Studies have shown that in states with more than two or three years experience with Medi-
caid expansion, eligibility has improved ac-
tess to care for most and has generally im-
proved overall quality of care. A Health Affairs study found that in states that expanded Med-
caid, there was a 40 percent increase in pa-
tients filling their diabetes prescriptions – otherwise known as Obamacare late last year, the Trump Administration launched a number of administrative, regulatory and judicial strategies to undermine the law’s implementation – ‘death by a thousand cuts’ as it has been described. Among those initia-
tives are:

❖ Repealing the individual mandate as part of last year’s tax cut;
❖ Refusing to protect the ACA against legal challenges to its legitimacy by several Repub-
lican state attorneys general;
❖ Shaving budgets for Navigator programs established to help individuals enroll in the ACA;
❖ Encouraging the sale of “short-term, lim-
lited duration” (sometimes referred to as “bare bone”) insurance plans that provide limited cov-
erage and fewer consumer protections;
❖ Supporting tightening of Homeland Se-
curity regulations that could deny immigrants who legally use such public benefits as food stamps and housing vouchers from obtaining green cards or permanent legal status. Finally, it must not be forgotten that while Medicaid expansion offers the hope of improved health and well-being for thousands in the city who have long been denied such hope, there will still be a significant number of low-to-middle income individuals in the community who will not qualify and will therefore con-
tinue to face daunting financial and other bar-
riers to accessing the city’s health safety net.

(ACA; The Commonwealth Institute estimates
established to help individuals enroll in the
health center in Alexandria — to serve the pri-
mary recognized, federally qualified community
health care as a right, not just a privilege, much closer
to levels of care as a right, not just a privilege, much closer
to levels of care and well-being for thousands in the city who
cigarette tax by 11 cents a pack and devote all
the new revenues toward increasing the ca-

capacity of Neighborhood Health — the nation-
ally recognized, federally qualified community
organization in the city — to serve the pri-
mary care needs of more than 800 very low-
income uninsured — many the collateral dam-
age of the General Assembly’s refusal to ex-
pand the Medicaid program.

Our foundation’s mission has been “to bring health and hope” to Alexandria’s low-income uninsured, and that mission will continue so long as residents (including undocumented immigrants) face financial or other barriers to obtaining timely and affordable health care.

Implementing Obamacare in Alexandria.

By Dan Hawkins
Co-directors, Alexandria Cares for the Uninsured

W

Reforming Agreements

To the Editor:

During the Alexandria Demo-
cratic primary, I discouraged vot-
ing for the City Council’s incum-
bits for a variety of reasons, and
only two of them managed to sur-
vote the primary. However, all four
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the General Election on Nov. 6, and will continue to serve through the “lame duck” session to the first
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lives.

Just this past week, all four voted to install lights for the T.C. Williams High School stadium, and to permit residents of Chatham Square to pursue on-
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these issues were previously adju-
dicated by the City Council through Development Special Use Permits (DSUPs) wherein it was promised that (a) no lights would be
allowed in the stadium, and (b) no parking stickers would be is-
sued to the residents of Chatham Square.

The T.C. Williams “no lights” promise was made in the 1960s to African-American citizens whose homes were seized through the eminent domain that was created in order to build TC. The Chatham Square “no street parking” prom-
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ment was built, since its residents were to have two-car garages. The approval of the parking sticker ini-
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ited promises made in the DSUP is very disturbing, and portends a

much larger issue – why even have a DSUP process if the city is not going to honor it? Why waste everyone’s time if the City Coun-
cil is going to renegotie on its agree-
ments? Voters need to ensure a clean sweep of this less-than hon-
ororable bunch. Our founding fa-
thers must be spinning in their
graves at this lack of integrity.

Townsend A. “Van” Van Fleet
Alexandria

Letters to the Editor

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Townsend A. “Van” Van Fleet
Alexandria
Opinion

Stay Safe, Stay Independent

By MaryAnne Beatty
Director, Community Outreach
Senior Services of Alexandria

Seniors are involved in more than 2.3 million accidents in their homes each year. While many seniors prefer to live independently, most homes are poorly designed to meet their needs. Older adults need to take extra safety precautions due to physical changes that occur during the aging process, such as declining vision, hearing, sense of touch and smell, and bone density loss. These factors increase the risk of injury inside the home.

Falls are the number one safety risk for older adults — nearly one third of the senior population falls each year with 70 percent of falls occurring at home. Every 11 seconds, an older adult is treated in the emergency room for a fall-related injury, and each year, falls result in over 450,000 hospitalizations, 29,000 deaths and more than $50 billion in annual health-care costs. Falls can threaten seniors’ safety and independence and generate enormous economic and personal costs.

Falling is not an inevitable result of aging. Through practical lifestyle adjustments including evidence-based falls prevention programs and home modifications, seniors can continue to live independent lives including daily activities and social engagements which help with combating further physical decline, depression, social isolation and feeling of helplessness.

It is also very important to know how to protect yourself from phone and internet scams and unscrupulous door-to-door sales schemes. As the holiday season approaches, it is important to know about the new scams out there targeting seniors. Fairfax County’s Silver Shield Anti-Scam Campaign helps older adults avoid being scammed by sharing critical information about current scams.

Senior Services of Alexandria (SSA), along with the Northern Virginia Fall Prevention Alliance, Goodwin House at Home, and Fairfax County Financial Exploitation Task Force, will talk about many of the conditions mentioned above that can occur during the normal process of aging. They will talk about ways that seniors can take the necessary precautions to remain safe at home while they continue to age. SSA’s Nov. 2 Speaker Series, “Seniors and Caregivers: How to Stay Safe at Home,” will cover several topics including the normal course of aging, proper dispensing of medications, fall-prevention strategies, home modifications and how to recognize and avoid scams.

The event takes place at Beth El Hebrew Congregation, 3830 Seminary Road at 10 a.m. (registration at 9:30). The event is free, open to the public with light refreshments and plenty of parking. Participants will have a chance to ask questions and talk to presenters. To register go online at seniorservicesalex.org or call 703-836-4414, ext. 110.
In “How Healthy Is Alexandria?” (Gazette Packet, Oct. 18) the date of the discussion of the Alexandria Health Department survey results was missing. The meeting, with free breakfast, will be held at George Washington Middle School at 9:30 a.m. on Nov. 3.

Correction

Through all these experiences, Veronica has learned how educational systems work. She knows how to shore up the weak points, as well as how to capitalize on the great strengths. She understands the pivotal role that parents play in their children’s education and how important community support is in making it all work. Veronica has the right stuff. Finally, I believe that voters in District B should get out and vote for Veronica because this election matters. All of us — no matter what our political persuasion — have seen very clearly in the last three years that elections have consequences. Even school board elections — or maybe especially school board elections. These are our kids and our grandkids. This is our community.

We begin teaching values to our kids at home, but if we want our kids to grow up respecting each other, to welcome new ideas, to be curious about the world around them, and at the same time to treasure the values our society is built on, then we have to depend on our schools and teachers to help. And that means that school leadership matters a lot. Who sits at the Board table matters a lot.

I believe that Veronica Nolan can help Alexandria and our schools move in the right direction. She deserves our support.

Kitty Porterfield
Alexandria

Gothic horror comes to life – and death – on stage. Rich with both humor and horror, this play paints a wickedly theatrical picture of the world’s most famous vampire.

SHOW DATES:
OCT. 13 - NOV. 3, 2018

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

SOBER-RIDE FOR HALLOWEEN

Free Sober Rides. Saturday, Oct. 27, 10 p.m. through Sunday, Oct. 28, 4 a.m. Area residents, 21 and older, may download Lyft to their phones, then enter a code in the app’s “Promo” section to receive a no cost (up to $15) safe ride home. WRAP’s Halloween SoberRide promo code will be posted at 5 p.m. on Oct. 27 on www.SoberRide.com. The SoberRide code is valid for the first 1,500 Lyft users who enter the code.

THROUGH DEC. 31
Backflow Preventer (BFP) Assistance Program. The City of Alexandria has reinstated its sewer Backflow Preventer (BFP) Assistance Program for homeowners in designated areas that historically experience basement back-ups or flooding. The City Manager approved the additional backflow preventer effort in the wake of torrential rainfall July 17-22. The program reimburses homeowners for up to 50 percent of the cost of installing a BFP device by a licensed plumbing contractor, up to a maximum of $2,000. The current program period is from July 1-Dec. 31. Alexandria homeowners should call the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services at 703-746-4014 or visit www.alexandriava.gov/tes.
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The Alexandria Office is proud to announce that the following exceptional agents have joined our office.

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The Vietnam War started in 1955 when Mrs. Charlene Taylor-Napper's two boys were six and seven years old. At that time, the United States had an active military draft policy in place. No one at that time knew the Vietnam War would be one of the longest wars that the United States was involved in, especially the mothers whose sons were in the war.

By the time Charles (Buddie) R. Napper and his brother, Leonard (Lenny) Lee Napper graduated from George Washington High School in 1967 and 1968 in Alexandria, the Vietnam War was 13 years old. Buddie and his brother Lenny voluntarily enlisted in the Air Force. As Mrs. Napper's sons left to serve their country, she felt some void in her life, but she received comfort from her other son, Erich Dwayne Napper, who was several years younger than his brothers. As the war raged on, her worries increased. She worried a lot about her oldest son, Buddie, who was stationed in Thailand and was in combat. Her son, Lenny was stationed in the United States. Buddie's entire military career was overseas. He never shared war stories with his mother, but he told some of his stories to his youngest brother, Erich. Erich remembers the stories that Buddie told him about the horrors of the bombs and chemical warfare that Buddie experienced in Vietnam.

Those active military engagements left permanent scars on Buddie. Erich said when his brother returned from active duty, he was not the same person who had left home. Buddie spent 20 years in the United States Air Force with the Strategic Air Command as a Master Sergeant. After military service, he obtained a job at the Pentagon working for the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He received an award for his excellent work in 1978. Buddie's exposure to the chemicals in Vietnam affected him, and he was diagnosed with cancer. For 12 years, he suffered from cancer before he died on Dec. 23, 2006. Buddie had a military funeral. At his funeral for the first time, his family heard about the many medals and awards he received. His awards included the Meritorious Service Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster, the Air Force Good Conduct Medal with 5 Oak Leaf Clusters, the Vietnam Service Medal with 2 Service Stars, as well as several other distinguished service awards. Buddie is buried at the Arlington Cemetery. His only child, Quentin, survived him.

Lennie, Mrs. Charlene's second son was stationed at Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland. He served for five years in the United States Air Force as a Sergeant, leaving the service with an honorable discharge around 1973. In civilian life, he worked for the Federal government until his health declined. Lenny suffered from cancer for several years. He died two months after his oldest brother on Feb. 27, 2007. He was cremated and his ashes were divided amongst his mother, brother and his two sons. Once a year, Erich takes Lennie's ashes and go to Arlington Cemetery to visit Buddie. For that moment, they are all together just as they were years ago.

Throughout their illness, Buddie and Lenny received help from their youngest brother and their uncles. Their mother witnessed the pain her sons endured. During Veterans Day, Mrs. Charlene Taylor-Napper will be surrounded by pictures of her sons' children and the memories of her boys when they were children and young men. Though she misses Buddie and Lenny deeply, she will always salute them for serving their country well.

Char McCargo Bah is a freelance writer, independent historian, genealogist and a Living Legend of Alexandria. Visit her blog at http://www.theotheralexandria.com for more about “The Other Alexandria.”
Best in Business Awards

Port City Brewery’s Butcher is Business Leader of the Year.

BY JEANNE THEISMAN
GAZETTE PACKET

The stars of local businesses were shining Oct. 17 as the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce held its annual 2018 Best in Business awards. Presented by Burke and Herbert Bank, more than 240 people gathered at the George Washington Masonic Memorial to honor leaders in the business and nonprofit communities.

“Starting a business is such a leap of faith,” said LaJuanna Russell, founder and CEO of Medium Business of the Year winner Business Management Associates. “It’s an honor to receive this award and I am thankful for the support the Alexandria community has given me.”

Bill Butcher, founder and president of Port City Brewing Company, was honored as the 2018 Business Leader of the Year.

“I grew up here,” said Butcher, a fourth generation Alexandrian and graduate of T.C. Williams High School. “It’s a dream come true having a business here in Alexandria.”

Butcher, known as much for his philanthropic endeavors as for his beer, credited his mother for an early lesson on customer service.

“I inherited a paper route delivering the Alexandria Gazette from Dana Lawhorne,” Butcher said. “One Christmas Eve my mother suggested I tie red ribbons around the papers before making my deliveries. People really appreciated that and it showed me that just a little extra effort can make a big impact.”

Butcher added with a laugh: “I also got some nice tips that year.”

Butcher and his wife Karen founded Port City Brewing in 2011 with a focus on “a great product, great customer service and great community engagement.”

“Karen said early on that if we don’t have a little left over for us to give back then we’re doing something wrong,” Butcher said. “Alexandria is an important part of our brand identity and we thank the business community for its ongoing support of your local brewery.”

Other 2018 business awards included:

- Small Business – AR Workshop; Medium Business – Business Management Associates; Large Business – B3 Solutions; Overall Business – American Physical Therapy Association; Nonprofit/Association (tie) – RunningBrooke and Together We Bake; Rising Star – Alexandria Living Magazine.
For your highest priority issue area above, sum up what you propose to do about it.

To what extent, if any, should ACPS seek to employ or authorize public-private partnerships (e.g., private philanthropy or partnerships; service or management contracts; vouchers or tax credits; charter schools)?

Christophor Suarez

For your highest priority issue area above, sum up what you propose to do about it.

Marc Solomon

For your lowest priority issue area above, sum up why you think it's lowest.

Briefly tell us about yourself and why you're running.

Jewelyn Cosgrove

For your lowest priority issue area above, sum up why you think it’s lowest.

District B

Briefly tell us about yourself and why you’re running.

How my experience as a bilingual teacher, former sixth grade teacher, and principal might help me as a Board member and volunteer, and non-profit board member.

Christopher Suarez

For your highest priority issue area above, sum up what you propose to do about it.

Marc Solomon

For your lowest priority issue area above, sum up why you think it’s lowest.

Briefly tell us about your background and why you’re running.

To what extent, if any, should ACPS seek to employ or authorize public-private partnerships (e.g., private philanthropy or partnerships; service or management contracts; vouchers or tax credits; charter schools)?

When requesting funding from City Council, should the School Board lean more toward (1) asking for the full amount it thinks it needs, or (2) weighing the schools’ needs against citywide cost ramifications (tax rate, debt, budget tradeoffs)?

I want to ensure all kids receive a top-notch education in ACPS.

For your highest priority issue area above, sum up what you propose to do about it.

Christopher Suarez

For your highest priority issue area above, sum up what you propose to do about it.

Marc Solomon

For your lowest priority issue area above, sum up why you think it’s lowest.

Briefly tell us about yourself and why you’re running.

The school board should request the full amount needed initially. School Board needs to come to the table with a plan to make our schools great every year. If we need to negotiate, we will, but the negotiating point needs to be the resources we need.

What School Board decision in the last few years did you disagree with most, and how would you have addressed the issue differently?

District A

Briefly tell us about yourself and why you’re running.

Jewelyn Cosgrove

Do you have twenty years of volunteer and non-profit board experience?

I am a process person. Problems can be avoided if you address them early.

What is the most important thing you learned while running for the School Board in the past?

We need to be explicit about the needs of our school system with Council. Recognizing the balance we need to strike, we should communicate our critical asks, trade-offs, and more if full funding is not offered, but we need to fully fund our schools.

What School Board decision in the last few years did you disagree with most, and how would you have addressed the issue differently?

Marc Solomon

For your lowest priority issue area above, sum up why you think it’s lowest.

Briefly tell us about yourself and why you’re running.

To what extent, if any, should ACPS seek to employ or authorize public-private partnerships (e.g., private philanthropy or partnerships; service or management contracts; vouchers or tax credits; charter schools)?

I lean towards more campuses.

I am a process person. Problems can be avoided if you address them early.

As an Alexandria resident with a growing family, I have twenty years of volunteer and non-profit board experience.

To what extent, if any, should ACPS seek to employ or authorize public-private partnerships (e.g., private philanthropy or partnerships; service or management contracts; vouchers or tax credits; charter schools)?

I am a process person. Problems can be avoided if you address them early.

What School Board decision in the last few years did you disagree with most, and how would you have addressed the issue differently?

Marc Solomon

For your lowest priority issue area above, sum up why you think it’s lowest.

Briefly tell us about yourself and why you’re running.

District B

Briefly tell us about yourself and why you’re running.

To what extent, if any, should ACPS seek to employ or authorize public-private partnerships (e.g., private philanthropy or partnerships; service or management contracts; vouchers or tax credits; charter schools)?

I am a process person. Problems can be avoided if you address them early.

What School Board decision in the last few years did you disagree with most, and how would you have addressed the issue differently?

Marc Solomon

For your lowest priority issue area above, sum up why you think it’s lowest.

Briefly tell us about yourself and why you’re running.

To what extent, if any, should ACPS seek to employ or authorize public-private partnerships (e.g., private philanthropy or partnerships; service or management contracts; vouchers or tax credits; charter schools)?

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I am a process person. Problems can be avoided if you address them early.

What School Board decision in the last few years did you disagree with most, and how would you have addressed the issue differently?
Finance Disclosure

she thought to include it in her next regular filing, due Dec. 3. She says she confirmed this later deadline with Department of Elections staff on three occasions.

“So the irony is — when I reported it in [November] — I thought I was reporting it early,” she said. “I was very mindful of this donation back in 2015 and take all of this extremely seriously.”

“It’s definitely common for people to do updates and revisions to initially submitted reports,” said Anna Leider, Alexandria’s general registrar. “Usually it’s to reflect math errors, or sometimes there’s a contribution that they missed. Quite often they find those errors when they’re getting ready to prepare their next report. So sometimes they are later to appear — like when you think you’ve submitted on time and everything’s fine, then you get ready to do your next one and you find something. But usually the errors are smaller.”

What’s atypical about Nolan’s case isn’t the amendment itself, but the size of the contribution and the delay in its becoming publicly viewable. Certain other School Board members also amended their 2015 reports, but usually on the order of a few hundred dollars and not more than a month or so after the fact.

Nolan won’t be fined, since the law allows fines only for late campaign finance report filings, but not for long-after-the-fact amendments, said Leider.

Finance Disclosure

SATURDAY/OCT. 27
Prescription Drug Take-Back Day. The City of Alexandria encourages residents to dispose of prescription medicines safely during National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day where Alexandria will have multiple drop-off sites: First Baptist Church (2932 King St.), Alexandria Police Department (3200 Wheeler Ave.), Fire Station 210 (5255 Eisenhower Ave.) and the Neighborhood Pharmacy of Del Ray (2204 Mt. Vernon Ave.).

MONDAY/OCT. 29
Potomac Yard Metrorail Implementation Work Group Meeting, 7-9 p.m. At Charles Houston Rec Center, 901 Wythe St. Visit alexandriava.gov/PotomacYard.
For your highest priority issue area above, sum up why you propose to do about it.

Regarding facilities we need to work with a sense of urgency and bold the current work accountable. In the long-term we need to have a viable maintenance plan and work with council to ensure there’s funding to address our current priorities.

For your lowest priority issue area above, sum up why you think it’s lowest.

Early learning is critical to a child’s success. Thankfully this is an area Alexandria does well thanks to the Education and Early Care work group comprised of city, school and nonprofit leaders. It’s a true example of successful collective impact.

To what extent, if any, should ACPS seek to employ or authorize public-private partnerships (e.g., private philanthropy or partnerships; service or management contracts; vouchers or tax credits; charter schools)?

ACPS should keep an open mind for any opportunity that would better the lives and performance of our students. With each opportunity, however, ACPS should conduct a thorough evaluation of the partnership to understand fully all obligations.

For your highest priority issue area above, sum up why you think it’s lowest.

The City of Alexandria currently provides access to mental health resources through the Department of Community and Human Services. Our students already have access to mental health resources through these existing city services.

To what extent, if any, should ACPS seek to employ or authorize public-private partnerships (e.g., private philanthropy or partnerships; service or management contracts; vouchers or tax credits; charter schools)?

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Wacek

District B

Briefly tell us about yourself and why you're running.

I've been in education for 15 years as a special education teacher, district level leader, and now consultant. I am running because no knowledgeable educators on the board if we plan to change the trajectory for student outcomes in this city.

For your highest priority issue area above, sum up what you propose to do about it.

We must require universal screening practices, and the subsequent implementation of evidence-based intervention programs at every single school. This should no longer be optional if we are serious about closing the achievement gap.

For your lowest priority issue area above, sum up why you think it's lowest.

I am a big supporter of school athletics, but I am more concerned about producing academically successful student-athletes. We want athletes who are thriving at full academic potential. So the most intense focus must be on academic outcomes.

To what extent, if any, should ACPS seek to employ or authorize public-private partnerships (e.g., private philanthropy or partnerships; service or management contracts; vouchers or tax credits; charter schools)?

Though I don't find anything wrong with private philanthropy or partnerships, extreme caution should always be taken regarding the intentions and requirements of funders. Public money needs to stay in public education. No charters in Alexandria.

If expanding high school capacity comes down to (1) making T.C. Williams bigger or (2) building one or more additional, separately districted campuses, which would you favor?

I would favor building one or more campuses. When looking at the long range facilities plan, which includes capacity projections, its difficult to imagine one campus being sufficient over time. With that said, I am open to any and all possibilities.

When requesting funding from City Council, should the School Board lean more toward (1) asking for the full amount it thinks it needs; or (2) weighing the schools' needs against citywide cost ramifications (tax rate, debt, budget tradeoffs)?

If the City Council, School Board, City staff, and ACPS staff are engaging in a truly collaborative manner throughout the year, there will be a shared vision and understanding, which will allow us to secure the funding we need for our schools.

What School Board decision in the last few years did you disagree with most, and how would you have addressed the issue differently?

Budgets/policies have many different elements. I haven’t always had every add or delete I wanted, but responsible governance means striving for consensus and compromise, which I have done throughout my term, and why I am comfortable with every vote.

Alderton

District C

Briefly tell us about yourself and why you’re running.

I’ve been in education for 15 years as a special education teacher, district level leader, and now consultant. I am running because no knowledgeable educators on the board if we plan to change the trajectory for student outcomes in this city.

For your highest priority issue area above, sum up what you propose to do about it.

The years of deferred maintenance coupled with increased enrollment makes facilities a priority. Targeting underperforming subgroups will help us reduce the achievement gap, which is vital to the success of individual students and our division.

For your lowest priority issue area above, sum up why you think it’s lowest.

I find the lack of an “average” option frustrating. I only rank the social/ emotional and family resources lower because we have demonstrated a strong commitment to funding these areas in recent years, and can focus on maintaining and enhancing these.

To what extent, if any, should ACPS seek to employ or authorize public-private partnerships (e.g., private philanthropy or partnerships; service or management contracts; vouchers or tax credits; charter schools)?

Public-private partnerships are actively pursued. Health Science Academy partnership with the George Washington University is one example, and we will continue to seek P3s, in-kind donations, etc. I oppose vouchers or charter schools for Alexandria.

If expanding high school capacity comes down to (1) making T.C. Williams bigger or (2) building one or more additional, separately districted campuses, which would you favor?

Whichever option will ensure that every high school student is afforded the same opportunities for courses and extracurricular activities. I look forward to hearing the recommendations from the visioning process that is still ongoing at this time.

When requesting funding from City Council, should the School Board lean more toward (1) asking for the full amount it thinks it needs; or (2) weighing the schools' needs against citywide cost ramifications (tax rate, debt, budget tradeoffs)?

For your highest priority issue area above, sum up what you propose to do about it.

Initiatives must increase emphasis on early childhood education (K-3), closing achievement gaps in middle and secondary grades (6-12), and adjusting curricula and counseling for special needs students to ensure maximum inclusion at all grade levels.

For your lowest priority issue area above, sum up why you think it’s lowest.

Sports and extracurricular activities offer essential skill development opportunities, and currently meet expectations at an acceptable level. Academic excellence and equity are ACPS’ top priorities for all students in all grades, and must improve.

To what extent, if any, should ACPS seek to employ or authorize public-private partnerships (e.g., private philanthropy or partnerships; service or management contracts; vouchers or tax credits; charter schools)?

ACPS should limit outside funding to mission-driven partnerships like the Health Sciences Academy. Alexandria

Gentry

District C

Briefly tell us about yourself and why you’re running.

In the past three years on the school board, we have accomplished a number of important efforts, including redirecting, a new elementary school, a new superintendent, and increase of accredited schools. I hope to build on this momentum.

For your highest priority issue area above, sum up what you propose to do about it.

We need to open new elementary schools, which are a critical part of our long range facilities plan, which includes capacity projections, its difficult to imagine one campus being sufficient at the long range facilities plan, which includes capacity projections, its difficult to imagine one campus being sufficient at

For your lowest priority issue area above, sum up why you think it’s lowest.

School Board Race 2018

DISTRICT C

Meghan Alderton

Briefly tell us about yourself and why you’re running.

I’ve been in education for 15 years as a special education teacher, district level leader, and now consultant. I am running because no knowledgeable educators on the board if we plan to change the trajectory for student outcomes in this city.

For your highest priority issue area above, sum up what you propose to do about it.

The years of deferred maintenance coupled with increased enrollment makes facilities a priority. Targeting underperforming subgroups will help us reduce the achievement gap, which is vital to the success of individual students and our division.

For your lowest priority issue area above, sum up why you think it’s lowest.

I find the lack of an “average” option frustrating. I only rank the social/emotional and family resources lower because we have demonstrated a strong commitment to funding these areas in recent years, and can focus on maintaining and enhancing these.

To what extent, if any, should ACPS seek to employ or authorize public-private partnerships (e.g., private philanthropy or partnerships; service or management contracts; vouchers or tax credits; charter schools)?

Public-private partnerships are actively pursued. Health Science Academy partnership with the George Washington University is one example, and we will continue to seek P3s, in-kind donations, etc. I oppose vouchers or charter schools for Alexandria.

If expanding high school capacity comes down to (1) making T.C. Williams bigger or (2) building one or more additional, separately districted campuses, which would you favor?

Whichever option will ensure that every high school student is afforded the same opportunities for courses and extracurricular activities. I look forward to hearing the recommendations from the visioning process that is still ongoing at this time.

When requesting funding from City Council, should the School Board lean more toward (1) asking for the full amount it thinks it needs; or (2) weighing the schools’ needs against citywide cost ramifications (tax rate, debt, budget tradeoffs)?

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Initiatives must increase emphasis on early childhood education (K-3), closing achievement gaps in middle and secondary grades (6-12), and adjusting curricula and counseling for special needs students to ensure maximum inclusion at all grade levels.

For your lowest priority issue area above, sum up why you think it’s lowest.

Sports and extracurricular activities offer essential skill development opportunities, and currently meet expectations at an acceptable level. Academic excellence and equity are ACPS’ top priorities for all students in all grades, and must improve.

To what extent, if any, should ACPS seek to employ or authorize public-private partnerships (e.g., private philanthropy or partnerships; service or management contracts; vouchers or tax credits; charter schools)?

ACPS should limit outside funding to mission-driven partnerships like the Health Sciences Academy. Alexandria

John Lennon

District C

Briefly tell us about yourself and why you’re running.

I’m an ELL teacher with several years as a special education teacher, district level leader, and now consultant. I am running because no knowledgeable educators on the board if we plan to change the trajectory for student outcomes in this city.

For your highest priority issue area above, sum up what you propose to do about it.

We need to open new elementary schools, which are a critical part of our long range facilities plan, which includes capacity projections, its difficult to imagine one campus being sufficient at

For your lowest priority issue area above, sum up why you think it’s lowest.

School Board Race 2018

DISTRICT C

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For your highest priority issue area above, sum up what you propose to do about it.

The years of deferred maintenance coupled with increased enrollment makes facilities a priority. Targeting underperforming subgroups will help us reduce the achievement gap, which is vital to the success of individual students and our division.

For your lowest priority issue area above, sum up why you think it’s lowest.

I find the lack of an “average” option frustrating. I only rank the social/emotional and family resources lower because we have demonstrated a strong commitment to funding these areas in recent years, and can focus on maintaining and enhancing these.

To what extent, if any, should ACPS seek to employ or authorize public-private partnerships (e.g., private philanthropy or partnerships; service or management contracts; vouchers or tax credits; charter schools)?

Public-private partnerships are actively pursued. Health Science Academy partnership with the George Washington University is one example, and we will continue to seek P3s, in-kind donations, etc. I oppose vouchers or charter schools for Alexandria.

If expanding high school capacity comes down to (1) making T.C. Williams bigger or (2) building one or more additional, separately districted campuses, which would you favor?

Whichever option will ensure that every high school student is afforded the same opportunities for courses and extracurricular activities. I look forward to hearing the recommendations from the visioning process that is still ongoing at this time.

When requesting funding from City Council, should the School Board lean more toward (1) asking for the full amount it thinks it needs; or (2) weighing the schools’ needs against citywide cost ramifications (tax rate, debt, budget tradeoffs)?

For your highest priority issue area above, sum up what you propose to do about it.

Initiatives must increase emphasis on early childhood education (K-3), closing achievement gaps in middle and secondary grades (6-12), and adjusting curricula and counseling for special needs students to ensure maximum inclusion at all grade levels.

For your lowest priority issue area above, sum up why you think it’s lowest.

Sports and extracurricular activities offer essential skill development opportunities, and currently meet expectations at an acceptable level. Academic excellence and equity are ACPS’ top priorities for all students in all grades, and must improve.

To what extent, if any, should ACPS seek to employ or authorize public-private partnerships (e.g., private philanthropy or partnerships; service or management contracts; vouchers or tax credits; charter schools)?

ACPS should limit outside funding to mission-driven partnerships like the Health Sciences Academy. Alexandria

John Lennon

District C

Briefly tell us about yourself and why you’re running.

I’m an ELL teacher with several years as a special education teacher, district level leader, and now consultant. I am running because no knowledgeable educators on the board if we plan to change the trajectory for student outcomes in this city.

For your highest priority issue area above, sum up what you propose to do about it.

We need to open new elementary schools, which are a critical part of our long range facilities plan, which includes capacity projections, its difficult to imagine one campus being sufficient at

For your lowest priority issue area above, sum up why you think it’s lowest.

School Board Race 2018
Candidates’ Priorities

Relative issue priorities: Green #1 = high relative priority; Blue #2 = above average; Yellow #3 = below average; Red #4 = low relative priority. For ease of comparison, this chart compiles candidate responses to the following question: “Assign relative priorities to the following issue areas, in terms of where you intend to budget finite dollars, political capital, personal time, staff time, etc. (Try to disperse rankings evenly — i.e., don’t rank everything highly. The scale is relative not absolute. Granting that these issues all have merit and aren’t always mutually exclusive, in a world of constraints, every issue can’t have an above average or high priority relative to the rest.)”

16 Candidates in Race

For ease of differentiation, this chart shows where candidates agreed and disagreed most about relative issue priorities. The issues in the middle of the chart yield a broader spectrum of views, whereas the issues toward the top and bottom yield more agreement.

Overall Perspective

For ease of comparison, this chart compiles candidate responses to the following question: “Assign relative priorities to the following issue areas, in terms of where you intend to budget finite dollars, political capital, personal time, staff time, etc. (Try to disperse rankings evenly — i.e., don’t rank everything highly. The scale is relative not absolute. Granting that these issues all have merit and aren’t always mutually exclusive, in a world of constraints, every issue can’t have an above average or high priority relative to the rest.)”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue Area</th>
<th>District A</th>
<th>District B</th>
<th>District C</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Athletics &amp; Extracurriculars</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Board Race</td>
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<tr>
<td>Building New School Capacity</td>
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<td>Class Size</td>
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<td>Discipline &amp; School Climate</td>
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<td>Early Care &amp; Learning</td>
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<td>Hiring More Experienced Teachers</td>
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<td>Mental Health / &quot;Social-Emotional&quot; Resources for Students</td>
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<td>Resources for Parents / Families</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>Targeted Interventions for Underperforming Subgroups</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upgrading Existing School Facilities</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

For those who qualify, early absentee voting has already begun. Vote in-person absentee at the Voter Registration Office (132 North Royal St.) or Beatley Library (5005 Duke St.). The deadline for in-person absentee voting is 5 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 3. Apply for an absentee ballot by mail by visiting vote.elections.virginia.gov, entering your identification information and following the subsequent prompts. The deadline for applying for an absentee ballot by mail is 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 30.

For more information, including a map of polling places, visit www.alexandriava.gov/Elections or call Alexandria’s Office of Voter Registration and Elections at 703-746-4050.
District C

Lennon

FROM PAGE 10

taxpayers should provide primary funding for ACPS with¬
non reliance on non-focused gifts. No vouchers, tax credits, or charter schools.

If expanding high school capacity comes down to (1) making T.C. Williams bigger or (2) building one or more addi¬
tional, separately districted campuses, which would you favor?

There should be one high school — TC Williams — with any new or reno¬
vated facilities designed to accommodate 21st century curricula. No decision on buildings should be made until those curricula are defined in a secondary education strategic plan.

When requesting funding from City Council, should the School Board lean more toward (1) asking for the full amount it thinks it needs; or (2) weighing the schools’ needs against citywide cost ramifications (tax rate, debt, budget tradeoffs)?

ACPS and City Council must agree on long-range, community-driven, pub¬
licly-vented strategic goals that incorporate population growth, eco¬
nomic and business development, fiscal forecasting, and periodic adaptation to avoid unexpected funding requests.

What School Board decision in the last few years did you disagree with most, and why would you have addressed the issue differently?

I did not like the decision to cut funding for social studies books; it struck me differently.

I advocate thinking beyond catch-all solutions. A second, satellite campuses, increased partnerships with local colleges/universities, expenditure learning and retrofitting existing buildings should all bear serious consideration.

When requesting funding from City Council, should the School Board lean more toward (1) asking for the full amount it thinks it needs; or (2) weighing the schools’ needs against citywide cost ramifications (tax rate, debt, budget tradeoffs)?

Supporting the Office of School, Business & Community Part¬
nerships to enhance those relationships is a top priority for me.

If expanding high school capacity comes down to (1) making T.C. Williams bigger or (2) building one or more additional, separately districted campuses, which would you favor?

Thornton

District C

Briefly tell us about yourself and why you’re running.

I am the daughter of Domin¬
ic Republicans, an A C P S graduate, a dedicated mother, a successful licensed insurance agent, and a parent advocate. I’ve had some experiences with ACPS that have inspired me to run for school board and curate change.

For your highest priority issue area above, sum up what you propose to do about it. Minority suspensions are high on the elementary level. I would like to have ACPS’s restorative practices and pro¬cesses reviewed. I would also propose an annual school-wide staff and adminis¬trative training to ensure and uphold the practices.

For your lowest priority issue area above, sum up why you think it’s lowest. Early care and learning is a low prior¬ity for me. ACPS opened the Early Childhood Center (ECC) this year and it is proving to be a staple hallmark for early care, learning, and intervention in Alexandria.

To what extent, if any, should ACPS seek to employ or authorize public-private partnerships (e.g., private philanthropy or partnerships; service or management contracts; vouchers or tax credits; charter schools)?

ACPS should consider public-private partnerships as these type of partner¬ships could help with the capacity issue.

When requesting funding from City Council, should the School Board lean more toward (1) asking for the full amount it thinks it needs; or (2) weighing the schools’ needs against citywide cost ramifications (tax rate, debt, budget tradeoffs)?

The Parker Gray stadium lights are not a priority. We should shed light and focus on lessening the achievement gap, as ACPS is currently ranked among the lowest in the state.

What School Board decision in the last few years did you disagree with most, and how would you have addressed the issue differently?

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Mosaics: Mastering an ancient medium.

By Trudi Van Dyke

Ongoing


Exhibit: ‘Autumn Gold’. Through Oct. 29, featuring Nina Tisara’s intricate mosaic art at Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, 310 King St., Alexandria. RSVP to ninat@ninatisara.com.


Pumpkin Patch. Through Oct. 31, Monday-Friday, 11 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. at Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, 3606 Seminary Road. All net profits support the church’s outreach activities at the community, regional and international levels. The pumpkin patch is located on the grounds of the Herrera Sophie, a one-time Navajo Indian Reservation near Farmington, New Mexico. Visit www.immanuel-otl.net/pumpkin-patch.


ENTERTAINMENT

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Saturday at 3 and 8, Sundays at 3 and 7 p.m. at MetroStage in Alexandria. The play is set in Glasgow in the1970s. Monica, an ambitious singer-songwriter meets Ian, a reclusive rocker. They quickly become entangled creatively and romantically with their music and their quest for stardom taking them from Glasgow to London and ultimately New York City. A gritty rock musical exploring the universal desire to escape and create, to love and explore. Tickets are $55. Call the theatre at 703-548-9044 or visit www.metrostage.org.

DOHF House Exhibit. Through December, Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Alexandria Black History Museum, 502 Wythe St. Alexandria. Exhibit “Our Alexandria” Dollhouse Collection. The exhibit captures some of the forgotten businesses, people, and institutions that made African American families strong – church, school, and family. Other exhibits are also on site. Suggested admission $3 per person. Visit www.alexandriawva.gov/museums or call 703-744-4356.

THURSDAY, OCT. 25

Open Doors Breakfast. 8-9 a.m. At Belle Haven Country Club in Alexandria. The event offers a complimentary breakfast and the opportunity to hear from former and current Community Lodgings clients in the transitional and affordable housing, and youth education programs. Donations are encouraged to assist the organization in its continuous efforts to provide a safe and supportive environment for families facing homelessness. Register at Everbrite via the following link https://bit.ly/2QOS843.


Halloween Spooktacular Concert. 5:38-8 p.m. At West Potomac High School, Springfield Auditorium, 6500 Quander Road, Alexandria. Join the West Potomac Orchestra for the 3rd Annual Halloween Spooktacular Carnival and Concert. Carnival begins at 5:30 p.m. Food trucks, face painting, cake walk, costume contest (no masks), and games. Concert

Www.ConnectionNewspapers.com
Halloween Treats

Dinner is Served!

Treat yourself! Steak Frites and other local favorites

Now Serving Dinner
Wed-Sat 5:30-10:00
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Halloween Party!
October 31st
Best Costume Contest
1st Place $250 Cash Prize
Plus Additional Cash Prizes
21 & Over only!

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1319 King St, Alexandria, VA

Rock It Grill

Dishes of India

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703-680-6085 • www.dishesofindia.com
Belle View Shopping Center

Have a Spicy Halloween!
Open Every Day
• Luncheon Buffet 11:00am to 2:30pm
  Mon.-Fri. $12.95  Sat.-Sun. $13.95
• À La Carte Dinner
  Sun.-Thur.: 4:30pm - 9:30pm
  Fri. & Sat.: 4:30pm - 10:00pm

Innovative Indian Cuisine

Now Featuring Our Fall/Winter Menu

Food Fit for a King on a Family Budget!

Royal Restaurant

734 North Saint Asaph Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
703-548-1616 • RoyalRestaurantVA.com
— Award-winning wine menu — Major credit cards accepted
I n't doesn't take much time in Alexand-ria to realize that this city does Hal-low- right and the festivities aren't limited to Oct. 31; rather, they stretch out over weeks, with decorations popping up citywide. Here's a sample of other begin- and events lingering all month long. Here are a few must-visit restaurants, cafes and bars to visit to get into the spirit. Costumes optional, but al- ways encouraged.

Halloween Dogfish Head Tap Takeover at Sweet Fire Donna’s, Oct. 27
Carlye’s popular barbecue joint becomes home to the neighborhood’s spiciest Hal-low- en party, complete with costume con- test and food specials. Taste an array of Dogfish Head favorites to settle your hunger and aim to get a prize for your top-tier dis-guise. 510 John Carlyle St. 6 p.m.-1 a.m.

Monster’s Ball at Chadwicks, Oct. 27
Cocktails, costumes, ghoulish eats and a photo booth are the name of the game at Chadwicks’ celebration of the season. A DJ will be spinning tunes to get you ready to dance and kick off Halloween week. 203 The Strand, 9 p.m.-2 a.m.

West End Farmer’s Market Hallow- een Parade, Oct. 28
Bring your kids and dogs out to the farmer’s market – in disguises, naturally – for a Sunday parade at the farmer’s mar- ket. And bring your family’s game: The best costumes, for humans and animals, will win a prize. Then stick around to trick-or-treat at the vendors’ tents for the rest of the day. 4800 Brennan Park Drive. 10 a.m.

Post-Parade Patio Party at Stomp- ing Ground, Oct. 28
In Del Ray for the Halloween parade? Stick around the neighborhood’s favorite Southern-fried brunch-and-lunch spot to show down on a special limited menu’s worth of fare. Word on the street is, the kitchen will be doling out some sausage balls for the occasion. 2309 Mount Vernon Ave. 3-6 p.m.

“Hallo-WINE” Big Red Night at Sonoma Cellar, Oct. 30
Taste six red wines at an autumn-themed tasting at Sonoma Cellar. These robust reds come from the likes of Cass Winery, Etude Winery, Stags Leap and more. “Trick or treat like a grownup,” the café urges, and with this lineup you’ll cer- tainly be well on your way. 207 King St. 6:30 p.m. $25.

Halloween at Brabo, Oct. 31
Brabo’s Chef Sebastien Ronnier is on tap to debut his “Roasted Pumpkin Mousse Frites,” mussels paired with roasted pum- kin and cream sauce, to kick All Hallows’ Eve off in style. At the bar, get into the Hal-low- en spirit in more ways than one with the La Sorciere, featuring chile liqueur, gin- ger beer, agave and lime juice. 1600 King St.

Hole in the Wall Halloween at Captain Gregory’s, Oct. 31
Join the other guests at Captain Gregory’s for a spooky evening filled with themed cocktails and festive eats. The intimate speakeasy will be transformed into Hallow- een Headquarters, so don’t forget to wear your best costume in order to raise your chances of winning prize. 804 N. Henry St. 7-10 p.m. $75.

Del Ray Halloween Parade
The 22nd Annual Del Ray Halloween Parade takes place on Sunday, Oct. 28 at 2 p.m. All are welcome to march in the parade along Mount Vernon Avenue, which begins at E. Bellefonte Ave. and ends with a party at the Mt. Vernon Recreation Center fields featuring live music, free refreshments, children’s games, awards for Best Decorated Stroller, House, Business & Best Pet Costume, and more. The event is free and open to all. For more information, visit www.visitdelray.com/halloween. Free costume distribution for children in need will take place on Saturday, Oct. 27 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Mt. Vernon Recreation Center.

By Hope Nelson

7 Places to Eat, Drink Your Way Through Halloween

CALENDAR

begins at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free, donations are welcome. Visit www.westpotomacorchestra.org.


NOW THRU DECEMBER

Dollhouse Exhibit. At Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe Street, Alexandria. Exhibit “Our Alexandria” Dollhouse Collection captures some of the businesses, places and institutions that made African American families strong- enough to persevere, and other exhibi- tions are also on site. Suggested admission $3 per person. Hours are Tuesdays to Sundays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visit www.alexandriamva.gov/museum or call 703-745-4366.

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 25-28
Book Sale. At Ellen Cooledge Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road, Alexandria. Come support the library and pick up books, CDs, and DVDs at discounted prices. Free. Contact Anton Murray at amurray@alexlibrariems.org.

FRIDAY/OCT. 26
Artist Reception & Halloween Party. 6-9 p.m. Torpedo Factory Artists @ Mosaic, 105 District Ave., Fairfax. Artists display their interpretation of ‘animal, vegetable, mineral’ through a variety of mediums in a new show at Torpedo Factory Artists @ Mosaic. The exhibition will be on display from Nov. 18 and the gallery is open Wednesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Zombie Escape. 6:30-10 p.m. At Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax Street, Alexandria. Cost is $30 online; $40/door. D.C. was one of the first cities to fall when the apocalypse began. As such, Alexandria was a close second due to proximity. Now, you can navigate your way through zombie infested terrain to claim what supplies are on your list and make it back to your base safely. Call 703-549-2997.

Back or Treat Canine Cruise. 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. At Alexandria City Marina, 3 Cameron Street, Alexandria. Come out with your costumed canine and cruise to some Halloween tunes on deck at the Potomac. Doggie treats will be on board. Re- sure to have your four-legged friend in their best costume. Admission: $20 adults, $15 ages 2-11; dogs free. Visit the website www.poconemarinerbarco.com.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/OCT. 26-27
Ghostly Tales. 7-10 p.m. Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax Street, Alexandria, Virginia. Ghostly stories from Alexandria’s footsteps. Join storytellers from Alexandria’s Footsteps. On Saturday join storytellers from Carlyle House on the front lawn for ghostly tales of Alexandria $5 per person. No registration required. Call 703-549-2997.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 26-28
Grief & Ghost Tours. 7:30-9:30 p.m. At Lee-Fendall House Museum & Garden, 614 Oronoco Street, Alexandria. Cost $10. Celebrate Halloween with a look at Victorian mourning traditions coupled with stories of death and mysterious encounters at the Lee-Fendall House. Learn more about the rituals and customs behind our modern day funeral practices. Tours will be offered starting at 7:30 p.m., 8:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Visit the website www.lee-fendallhouse.org.

SATURDAY/OCT. 27
Waterfront Beer Garden. At Waterfront Park, 1A Prince Street, Alexandria. Sponsored by Port City Brewing Company. Enjoy award-winning craft beer plus entertainment. Enjoy Port City’s Porter, Original Wit, Coastal 7 and the new beer in their Lager series, Baltic Porter. The beer garden also features DJ Georgia at 4 p.m., American Beer History Trivia from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. and bites from Villa Italian Kitchen from 2 to 7 p.m.

3rd Annual Tour de Mount Vernon. 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. At Fort Hunt Park in Mount Vernon. Join Supervisor Dan Storck for a community bike ride in the Mount Vernon District. Riders will have the option of riding a 32-mile route, or just joining in for the first 17 miles for a shorter route. This ride will showcase some of the businesses, places and institutions that made African American families strong enough to persevere, and other exhibitions are also on site. Suggested admission $3 per person. Hours are Tuesdays to Sundays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visit www.alexandriamva.gov/museum or call 703-745-4366.

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24 Alexandria Gazette Packet October 25-31, 2018

www.ConnectionNewpapers.com
ENTERTAINMENT

the foot of King Street at the site of
Interim King Street Park, and end at
Hotel Indigo. As part of the Portside
History series of activities at the Old
Town waterfront, join an expert-led
tour to learn more about new
discoveries, significant finds, and
the hidden history that has been revealed
through historical documentary data
and excavation. Tickets are $20 per
person with proceeds from the tour
going to the Save our Ship fund.
Advance registration required. Email
archaeology@alexandriava.gov or
call 703-746-4399.

Howl-O-Ween. 2-4 p.m. At Lena’s
Wood-Fired Pizza and Tap, 401 E.
Braddock Road, Alexandria. “Howl-
O-Worn” is the Animal Welfare
League of Alexandria’s (AWLA)
annual canine costume contest.
Costumed canine contestants can
enter as a solo act or a themed group
of up to three dogs with one handler.
Advance registration is $25 for one
contested entry (individual or group,
including one person) and $10 to
attend. Children under the age of 12
can attend for free. All registrations
include 10 free tickets with which
attendees can vote for their favorite
costumed canines, and the top three
costumed entries will receive prizes
provided by Alexandria Restaurant
Animals.org/Howl-O-Worn2018.

Copyright Issues. 2 p.m. At Local
History/Special Collections Library,
717 Queen Street, Alexandria. Free.
Come learn about copyright and how
you can and cannot use materials for
display or online and traditional
publication. Contact Anton Murray at
amurray@alexlibcityva.org.

Doggie Trick-or-Treat. 1-3 p.m. At
The Dog Park, 705 King St.,
Alexandria. It’s that time of year
again. You and your family —
especially your doggies — are invited
to come to Old Town and trick-or-
treat together. They will have treats,
sales and a costume contest. Come to
The Dog Park in Old Town
Alexandria to get your map and have
pictures taken, then tour the rest of
the participating stores to get more
treats and find a sale or two in town.

Del Ray Halloween Parade. 2 p.m.
The parade, which begins at E.
Bellefonte Avenue, ends with a party
at the Mt. Vernon Recreation Center
fields featuring live music, goodie
bags for children, free refreshments,
children’s games, awards for Best
Decorated Stroller, House, Business
and Best Pet Costume. The event is
free and open to all. Among the
events: Pet Costume Contest and
Stroller Decorating Contest. For
details and categories, visit
www.visitdelray.com/halloween.
Spooky Bean Halloween. After
the parade from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.,
families can enjoy the Spooky Bean
Maze, constructed by Bean Creative.
This free event is
appropriate for all ages, and located
on the 2200 block of Mount Vernon
Avenue. Visit www.visitdelray.com/
halloween.

Mansion at 5 p.m. Special trade
demonstrations, like wool carding,
spinning, and fish net making, will
take place in the historic area.
Tickets: $14/adult (12 and up); $8/
youth (11 and under). General
admission tickets are sold out, but
additional tickets are available for
Mount Vernon members. Call 703-
790-2000 to reserve your tickets.
Visit www.mountvernon.org/
halloween.

OCT. 29-31
Special Halloween Ghost Tour. 7
p.m. to 11 p.m. At Gadsby’s Tavern
Museum, 134 N. Royal St.,
Alexandria. Cost $45.

Escape the Sanderson Witches.
6-10 p.m. At Carlyle House, 121
N. Fairfax Street, Alexandria. The
Sanderson Sisters from Hocus Pocus
have returned; this time to a new
city with new hopes of having clueless
children at their beck and call. While
they hunt for a new lease on life,
your group must pass several
obstacles to ensure the children in
the city are safe. Only a spell from
the very book that brought them back
can send them back from where they
came. Work together, solve the
puzzles quickly, and banish the
witches using a spell of your own.
Admission: $30 online; $40 at the
door. For tickets, visit

Masquerade Ball. 8 p.m. to 11 p.m.
At Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, 134 N.
Royal St., Alexandria. Cost $45.
Inspired by the season, disguise
yourself and dance the night away at
the Masquerade Ball at Gadsby’s
Tavern Museum. Come dressed in
your favorite pre-19th century
attire or cocktail attire welcome.
Reservations required. Visit

SUNDAY/OCT. 28
Art Exhibit: ‘Symmetry –
Balance in an Asymmetrical World.’
Exhibit showcases the artists’ visions of symmetry. The camera, used as a tool,
reveals the artist’s vision and produces a personal — typically evocative or atmo-
spheric, yet balanced — statement. Through Oct. 28 at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704
Entertainment

In ‘Billy Elliot the Musical’ Photo courtesy of Metro School of the Arts

Metro School of the Arts students rehearse for “Billy Elliot the Musical.” The six MSA students were selected to join the 10-time Tony Award winning musical cast, that will be performed at Signature Theatre from Oct. 30 – Jan. 6, 2019. Back row (from left): Sofia Cruz, Simone Straub-Clark, Anya Jones, and Jacob Anderson. Front row (from left): Annie Dodson and Maya Stumpf. Tickets can be purchased at www.sigetheatre.org. The Academy at Metropolitan School of the Arts is a college preparatory performing arts program for emerging young artists, grades 7-12; see www.metropolitanarts.org.

Calendar

p.m. Tours starts at the Alexandria Visitor Center, 221 King St., Alexandria. It wraps through the back roads of Old Town stopping at places like The Christmas Attic, John Douglas Brown House, Old Presbyterian Meeting House, and many more. Tour takes visitors past Christ Church to other less-visited stops like the Freedom House. At each stop guides cover a brief background of the location, what horrible event occurred there, and what modern day paranormal phenomenon was detected. Admission: $12 adults; $10 senior citizens and students, active duty military and veterans; $5 children; free for ages 5 and under. Visit https://discoveralexva.wordpress.com.

TUESDAY/OCT. 30
Halloween Party. 6-8:30 p.m. at Ivy Hill Cemetery, 2823 King Street, Alexandria. Volunteer Alexandria’s Halloween Party in partnership with Ivy. No speeches or program — just fun. Join them for some cool air at the cemetery’s vault, best costume award, a tour, live music, readings, food, beer and wine, and networking opportunity. Email mail@volunteeralexandria.org or 703-836-2176. Visit www.ivyhillcemetery.net.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 31
Trick-or-Treat. 5-7 p.m. At Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St., Alexandria. Free. Join them for a good old fashioned trickery and treats. Bring your little ghosts, goblins, princesses and action heroes to one of Alexandria’s most haunted dwellings for a fun evening of free trick-or-treating, games, and crafts.

THURSDAY/NOV. 1

FRIDAY/NOV. 2
Computer Basics Class. 10:15 a.m. At Ellen Coolidge Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road, Alexandria. Free. Learn the basics of using a computer with an overview of Windows 7 and Microsoft Office 2010 applications. Also find out the best strategies for locating information on the Internet. Visit www.alexlibraryva.org.

Opening Reception: "Connecting Threads." 7-9 p.m. At Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. The exhibit features the work of regional artists showcasing traditional and non-traditional ways to manipulate fiber and highlights narratives where textiles and fiber trigger nostalgia. See the exhibit and donate new towels for Carpenter’s Shelter from Nov. 2-25. Visit www.DelRayArtisans.org/event/connecting-threads.

NOV. 2-25
Art Exhibit: “Connecting the Pendulum, The Raven, and Eldorado. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and the performance runs 8-9:15 p.m., each night. Cost $15. Call 703-746-4994. Reserve online at shop.alexandriava.gov.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 31
Halloween Party. 6-8:30 p.m. at Ivy Hill Cemetery, 2823 King Street, Alexandria. Volunteer Alexandria’s Halloween Party in partnership with Ivy. No speeches or program — just fun. Join them for some cool air at the cemetery’s vault, best costume award, a tour, live music, readings, food, beer and wine, and networking opportunity. Email mail@volunteeralexandria.org or 703-836-2176. Visit www.ivyhillcemetery.net.

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medium. She did her first mosaic in 2004 and immediately became hooked on the quality of its meditative process to find just the right pieces of unglazed porcelain to interpret the composition. At her most mesmerizing and inspiring her work tackles and interprets nature by indulging many layers of respect for the beauty of creation. The small work “Ode to Spring” demonstrates how the artist can see through the fabric of blossoms depiction and transform them in a more meaningful and perhaps even spiritual experience. The 24” square “Autumn Symphony” uses both horizontal and vertical patterns of shape and color in the landscape. Nina captures each season in individual works and produces the slow process so often taken for granted as the coming winter. The linear effect of the leaves spectrum of fall. It is almost as if the season is being played out in a dance. “Serenity” is a different challenge. One of several works with an ethnic inspiration she transforms a figurative study into a mosaic portrait. Her interpretation of the personality of the woman is captured with nuances of her facial features as well as the drapes and folds of the fabric enhancing her pose. As in all her work the background successfully plays the difficult role of receding and yet enhancing the subject.

This widely collected artist has been included in numerous group exhibitions but her work can be most appreciated when given the opportunity to view it in a serene setting. The artist will present her work at the Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, Nov. 2 - Dec. 28. She can be reached for more information about “adopting” or commissioning her work by email at ninat@ninatisara.com.

Trudi Van Dyke is an independent fine art curator, specializing in fine craft, and formerly director of the Torpedo Factory.

CALENDAR

SATURDAY/NOV. 3

Classic Car Show, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. At River Farm, 1601 Boulevard Drive, Alexandria. Meet at River Farm for cars, food, free Reg. Fun. $20 per show car. Spectators: $5 (walk-in or bicycles, kids under 12 free), $10 (per car). Email development@ahsgardening.org. Proceeds benefit the Alexandria Horticultural Society and its headquarters River Farm. Email development@ahsgardening.org. Visit the website www.ahsgardening.org.

First Tour, 11 a.m. At Kate Walker Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen Street, Alexandria. Free. Come learn about the unique treasures held at the Local History / Special Collections the first Saturday of every month. Visit the website: www.Alexlibraryva.org. "Bound to the Fire," 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. At Gaddy’s Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal Street, Old Town Alexandria. Alexandria’s most accomplished and charismatic historical storyteller, Kelley Foxcord will discuss her new book, Bound to the Fire. How Virginia’s Enslaved Cooks Helped Invent American Cuisine. Cost is $12 per person and $10 for FOAA/ASPBH members. Tickets may be purchased online at www.Alexlibraryva.gov/Shop.

Story Time for Little Historians, 11 a.m. At the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe Street, Alexandria. Every first Saturday of the month at 11 a.m. the Alexandria Black History Museum will host a children’s story time in the Alexandria Black History Museum. This week, Baby Rattlesnake held by Tr Ata. Join us for a tour of the museum and creative craft activities that introduce world history and folklore. Explore the museum exhibits afterwards to learn about local Black History. For a limited time only, complete the scavenger hunt for our special dollhouse exhibition and take home a prize. All ages welcome, but most suitable for children 4 – 7 years old. Admission is $3 per person. Call 703-746-4356.

Betsy Mason’s Letter, 2 p.m. At Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Associate Curator Jessie MacLeod, from George Washington’s Mount Vernon, will provide a presentation: “Thank God it is now in your hands”. Unpacking Betsy C. Mason’s Letter to John Augustine Washington III. MacLeod will connect Mason’s letter with a key journal entry by Magistrate John Augustine Washington III on the 1845 trial of five enslaved men from Humble for conspiring. Call 703-768-2542.

Country-Western Dance, 7-9:30 p.m. At Lincoln Senior Center, 4710 North Chambly Street, Alexandria. The Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association will hold a dance. Lessons, 6-7 p.m. Open dancing, 7-9:30 p.m. A DJ provides music. Couples and singles of all ages welcome. Admission for NWCODA members $10; non-members $12; children under 18 accompanied by a paying adult $5. Smoke-free, alcohol-free. BYO refreshments. Visit www.nwcoda.org.

ASO Presents: Mendelssohn’s Symphony No. 3 “Scottish.” 8 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, 4915 East Campus Drive, Alexandria. The Alexandria Symphony Orchestra, led by Music Director James Ross, celebrates the past and present of American music. Featuring Tanya Anisimova, cellist. Tickets: $20-$80 adult, $5 youth, $10 student. Visit www.alexsym.org or 703-548-0883.

Nordic Fiddlers Bloc, 7 p.m. At George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria. The Alexandria Nordic Fiddlers Bloc is a fiddle trio from Norway, Sweden and the Shetland Islands whose use of harmony, rhythm, riffs and bass lines creates a sound that leaves the listener enthralled but at the same time dumbfounded that the sound only comes from three fiddles. Tickets $10/advance; $20/door. For tickets, visit http://www.focusmusic.org/buy-tickets. Contact Herb Levy at Herbfocusmusic@bluewin.org or 703-380-3151.

MONDAY/NOV. 5

Poetry Workshop, 6:30-8 p.m. at Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St., Alexandria. “Building Cultural Bridges” with Wend R Kaplan, Poet Laureate. At these workshops, poetry can be read and written. The Poet Laureate and literary programs are part of the Office of the Arts, a division of the Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities. The workshops are free; to register, RSVP to poet@alexandriava.gov or visit www.alexandriava.gov/Arts.

SUNDAY/NOV. 4

Fall Festival Fundraiser, 2-5 p.m. At Agudas Achim Congregation, 2908 Valley Drive, Alexandria. Fall Festival Fundraiser benefiting Agudas Achim Preschool. There will be games, prizes, crafts, bounce house, face painting, a petting zoo (from 2:30-3 p.m.) and music by Alexandria’s Rainbow Rock Band (starting at 3:30 p.m.). Email preschoo@agudasachim-va.org. Visit the website: https://www.facebook.com/events/470913836720811.


MENDELSOHN'S SYMPHONY NO. 5 “REFORMATION”

ASO Presents: Mendelssohn’s Symphony No. 5 “Reformation.” 3 p.m. At George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria. The Alexandria Nordic Fiddlers Bloc is a fiddle trio from Norway, Sweden and the Shetland Islands whose use of harmony, rhythm, riffs and bass lines creates a sound that leaves the listener enthralled but at the same time dumbfounded that the sound only comes from three fiddles. Tickets $10/advance; $20/door. For tickets, visit http://www.focusmusic.org/buy-tickets. Contact Herb Levy at Herbfocusmusic@bluewin.org or 703-380-3151.

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Sports

The Bishop Ireton Varsity Cheerleaders spent Sunday, Oct. 14, giving back to the local community by working the Buddy Walk for the Down Syndrome Association of Northern Virginia.

The cheerleaders assisted with the setup and breakdown of the event, including chalking the walk, working games for the children, taking photos, and cheering on the walkers.

“I am so extremely proud of how hard the team works at this event, and the sense of pride they take in participating in this walk,” said Head Coach Angela Hope. “It is truly inspiring on so many levels.”

“I’ve attended the Down Syndrome Association of Northern Virginia’s Buddy Walk for four years now and it’s such a great experience,” said Yannet Ephrem ’19.

The fall rowing season is in full swing, as ODBC travels next to Philadelphia for Head of the Schuylkill on Oct. 28.
Reflecting on Local Politics

The group generally agreed that Alexandria politics used to be better off for being more bipartisan. "Alexandria is a stronger community, politically, if there are competitive parties," said Speck. "It's unfortunate that we don't have a competitive environment now."

"Even though I am … a very partisan Democrat, I agree … about the need for balance in our community," said Rich. "One of the worst decisions we've made, a few years ago, was to go to November elections. I wish that we would [go back to local elections in May, the last of which occurred in 2009]. The current council could do that, and I think they should. It would give more attention to the City Council races and not have it mixed up in either statewide races or federal races."

Mitchell concurred, saying that, in a November election, people vote mainly for federal and state offices, but don't know enough about local candidates.

"It is wrong to come into a state election or a local election knowing only the candidates who are running for federal (office). You do great damage to the stability of government in that way," he said.

Speck suggested that staggering terms might improve the city's political culture. "We're the only city in Virginia that elects every- one at large," he said. "If you had staggered terms, you would have fewer people running, more timely focus on issues, more focused debate. … I'm unhappy with that now."

"That was one of the worst mistakes that we could ever do," said Speck. "As much as City Council got caught up in school issues, because we appointed the School Board, at least we had taxing authority, whereas Arlington, which did not fit into a larger vision of what this city could become, he said. He thinks Arlington did a better job balancing the preservation of neighborhoods against development around Metro, and that their tax base and economy are now better off as a result.

"Any development that's put together now with a DSUR, it really doesn't mean a thing if four City Council members eventually decide that they don't like it. So that's basically what this whole T.C. lights [issue] has ended up proving," said Fannon. He thinks it would've been better to put the lights at the George Washington Middle School field instead.

On the other hand, Mitchell said: "What really has to be considered is what's at stake in not having the waterfront be developed and attractive. Alexandria faces some very serious revenue issues because of the limitations on how it can grow and where it can get revenue from."

"We listened to people who had their own agenda, which did not fit into a larger vision of what this city could become," he said. He thinks Arlington did a better job balancing the preservation of neighborhoods against development around Metro, and that their tax base and economy are now better off as a result.

Most panelists disagreed with council's recent approval of stadium lights at T.C. Williams High School. "Any development that's put together now with a DSUR, it really doesn't mean a thing if four City Council members eventually decide that they don't like it. So that's basically what this whole T.C. lights [issue] has ended up proving," said Fannon. He thinks it would've been better to put the lights at the George Washington Middle School field instead.

On the other hand, Mitchell noted that no council can bind a future council with a legislative decision.

Curran Laces Up for Marathon

"My family is not surprised that I would go right back at it," Curran said. "They are proud and supportive and though it sounds trite, I truly have a new appreciation for life. The bonds with people and organizations that I have formed are so much more precious to me. I don't take a single breath for granted."

"I want RunningBrooke to continue to grow and make more of a difference in the community," Curran said. "I want RunningBrooke to continue to grow and make more of a difference in the community."

Curran said her husband and three daughters are supportive of her decision to run competitively so soon after her life nearly ended in March.

Resorting to Radio

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

There I was, Wednesday evening, Oct. 17, around 6:30, sitting on my living room couch, club sandwich in hand, preparing for the League Championship Series game 5 between my Boston Red Sox and the Houston Astros when I’ve done a thousand times before, grabbed the remote to turn on the television. Proving the usual button, I was distressed to see no picture and hear no sound. Having experienced this kind of disappointment numerous times before, I didn’t panic. I went about the diagnostic process first.

I checked my remote to see if the batteries were firmly connected, which they were. I then pointed the remote back at the television, but still no response. Next, as I have been prompted previously under similar circumstances (“Your X-Y platform ...”), I pulled the plug and waited 30-seconds. The lights on my modem were flashing (a helpful sign so I clicked on one of my top icons and was met with the dreaded “No internet connection,” confirming my worst suspicion. For the moment, 90 minutes before game time, I was out of service (heck, I was out of luck). Finally, I called my cable provider for clarification/clarification confirmation when I was met with the equally dreaded pre-recorded message: “There has been a service interruption in your area. Service is expected to be restored tomorrow afternoon. **TOMORROW AFTERNOON! THE GAME IS TONIGHT!** That was the exclamation I got.

What came next was not particularly complimentary.

For the next hour or so I fretted and muttered and did nothing to improve my circumstances. At 9:30 pm I called my brother to get a score. He lives in Washington, DC and has a KPNW phone in Maryland and has a Fuji phone, a k a “stupid phone”). Unfortunately, he had left his cell phone in another room and didn’t hear my c.f. Frustrated, I swore yet again and trudged upstairs to go to bed. After getting into my “jammies,” I laid down in bed and rolled onto my left side to set the alarm on my clock radio: when it beeps (not the clock radio): the baseball game is being broadcast on the radio! And so I scrolled the dial on the clock radio until I heard ESPN radio broadcasters John Shumway and Jessica Mendoza calling the game. If I can’t watch the game, I can certainly listen to it. And so I did, just like I did as a “little-leaguer” all those many years ago listening to Ken Coleman and Ned Martin of the “Boston Red Sox radio network” while living on Athelstan Road in Newton Centre, MA. Except this time, I wasn’t clutching a transistor radio. I was hands-free listening.

For the next nearly three hours, I laid in bed and listened. Most of the broadcast I heard and some of it missed as occasionally I fell asleep. But for a time I was transported back in time sort of, before cable television proliferated when the games were broadcast almost exclusively on radio and baseball was seen through the eyes of those sitting in the “Cathedral seat,” to quote the legendary Red Barber. Listening to how they described what they saw during the game was how many of my generation and the preceding generation, fell in love with baseball: “How about that!” to quote the late, great, Mel Allen.

It was a late night, but happily, for me and my Red Sox Nation, the Sox won and will now be returning to the World Series for the first time since 2013. Game one will be Tuesday night, Oct. 23. I can’t imagine that there will be a repeat non-performance from my cable provider, but if there is, and I am forced to go to plan “B, radio, I will do so. The circumstances got us a win in game five, so there’s no reason to think it wouldn’t get us a win in game one, too. After all, it’s not only the ballplayers that are superstitious.

Kenneth Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Potomac Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.
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Alexandria Gazette Packet ❄ October 25-31, 2018 ❄ 31
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Chris Hayes 703.944.7737

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