



Living Legends founder and photographer Nina Tisara speaks to the audience.



Councilman John Taylor Chapman reads Mayor Justin Wilson's proclamation honoring the African American Living Legends of Alexandria.



Eleven African American Living Legends of Alexandria pose for a photo at a reception at the Black History Museum. From left are: Lawrence "Robbie" Robinson, James Henson, Lillian Stanton Patterson, Florence King, Ronal Butler, Joyce Rawlings, Bill Cleveland, Ruth Cleveland, Lynnwood Campbell, Ramona Hatten, and William "Bill" Euille.

PHOTOS BY SARAH SKLAR/GAZETTE PACKET

Celebrating African American Activists

A reception open to the public at the Alexandria Black History Museum honored African American Living Legends on Sunday afternoon, July 21. Living Legends of Alexandria, a nonprofit organization, is dedicated to honoring and chronicling individuals who have made significant contributions to the quality of life in Alexandria.

Founder and photographer Nina Tisara, Del. Mark Levine, and others spoke on the subject of Alexandria's African American history, and Councilman John Taylor Chapman read Mayor Justin Wilson's proclamation honoring the Living Legends.

The exhibit, "Celebrating African American Activists" is open until Aug. 10 at the Black History Museum.



Joyce Rawlings poses for a picture with family and friends.



Lawrence "Robbie" Robinson, Ronal Butler, and James Henson hold their photographs.

Fighting E-Cigarettes through Tax Proposal

Part of an effort to curtail nicotine addiction among youths.

BY LIAM BOWMAN
GAZETTE PACKET

The use of electronic cigarettes among youths has emerged as one of the country's most prominent public health concerns. Usage has grown exponentially in recent years and there are now more than three million high school and middle school students using e-cigarettes, in what lawmakers have called an

"addictive epidemic." A new bill in the Virginia General Assembly, introduced by Sen. Adam Ebbin (D-30), would attempt to combat this issue by imposing a state tax on e-cigarettes. "Anything we can do to stop more young people from getting hooked is desirable," said Ebbin. "Right now there's no tax on e-cigarette products other than the sales tax. If you're going to tax tobacco, there's no reason you shouldn't tax

other tobacco products that have a profound health impact." The bill would tax e-cigarettes at a rate of 40 percent of the wholesale price and, if implemented, could potentially generate between \$15 million and \$20 million in annual tax revenue. The bill also includes the creation of the School Mental Health Counselors Fund and the Quit Now Virginia Fund, both of which, according to the proposal, would be

funded by the revenue from the e-cigarette tax. Ebbin introduced the e-cigarette

bill during the 2019 session, where it was passed by indefinitely. The
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Pearl Jam

fibre space
celebrates 10 years.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

A crowd of customers, friends and community supporters gathered July 19 to celebrate the 10th anniversary of fibre space, a yarn boutique that specializes in yarns and fibers from independent, local and American-made sources for knitting, crochet and spinning.

“It’s exciting to see all these people here,” said owner Danielle Romanetti, who launched the retail business in 2009. It’s a huge accomplishment to be here in Old Town for 10 years.”

Romanetti opened the original fibre space on North Fayette Street. In May of 2013, the store outgrew its original location and moved to King Street.

“This is much more rewarding than all the jobs I had prior to this.”

— fibre space owner
Danielle Romanetti

In 2017, the business expanded again when Romanetti purchased the building of its current location at 1319 Prince St., a historic flatiron building at the intersection of Commerce, Prince and West streets.

“Owning the building is the biggest longevity you can add to a business,” Romanetti said. “Buying this space is a huge benefit to fibre space and other business owners in the community encouraged me to do it.”

As part of the building purchase, fibre space partnered with the City of Alexandria to adopt the public space in front of the building. The boutique invested in the beautification of the public space for small community gatherings, outdoor space for knitters, and to create events for those who live and work in the neighborhood.

Romanetti, an Alexandria resident, has been knitting since she was 6 years old. While working at a nonprofit job, she began hosting stress relieving knit-



Ariel Shine poses outside fibre space during the shop’s July 19 10th anniversary celebration.

ting classes in Washington and Northern Virginia. The classes became so popular that she needed to hire contractors to keep up with demand. Eventually, her customers pushed for her to turn her hobby into a career.

“This was my hobby since I was little,” Romanetti said. “I was working at a really miserable, nonprofit job in the city and knitting was my stress relief, my anxiety relief. I saw a need in Alexandria for a yarn store and community space and realized this could be a business and my full-time employment. It’s been amazing and much more rewarding than all the jobs I had prior to this.”

In addition to supplies, fibre space hosts a wide selection of classes, workshops and other special events and the location has become a popular gathering place for neighborhood residents.



Celebrating the 10th anniversary of fibre space are Maria Elizabeth, Barry Zehr and Karen McCrea.

“This community is really tight,” Romanetti said of the Alexandria small business owners. “When they adopt you, they

take care of you and look out for you. It’s really good to be here and be a part of Old Town.”



Catherine and Christopher Saunders decide on skeins of yarn to purchase at the 10th anniversary celebration at fibre space on July 19.



All smiles are fibre space employees Darian Nichols and Teddy Nagel.



Danielle Romanetti, owner of fibre space, celebrates the shop’s 10th anniversary with Cathy Puskar.



Danielle Romanetti, owner of fibre space, with the shop’s mascot Ariel Shine at the July 19 10th anniversary celebration.



The staff of fibre space poses for a photo during the July 19 10th anniversary celebration in Old Town. Shown clockwise from upper left are: Cat Rudawsky, Darian Nichols, Teddy Nagel, Mya Davis and owner Danielle Romanetti.

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

Rotary Installs New Officers Meisel takes helm of service organization.

By JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Sharon Meisel, a longtime member of the Rotary Club of Alexandria, was installed as president of the organization July 9 at Belle Haven Country Club.

“Thank you so much for all the support and encouragement as you inducted me as your president,” said Meisel following the ceremony that formally installed club officers and board members for 2019-2020. “This club has an outstanding reputation that other clubs look to as a leader and mentor. And I believe that is because our members are some of the finest, kindest and generous people in Rotary. I’m looking forward to our year together to continue to grow our membership, increase our giving and to show our communities who we are and what we do.”

Other officers include vice president Pam DeCandio, secretary Donna Wilson, treasurer Leon Duncan and Jeff Kohne, Sergeant-at-arms Peter Kneteman and public image director Ru Toyama. President-elect is John Moorman.

Outgoing president Paul Anderson, of McEneaney Associates, was presented a gavel by Meisel in appreciation of his leadership to the organization.

Established in 1928, the Rotary Club of Alexandria is comprised of approximately 115 business leaders from the Alexandria community. With a motto of “Service Above



The Rotary Club of Alexandria’s 2019-2020 board members pose for a photo following the club’s induction ceremonies July 9 at Belle Haven Country Club.



Paul Anderson, outgoing president of the Rotary Club of Alexandria, with president Sharon Meisel and president-elect John Moorman following the organization’s induction of 2019-2020 officers and board members July 9 at Belle Haven Country Club.

Self,” the organization participates in projects around the world to assist those less fortunate in the areas of education, water sanitation and polio eradication.

“Our membership is a great cross section

of men and women of all ages,” said Meisel, who spearheaded the recent Flags For Heroes project during the Fourth of July holiday week. “We have a vibrant group of young members who actively participate in

our projects.

We invite visitors to experience the friendship we enjoy and see the good work our club is achieving.”

Now in its 91st year, the club hosts the annual “Taste for Giving” fundraising event each fall. Proceeds from the event are contributed to over 40 Alexandria charities that provide services to the citizens of the community.

See www.rotaryclubofalexandria.net.

OBITUARIES

Jordan L. Burke

Jordan L. Burke Ph.D. died on July 14, 2019 in Vancouver, BC, Canada, after battling malignant melanoma.

He is survived by his wife, Caleigh Minshall, also of Vancouver, his mother April L. Burke, his father Garrett C. Burke, his sister Liz Burke, his step-father Richard Flynt, and his step-mother Laura Budniakiewicz.

Jordan was born in Washington, D.C. on Nov. 8, 1982 and lived in

Alexandria, attending T.C. Williams High School. He received his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees from the University of Georgia and a Ph.D. in Forest Entomology from the University of British Columbia. He met his future wife in Vancouver and they were married on June 2, 2018. Jordan will be remembered as friendly, exuberant, and engaging.

Professionally he enjoyed and



Jordan L. Burke

succeeded in researching and communicating the science of climate change on North American forest health.

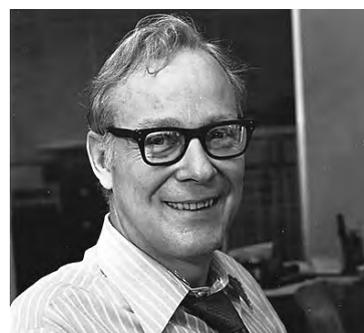
In lieu of flowers, visit <https://memorial.support.ubc.ca/jordan-burke/> for a description of the UBC Faculty of Forestry scholarship being established in Jordan’s honor to financially assist future graduate students at UBC who excel in teaching and inspiring students.

Randall Shoemaker

Randall Shoemaker, 91, a Washington journalist for 40 years, died July 6, 2019. He spent the bulk of his career as a reporter, editorial writer, and columnist for the Army Times, the flagship newspaper of the Army Times Publishing Company chain of military and federal government newspapers.

Born in Norfolk, Va., Mr. Shoemaker came to Washington in 1934. Upon graduating from Western High School, he went to work for the Signal Security Agency, the predecessor of the National Security Agency, and spent the summer of 1945 decoding Japanese messages. This experience won him quick promotion when he joined the Army in 1946. As a Specialist 4 during the occupation of Japan, he served as the night supervisor of the message center in MacArthur’s headquarters in Tokyo.

After leaving the Army, he went back to work briefly at the re-named Armed Forces Security Agency and took a bachelor’s degree in history at George Washington University. He began his news-



Randall Shoemaker

paper career in 1952 as a researcher for Jerry Kluttz, a Washington Post columnist. That same year he married Dorothy, his wife of 44 years, who died in 1996, and began his 65 years of residence in Alexandria. In 1954, he became a reporter covering crime stories for the Alexandria Gazette.

Mr. Shoemaker started work as a reporter for the Army Times in 1956. One of his scoops concerning military policy during the 1960s made it onto Walter Cronkite’s nightly news broadcast. When Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird (1969-1973) made a national base tour as part of his overhaul of the Defense Department,

Mr. Shoemaker was one of six reporters chosen to accompany him. He was also the face of the Army Times in a full-page branding ad that ran in the New York Times with the headline, “Pretty boring stuff ... unless you are one of the 7 million readers ...” He spent the last 10 years of his career writing editorials and a weekly column on retirement matters, which readers voted the most popular feature in the paper. After retiring in 1990, he continued writing the column on a reduced schedule for three years.

Mr. Shoemaker’s hobbies included reading (amassing about 12,000 books), Dixieland jazz, and popular music (of which he had an exhaustive knowledge). He was a longtime member of the Washington Science Fiction Association and, with his wife, of the Potomac River Jazz Club.

He is survived by two sons, Michael and Daniel, of Manassas and Arlington respectively; two grandchildren, Lori Anne and Stephanie; and two great-grandchildren. A private memorial will be held.

PEOPLE

Chamber To Honor Landrum

The Alexandria Chamber of Commerce has selected Stephanie Landrum, president & CEO of the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership (AEDP), as the 2019 Business Leader of the Year. She will be honored at the annual Best in Business Awards, presented by Burke & Herbert Bank, on Oct. 2 at the Westin Alexandria Old Town.

Appointed by the AEDP Board of Directors in April 2015, Landrum has held leadership roles in the organization since 2005. AEDP is responsible for leading the City of Alexandria's efforts to grow the tax base, diversify the economy and attract and retain businesses and organizations. The public-private corporation is focused on marketing Alexandria.

Landrum serves in various capacities on boards, commissions and committees related to economic development, marketing and business throughout the



Washington, D.C. region. In 2017, she was selected to participate in the inaugural class of the Urban Land Institute's Washington Regional Fellows and in recent years she was inducted into both of the Washington Business Journal's annual Women Who Mean Business and 40 Under 40 awards programs. She also serves on the executive committee and board of the Virginia Economic Developers Association (VEDA) — as president in 2019 — a statewide organization focused on shaping economic development public policy.

She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in City and Regional Planning from the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, and a Master's in Business Administration from the University

of Virginia's Darden School of Business.

She grew up in the Mount Vernon area of Fairfax County, and lives in the Potomac Yard neighborhood of the city.



PHOTO BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

Catch on the Avenue

Kent Lawson, center, operations manager at Catch on the Avenue, poses for a photo with Bob DeMaria and Mitch Opalski after they finished eating some of the restaurant's pistachio and cherry ice cream. The new Del Ray restaurant is located at 2419 Mount Vernon Ave.

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OPINION

Honoring Molly's Gift

Working toward the day that no one dies waiting for an organ.

BY LORI BRIGHAM
WASHINGTON REGIONAL
TRANSPLANT COMMUNITY

It was a Friday morning, and as the sun rose over the Lincoln Memorial more than 100 members of the United States Coast Guard gathered on the sixth floor of George Washington University Hospital. They came to say goodbye to their shipmate Molly Waters, who lost her life after a motorcycle crash. Molly, a Coast Guard Commander, spent 16 years rising through the ranks and lived to serve. Now even in death, Molly served others since she had made the selfless decision to register as an organ donor. As Molly was brought from the intensive care unit to the operating room to donate her organs, her shipmates, family, friends and hospital staff lined the hallway, a growing tradition known as an "Honor Walk."

We stood silently in the weight of the moment, collectively mourning such a tragic death and expressing our gratitude for the generosity of this ultimate act.

Last year in the United States more people than ever gave the gift of life by donating their organs upon their death. This isn't the type of record that makes headlines. But it should be. Organ donation and lifesaving transplants can only occur when individuals like Molly and their families realize that even in death they can make a difference and become part of a much larger story.

That story is one of generosity and inspiration that has led to steady increases in organ



Honor Walk for Molly Waters took place at George Washington University Hospital in D.C.

donations and transplants. Organ transplants in the U.S. saw their sixth consecutive record-breaking year in 2018, with an 18 percent increase in deceased organ donors between 2015 and 2018. The 10,721 deceased donors last year meant 29,680 transplants for people waiting for an organ. Here in the D.C. metro area, we are part of this story, too. Last year, our organization surpassed our own record recovering and allocating 474 organs from 137 generous donors, which saved the lives of 401 people.

At Washington Regional Transplant Community (WRTC) located in Falls Church, we work every day to help save more lives through organ donation. Our job is to educate medical professionals and the public about organ donation; facilitate the recovery of organs, match them to waiting patients and deliver them to transplant hospitals; and support donor families before, during and after the donation process and help honor the legacies of their loved ones. We work in close partnership with six transplant centers and 44 hospitals to decrease the number of patients waiting for a lifesaving organ.

WRTC is one of 58 organ procurement organizations (OPOs) across the U.S. Our singular mission is to save lives through organ donation and transplantation and, as a community, we are working toward the day that no one dies waiting for an organ. The unfortunate fact today is that with more than 113,000 people on the national transplant waiting list, the need for a donated organ far outpaces availability. And while increased public awareness and willingness to be a donor is essential, that alone

isn't enough. Only three in every 1,000 people die in a way that allows for the possibility of organ donation.

OPOs are working to improve these odds. We are pursuing positive changes to federal policies that govern organ donation and transplantation, including promoting the use of organs from more complex donors, improving clinical support, providing OPOs access to donor hospital health records and addressing transplant center reimbursement and evaluation policies that might be a disincentive to otherwise successful organ matches.

Additionally, at WRTC, we realize the power of scientific and medical research and its ability to save lives and heal patients. Therefore, deceased donors can donate organs and tissues, unsuitable for transplants, to far-reaching medical research and therapy initiatives. In 2018, WRTC allocated 92 organs for research, which ranked seventh in the nation.

The system for organ donation in the U.S. is complex and highly regulated, providing a strong infrastructure and successful track record from which to build. At WRTC, we are privileged to play a role in this system and are committed to working with our local and national partners to make it even stronger and more successful.

We honor those who have embraced organ donation as an act of human kindness to inspire others to register as donors too. We encourage you to make the legal and informed decision to be an organ donor.

Lori Brigham is president and chief executive officer of the Washington Regional Transplant Community in Falls Church.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Pedestrian Safety

To the Editor:

While I applaud the efforts of Michael Doyle ["Goal: Increase Pedestrian Safety," July 18, Gazette Packet] to seek safer streets for pedestrians, I see no evidence of better behavior by

pedestrians, cyclists or drivers. In fact, if anything, our streets are less safe as drivers turn right on red without stopping, make "Hollywood" stops at stop signs and routinely race through yellow lights. And now there are those e-scooters to add to the mix.

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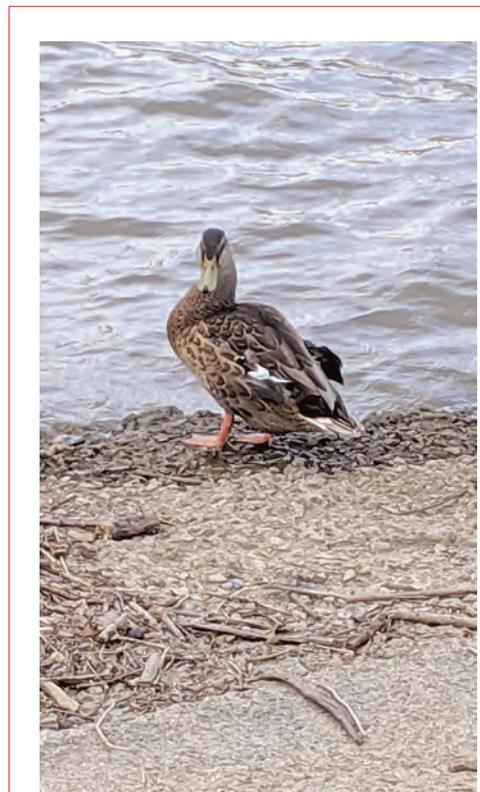


PHOTO BY HAL HARDWAY

Alert

A denizen along the waterfront checks for intruders.

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RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

Turning Chronic Medical Cases

Into contented pets.

BY BARBARA S. MOFFET
ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE OF ALEXANDRIA

The white and brown American bulldog mix sat in the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter's community room. He had just been surrendered by owners who said he had been continuously falling down stairs and could no longer get up. They felt euthanasia was the only course of action for their 11-year-old pet.

But when the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria's shelter veterinarian Dr. Kaci Angelone and Veterinary Care Manager Arianne Killen got to the room, they saw a sweet, youthful face looking up at them, the expressive eyes — one brown and one blue — reflecting stress and pain. And they observed something else: Although obviously uncomfortable, the dog could stand up.

Killen immediately took the dog, known as Peedee, to one of the AWLA's veterinary partner hospitals for radiographs, or X-rays. The reasons for Peedee's pain and disability were suddenly clear to see: He had severe spinal fusion, which meant several of his vertebrae were locked together. Additional examination also showed serious abrasions on his paws, a result of struggling to walk, Killen said.

The veterinary team realized that Peedee could lead a happy, comfortable life — with the right support. Antibiotics, muscle relaxers and pain medication were prescribed, though Peedee resisted swallowing the pills. Undaunted, the staff tried hiding them in treats like rotisserie chicken, cream cheese, cat food and baby food, and they finally succeeded in getting him to take enough medicine to make a difference. Meanwhile, his kennel was filled with pillows and blankets to provide a soft landing for his wounded paws, and staff members assisted him to the yard when he needed to go outside.

Once Peedee was more comfortable, the vet sent him to be neutered — as all male dogs are before adoption — and dental surgery. The dental treatment was urgent — an abscess had been found under one of his teeth and was beginning to cause him great pain.

After about a month of special care, Peedee showed signs of relief from his pain. He could walk like a normal dog and even



Cali rules part of the home of AWLA staffer Audrey Alessi.



Peedee relaxing in his Alexandria home

Upon arriving at the shelter, senior animals are given a complete exam, including blood analysis. The tests often reveal conditions such as thyroid, kidney or liver disease, and many of the animals desperately need dental work.

run occasionally. His friendly, social personality was emerging, and he was soon seeking affection from anyone he met.

"We could see he was a sweet dog," recalls Dr. Angelone. "Peedee probably hadn't had the easiest life, and we wanted to put out the effort to help him. He definitely needed a lot from us, but it turned out very well."

Peedee was just one medical case to come through the AWLA's doors who needed patience and longer-term support to help prepare for a future home. Costs for care like this always exceed the AWLA's standard medical budget, but community support through the AWLA's Rosemary's Fund for senior animals and Sarah's Fund for medical emergencies helps bridge the gap, helping the AWLA provide animals like Peedee with the level of care they need to recuperate. Dr. Angelone says many of the chronic illnesses they see are in senior animals who haven't received proper veterinary care for years. Upon arriving at the shelter, senior animals are given a complete exam, including blood analysis. The tests often reveal conditions such as thyroid, kidney or liver disease, and many of the animals desperately need dental work. The AWLA treats these animals as it can, sometimes with assistance from veterinary hospitals and foster caregivers. Visiting veterinarians also come in about once a month to help with routine tasks and special challenges.

Some animals, such as a 17-year-old calico cat named Cali, chart their own courses. When Cali arrived at the shelter



Peedee (left) and his new siblings enjoy each other on a walk. The formerly lame Peedee doesn't want to stop.

last year she was thought to be suffering from diabetes, but Dr. Angelone determined that her main ailment was kidney disease. Cali became an AWLA "office cat" while under treatment, hanging out with the administrative staff and sleeping on their chairs and desks. After several months, she upgraded her accommodations when she went home as a foster with one of the communications staffers, Audrey Alessi, who allows her to rule part of her house. Cali currently has her own room, separate from Alessi's two resident cats. "We consider Cali a long-term shelter resident dealing with kidney disease," Angelone said. "We're continuing to monitor her and treat her symptoms, and in the meantime, she is enjoying her AWLA adventure."

Peedee the dog also enjoyed stays in foster homes while continuing his recovery, and after a few months in his second home, foster "mom" Susan Doherty decided to adopt him. Doherty, who is also an AWLA volunteer, said she intended to find a permanent home for Peedee, but "we just fell in love with him. He's so sweet and loving, and he loves to run around, which is so surprising given his history. He tears around

the yard with our medium-sized dog and goes out and barks at squirrels."

Peedee greets Doherty at the door at the end of each day, his whole body wagging in excitement. "When he first came to us we were handling him with kid gloves," she said, "but now we treat him just like our other two dogs. I can walk all three of them at a time and hold the leashes in one hand — they all get along so well."

But the dog who wouldn't give up just wants to keep going, Doherty says. "There's one corner we get to on our walks where he knows we're heading home. He always wants to go the other way."

To learn more about how to help animals like Peedee and Cali, visit AlexandriaAnimals.org/Rosemary or AlexandriaAnimals.org/Sarah.

The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria is a local 501(c)(3) organization. Operating the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter, which is Alexandria's only open-access animal shelter, the AWLA touches the lives of more than 6,000 animals every year, including strays, lost pets, local wildlife, rescued animals and animals surrendered by their owners. The AWLA is committed to addressing animal homelessness, promoting animal welfare and serving as an educational resource for the community. More information can be found at AlexandriaAnimals.org.

HISTORY

Coming Home to Old Alexandria

BY CHAR MCCARGO BAH

In 2013, Sherrin Hamilton Bell made a visit to Alexandria in search of her 2nd great-grandfather's grave. Unknown to Sherrin, her family was in Alexandria/District of Columbia since the 1700s; they made many contributions to enslaved and freed African Americans in pre-and-post-era of the Civil War.

Sherrin's 2nd great-grandfather, Harry G. Franklin's great-grandfather was born the year that Alexandria became a part of the District of Columbia in 1790. During that time the City of Alexandria was part of the District of Columbia from 1790 to 1846, freed African Americans enjoyed certain freedoms that were not given to them in the Southern states. One of those liberties was education. Some of the Franklins educated themselves and became teachers prior to the Civil War. Others became politicians and businessmen.

Harry's grandfather, George, was a delegate to the Convention of the Colored People of Virginia in 1865. He was also a wealthy property owner who paid taxes on his property in Ward 3 and in Ward 4 in Alexandria in 1865. His property in Ward 4 was located on Duke and Columbus streets. Later in life, he purchased properties in Washington, D.C. and in New York. George was also a good friend of another freed African

American in Alexandria, George Seaton. Along with George Seaton, George Franklin advocated for schools after the Civil War for former slaves in Alexandria. Through their efforts, the Freedmen Bureau and private donors contracted with George Seaton to build two schools; the Snowden School for Colored Boys and the Hallowell School for Colored Girls. Along with George Seaton, George Franklin and other prominent African Americans became trustees of those two schools.

By 1910, George H. Franklin was living in Washington, D.C. at 1325 J St. with his wife Sarah and four of his grandchildren: Harry G. Franklin, Helen L. Franklin, Susie A. Franklin and Russel M. Franklin. George, his wife Sarah and their grandchildren kept their connection to Alexandria through their church — Roberts Memorial United Methodist Church. When they died, they were all buried in Alexandria at the Washington Street United Methodist Church Cemetery. Sherrin connected to her ancestors' history in this Methodist cemetery. An obelisk headstone with three generations of Franklins' names are on the structure.

She has come full circle in connecting her history with Old Alexandria. Her ancestors were in Alexandria during the lifetime of the first President of the United States and when Alexandria was part of D.C. At least one of her ancestors served in the Civil War. And, her



**Harry G. Franklin:
1870-1901.**

5th great-grandfather, Robert amassed enough wealth that several of his 3rd great-grandchildren enjoyed the fruits of his labor.

Today, the Franklin family is found throughout the United States. They migrated to the District of Columbia, New York, Minnesota, Maryland, Connecticut and Philadelphia. Philadelphia is where Sherrin was born and where she lives today.



Sherrin Hamilton Bell.

In finding her family history in Alexandria, she also found out that her Franklin family buried their loved ones at the Alexandria Freedmen Cemetery during and shortly after the Civil War. And to add on to her family history, she found distant relatives to her Franklin family who are still living in Northern Virginia, District of Columbia and Maryland areas. Coming home to Alexandria was

a sweet reunion for Sherrin who is an only child; she felt so connected to her family history and so proud that Alexandria has preserved enough of her family history for her to enjoy.

Char McCargo Bah is a published author, freelance writer, independent historian, genealogist and a Living Legend of Alexandria. She maintains two blogs, <http://www.theotheralexandria.com> and <http://www.findingthingsforu.com>.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF SHERRIN H. BELL



PHOTO BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

LLA Recognition

Peter Baldwin, left, of Market Force Strategies, holds a certificate of appreciation and gift card presented to him by Jennifer Ayers on behalf of the board of directors of Living Legends of Alexandria. Baldwin recently stepped down as vice president of the board following five years of service to the organization.



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PHOTO BY DIANA BANNAT

On the Waterfront

Providence at sunrise on Sunday July 21.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 6

Getting serious is what's urgently needed. I will tell you how it's done. Fifty-three years ago I arrived in Portland, Oregon, ready to start college. No one had told me how serious Portland took pedestrian safety. On my first day, I saw no traffic so I crossed on a red light in downtown Portland. A cop on the beat came over to me and handed me a ticket. Say what? The cop informed me that pedestrians must neither jaywalk nor disregard street lights. The fine was \$25 or report to the central police station for a movie shown every Wednesday evening. Being a poor student, I went to the movie.

I was surprised how many people, mostly young people, were at the movie. Before it started, a police officer commented that she knew that all of us believed nothing could happen to us. Now watch the movie. It was scene after scene of shocking footage of mangled bodies of pedestrians hit by cars, trucks, motorcycles or bicycles. It was hard to look at, and all of us were squirming in our seats.

After it ended, the officer started

a discussion about pedestrian safety. She made it clear that our safety started with us. Don't ever assume a moving vehicle of any kind is aware of our presence. From that day forward, I took that advice. I also became far more pedestrian aware as a cyclist and motorist.

I don't know if this movie still exists, or if there is an updated one, but I believe that if Alexandria is serious about pedestrian safety, it can follow what Portland did a half century ago. It's all about education and enforcement. Is Alexandria ready to get serious? The verdict is still out in my view.

Jim Larocco
Alexandria

**Best for Few
Or Common
Good?**

To the Editor:

The Alexandria City Council is set to vote in mid-September to reduce the number of automobile lanes on Seminary Road while simultaneously creating bicycle

lanes similar to what they have pejoratively done on King Street.

The mayor is vigorously leading the charge toward a majority vote in favor of this dubious proposal, despite the concerns and objections of most of the civic associations within Seminary Road geographic area. One of the main concerns is that several of those associations contend that the accident data compiled by the city staff is just not accurate. However, even more importantly, altering Seminary Road could be a life or death situation, as ambulances use Seminary Road to access the INOVA Alexandria Hospital. Why would such an action be even entertained? It is time for the City Council to look out for the common good, rather than to succumb to the needs of a few.

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

**Step Up,
Speak Out**

To the Editor:

ICE threatens massive raids targeting families. Alexandria immigrant communities live in fear even when massive raids haven't happened yet.

Trump's rhetoric toward immigrants gets more violent.

What does the City of Alexandria do? The mayor and sheriff refer immigrants to their websites for FAQs and referrals to legal aid, taking a "low-key" approach in the name of "not targeting" immigrant communities. "Low-key" is pretty low. As of July 22, neither the City of Alexandria nor Sheriff's Office sites have any reference to threatened mass arrests by ICE on the home page, not even in English. Nothing!

Elsewhere: Montgomery County Executive Marc Erlich issues executive order preventing all departments from cooperating with ICE.

New York Mayor de Blasio states the city will not cooperate with ICE and sends out advocates to neighborhoods to contact immigrants and distribute resources.

Chicago Mayor's Office organizes Neighborhood Navigators; residents of all ages to go out in neighborhoods and speak directly to vulnerable neighbors about their rights and establish emergency communication chains.

Please, City Council, Mayor Wilson: step up, speak out, lead. Silence makes us complicit.

Gillie Campbell
Grassroots Alexandria

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Drinking plenty of non-alcoholic fluids like water, even if you're not thirsty can help prevent heat related illnesses.

Beating the Heat

Seniors at greater risk for heat-related illnesses.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

With the sunny days of mid-summer come sweltering heat. This week's heat indexes topping 110 degrees in some cases illustrate that July and August are the hottest months of the year, according to the National Centers for Environmental Information.

Soaring temperatures may have the greatest impact on those who are over the age of 65.

"They are more likely to have a chronic medical condition that changes the normal body's responses to heat," said Amy Vennett, BSN, RN, Program Manager and Nursing Case Management for Arlington, County. "Older adults don't adjust as well as young people to sudden changes in temperature. They're more likely to take prescription medicines that affect the body's ability to control its temperature or sweat."

The physical, cognitive and social changes that happen as one ages, make one more susceptible to illnesses related to extreme heat, says Ingrid Parkhurst, Center Nurse Coordinator and Gerontologist for the Fairfax County Health Department. "So, when it comes to the heat, we need to think about all three perspectives. Physically, older adults might overheat, sunburn and dehydrate more easily given changes to their bodies. Cognitively, older people are more likely than the general population to suffer from some mental decline, [and] they may not be able to communicate their needs in the heat as readily, leaving them open to dehydration and heat-related illnesses."

Vennett says that the signs that might signal the onset of such an illness include "Heat stroke, heat exhaustion, heat cramps, sunburn, and heat rash."

Local counties offer help during times of extreme heat, says Brian Roberts of the Montgomery Health

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



and Human Services Department. "Anyone who needs to get out of the heat can take advantage of the cooling centers like senior centers during normal business hours."

Staying indoors during the hottest parts of the day, is the most obvious way to prevent illnesses, says Vennett. "If you do spend time outside, wear lightweight, loose-fitting clothing. Drink plenty of non-alcoholic fluids like water, even if you're not thirsty."

"Stay ahead of your thirst," continued Vennett. "On days with heat advisories, take sips from a water bottle all day. If you feel sick, see your physician. Older adults can have multiple health problems at once, and dehydration can affect any of these."

Some older adults go through social changes that could leave them isolated and unable to seek help before reaching the point of an extreme heat-induced illness, says Parkhurst. "That is dangerous because if they do not have social connections it will be harder for them to access the care they need, especially in an emergency," she said. "Those who are isolated or lack the physical ability to drink adequate amounts of water or recognize thirst are at greater risk. And, dehydration easily leads to urinary tract infections in older adults."

"When it comes to severe heat and the elderly, we worry about dehydration and heat related illnesses."

— Ingrid Parkhurst, Mount Vernon Adult Day Health Care, Fairfax County Health Department

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ENTERTAINMENT

LTA Stages 'The Producers' Mel Brooks' musical comedy is filled with laughs.

BY STEVE HIBBARD

The Little Theatre of Alexandria (LTA) is opening its 2019-2020 season with the Mel Brooks musical comedy, "The Producers," from July 27 to Aug. 17. The story revolves around Max Bialystock, the one-time king of Broadway producers, who is hungry to strike it rich. Leo Bloom, an accountant with dreams of someday becoming a theatre producer, discovers that they could get richer by producing a flop instead of a hit. They start by finding the worst show, worst director, and worst actors. When their new production, "Springtime for Hitler," turns out to be a smash success, the plan is thrown off and the partners' lives are thrown into chaos.

Director Kristina Friedgen said, first and foremost, "The Producers" is a comedy, so the primary goal is to make the audience laugh. "The characters in this piece are outrageous and their behavior reflects that. To that end, we have pushed the physical comedy in this piece," she said. "Looking at this story within the context of our society today with greater awareness of #MeToo and LGBTQ issues, and the push toward more diversity and inclusion in our society has been an interesting challenge."

She added: "However, I think that Mel Brooks has a great fondness for every character in this piece and their earnest pursuit of their objectives, no matter the trope that they are based off of has perfect blend of ridiculous candor. We have worked to create an inclusive environment within the humor. By that I mean that no character is ever 'made fun of' without his or her knowledge."

Co-Producer Mary Beth Smith-Toomey said she decided to produce the show because it is such a challenge. "I love Mel Brooks and wanted to work with our outstanding designers, our director, Kristina Friedgen, Stefan Sittig, our choreographer, and Colin Taylor, our music director, to bring this musical to life on LTA's stage," she said.

Shaw says the summertime spruce-up is necessary to keep the pub in its best shape as the area continues to grow. "We see nothing but growth down by the Metro and Carlyle and so forth," he said. "While the restaurant's successful, it was fairly dated on the interior. ... There was a long-term risk that it wasn't attracting enough new customers."

Over the years, Theismann's has become a hodgepodge of sports-themed memorabilia, lacking a singular focus. Shaw says that one thing that was missing was, inter-



The Little Theatre of Alexandria is presenting "The Producers" from July 27 to Aug. 17.

The other co-producer is David Correia.

She added: "It is literally taking all our resources to create it, and it will be an outstanding production. The sheer number of costumes and wigs is amazing. I have produced more than 60 shows at this point and this is definitely one of the biggest I have ever produced. We have an outstanding cast, staff and crew for this show, as well as an 18-piece orchestra."

Sittig said his main challenge was balancing out the varied skill levels of the large and diverse cast. "They all organize their talents differently, and they have varying levels of dance training. I wanted to bring the most out of each of their abilities, and still be able to form a cohesive ensemble for the big dance numbers," he said.

He continued: "Also, a show that was originally a Susan Stroman show is going to be very dance heavy. And this show is no exception — there are several large ensemble numbers, and often they involve intricate formations and even fun props. Get ready to see a lot of 'prop-ography,' another signature of Stroman's shows that I felt I

had to honor here. LTA's stage is a lot smaller than the average Broadway house, so I did have to adapt things a bit, but the feel/style is the same big brassy style you'd see in a Stroman show."

Sirena Dib plays the role of Ulla, the Swedish secretary who joins Max and Leo on their quest to Broadway. "She is not afraid of putting herself out there and likes to 'flaunt it' anytime she can. Her hobbies include: singing, dancing, exercising, eating herring, and tidying up."

Her favorite time of day is 11 a.m., but you will have to come to the show to find out why," she said.

Chad Ramsey plays the role of Franz Liebkind, a German playwright who raises carrier pigeons on his rooftop in Greenwich Village. "Franz does a lot of screaming and yelling, so my vocal chords take a beating. Also, this is a show that prominently features Nazis and Adolph Hitler, so when you're talking about the show in public you sometimes have to dodge horrified looks from passersby," he said.

Timothy King plays the role of Carmen

Ghia, who is director Roger DeBris' "common law assistant" — his right-hand, protector, and significant other. "Carmen is fiercely loyal and protective of Roger (and hysterically funny)," he said.

He added: "I joined the cast a little late, so I had some catching up to do but this process has been so much fun. The cast is talented, dedicated, supportive, fearless, and outrageous. We laugh a lot in rehearsals."

Shannon Robichaud plays a lot of different characters. "My favorites are Showgirl in 'I Wanna Be a Producer,' Little Old Lady in 'Along Came Bialy,' and Storm Trooper Tapper in 'Springtime for Hitler.' They are all fantastic dance numbers," she said.

She added: "I hope that everyone who comes to see our show leaves with a light heart from laughing so much. This show is hilarious."

Chad Friedman is also playing multiple characters in the ensemble. "The most fun thing about being in the ensemble is that I play a different character every scene ranging from an old lady to a Nazi stormtrooper."

The only named character I play is an eccentric and clueless actor named Donald Dinsmore who's always wanted to be in a Broadway show," he said.

Erin Pugh also plays in the ensemble. "One of the biggest challenges was being able to sing and dance at the same time. I haven't done a musical in about two years so I've had to readjust my breath support so that I can sustain complicated harmonies while I'm kicking, twirling, and dropping into the splits. It has been tough but so much fun," she said.

The Little Theatre of Alexandria is presenting "The Producers" from July 27 to Aug. 17. Show times are Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Sundays at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$29 and \$34. The venue is located at 600 Wolfe Street, Alexandria. Call the Box Office at 703-683-0496 or visit the website at www.TheLittleTheatre.com.

PHOTO BY MATTHEW RANDALL/THE GAZETTE

Joe Theismann's Restaurant Spruces Up Over the Summer

BY HOPE NELSON

A 34-year-old Alexandria sports-pub icon is getting a facelift this summer, sprucing up its surroundings while both perking up and maintaining its current menu and appeal. Joe Theismann's Restaurant, a staple of upper King Street for decades, will stay open throughout the endeavor, giving customers both a place to visit as well as a sneak peek into what the restaurant will become when the scaffolding comes down.

Alexandria Restaurant Partners' Scott

Shaw says the summertime spruce-up is necessary to keep the pub in its best shape as the area continues to grow.

"We see nothing but growth down by the Metro and Carlyle and so forth," he said. "While the restaurant's successful, it was fairly dated on the interior. ... There was a long-term risk that it wasn't attracting enough new customers."

Over the years, Theismann's has become a hodgepodge of sports-themed memorabilia, lacking a singular focus. Shaw says that one thing that was missing was, inter-

estingly, the restaurant's namesake himself.

"We're embracing Joe. It's a funny thing, but when you walk in the restaurant," there's currently hardly any reference to Theismann, Shaw said.

Along with a renewed focus on Theismann himself — the back room will become a "hall of fame" of sorts in honor of the former Washington Redskins quarterback — the restaurant will sport a renewed look, as well. Nothing will be left untouched, Shaw said, from the tables and chairs to the upholstery, carpet and ceiling.

Most noticeable will be the creation of a

new island bar space. While the existing bar undergoes renovation, Theismann's will sport a pop-up bar this summer complete with televisions and plenty of beer, ensuring thirsty Alexandrians (and tourists, too) can get their fill throughout the construction.

The menu won't remain untouched, either, throughout the renovation process, receiving a bit of a facelift itself, Shaw says.

"We continue to tweak the menu. We're trying to make the menu more relevant for a wider and in some cases younger audi-

SEE THEISMANN'S, PAGE 18

ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO BY HOPE NELSON

New Brewery

Aslin Beer Company opened the doors to its new Alexandria brewery and tasting room at 847 S. Pickett St. on July 15, and, by the weekend, floor space was at a premium. The brewery, whose home base has been in Herndon, had more than a dozen beers on offer to kick off its tenure on the West End, and the menu will rotate regularly.

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

ONGOING

Art Exhibit: Labyrinths and/or Mazes. Through July 28, gallery hours, Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, Studio 29, 105 North Union St. Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery announces the opening of its juried show, Labyrinths and/or Mazes. Sometimes one is led to success and sometimes one hits a dead end. Gallery embers have pushed their paths and have come up with wonderful results. Themed work will be eligible for recognition by the jurors. Non-themed work may also be exhibited. Visit www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com or call 703-548-0935.

Musical: "Be More Chill." Through July 29, at the Ainslie Arts Center on the campus of Episcopal High School, 3900 West Braddock Road. Be More Chill follows nerdy loner Jeremy, who ingests a supercomputer called a "SQUIP" in order to become cool and popular. Be More Chill is directed by Izzy Smelkinson with music direction by Marika Countouris. In addition to mounting the first professional production of the show in the D.C. metro area, Monumental Theatre Company will also be employing an all-female design team. Visit www.monumentaltheatre.org/be-more-chill.html for tickets.

Registration Open: NVSO. The Northern Virginia Senior Olympics features more than 60 events that challenge the mind as well as the body. New games this year: jigsaw puzzle and line-dancing. The games run Sept. 14-28. There will be no on-site registration. Paper registrations, available at most local recreation and senior centers, must be postmarked by Aug. 24. Online registrations must be completed by Aug. 31 at

www.nvso.us.

Art Exhibit: More Than A Body. Through Aug. 4, gallery hours, at Target Gallery at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Target Gallery, the contemporary exhibition space for the Torpedo Factory Art Center, presents their competitive annual solo exhibition featuring Northern Virginia-based artist Julia Kwon. Kwon uses traditional Korean inspired textiles to create a dialogue on othering and objectification she experiences as a Korean-American woman. Visit torpedofactory.org/target.

Ceramics Go Casual. Through Aug. 4, gallery hours at Scope Gallery, ground floor Studio 19 of the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St. The "Siestaware" Kiln Club show features calm colors and organic contours in a collection of blissed out dishes and shapely sculptural work by the Kiln Club artists. Call Scope Gallery at 703-548-6288 or visit www.scopegallery.org.

Living Legends of Alexandria: African American Activists. Through Aug. 10, Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Living Legends of Alexandria: African American Activists highlights the work of African American men and women who have made important contributions to the growth and productivity of the City of Alexandria. Call 703-746-4356 for more.

Creative Summer Programs. Through Aug. 31 at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Del Ray Artisans' Creative Summer Programs is a series of workshops exploring the arts. Learn techniques in photography (macro and SmartPhone), painting, sculpture, mixed media, jewelry-making, sketching, and more; and discover how to use art for affirmation, communication, and intention.

Details and registration at DelRayArtisans.org/programs/creative-summer/.

Mount Vernon Farmers Market. Wednesdays (through Dec. 18), 8 a.m.-noon at Sherwood Hall Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. The McCutcheon/Mount Vernon Farmers Market opened May 1 with an array of farm-fresh produce and local foods, plus some new features (fresh brewed coffee!). 17 local farmers and producers will sell fresh, locally grown vegetables and fruits; meats; Chesapeake Bay seafood; breads and pastries; honey, jams and jellies; milk, cheese and eggs; herbs and plants; and more. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets.

Band Members Needed. Join the Mount Vernon Community Band, a group of players who enjoy playing many styles of band music in a relaxed atmosphere. Rehearsals are Tuesdays 7:30-9:30 p.m. in the Mount Vernon High School Band Room, 8515 Old Mount Vernon Road. No auditions. All instruments needed. Contact Eric Leighty directly 703-768-4172 or visit www.mvbands.com/join-us/.

FRIDAY/JULY 26

Mount Vernon Nights: The Alexandria Singers (pop chorus). 7:30-8:30 at Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Performances will feature musical styles from soul to and pop and bluegrass and rock. Bring a picnic dinner and a blanket and enjoy one of Fairfax County's summer traditions. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance/mt-vernon-nights for more.

SATURDAY/JULY 27

The General's Tour. 10 a.m.-noon at Lee-Fendall House Museum &

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Breaded veal cutlet for Wiener Schnitzel



Flash fry cutlet on each side



Caramelize peppers for Züricher Geschnetzeltes

Meet Chef Ivan Svalina of Old House Cosmopolitan

BY SHIRLEY RUHE

Chef Ivan Svalina is stirring the chopped red peppers and onions in the canola oil. He uses a 120-quart pot to make Hungarian Goulash. He adds beef cubes “fresh cut” and stirs it again. Svalina will caramelize the onions with a little salt and put in another layer of red peppers and onions and keep stirring with another layer of meat. “I tell the customers when they ask how long until it is good that ‘when you finish your bottle of wine, it’s ready.’”

IN THE KITCHEN

Svalina says, “This pot is gonna be good for customers two days for sure. The next day goulash is much better. You chill to pull all of the ingredients together.”

Svalina turns to the salad that goes with the Wiener Schnitzel. He layers a handful of chopped romaine lettuce with a handful of chopped tomatoes, red and green peppers, purple and white onions. “I add a little bit of salt, olive oil.” He pulls out a two-quart container of lemon juice and sprinkles a generous helping over the combination. A quick toss and he sets it aside.

Next to the schnitzel, Svalina pulls out a large, flattened piece of veal scaloppini. He dips the meat in flour, beaten eggs and seasoned breadcrumbs. “Some people add milk to the eggs but not me.” Svalina tests the tip of the meat in the hot oil in a skillet. “Not yet.”

He turns to the onions for the Züricher Geschnetzeltes, a different veal dish that he is juggling at the same time. “See, I’ll deep fry the onion that I use to top the pieces of



Chef Ivan Svalina stirs Hungarian Goulash.

veal.” He puts a handful of onion slices in a large metal basket and lowers the onions into the hot oil to flash fry for a couple of minutes.

Back to the Hungarian Goulash that gets another swirl with the long handled aluminum spoon. He adds chopped tomatoes. “You know goulash is tomato based.” It continues to simmer.

The oil is ready for the schnitzel. Svalina places the veal in the skillet. “Very fast.” In about a minute he flips over the schnitzel and browns it briefly on the other side. “Out it comes with slices of lemon placed on the top.”

Now he heats two small skillets. “This one

I will caramelize the thin strips of veal for the Zurich Geschnetzeltes.” A large pot of fresh mushroom sauce sits on the burner beside the veal. “I made a béchamel sauce and added a variety of mushrooms like white and shitake. You always slice mushrooms.” He explains he added them to the béchamel and then you end with cream or milk. “We make this fresh daily.”

Svalina places the veal in a carry out container for a customer and adds two ladles of mushroom sauce. He has prepared corkscrew shaped spaetzle to accompany the veal. “Spaetzle is pieces of dough, not like gnocchi which is pasta.”

Svalina opened Old House Cosmopolitan 14 months ago on Cameron Street after looking for a space in Old Town for a few years. “I couldn’t wait to get into the city.” Svalina came to America in 2004 and had a restaurant by the Huntington Metro for a while. Then he moved to Route 1 but he was always looking for a better location. He recently closed his restaurant there after opening on Cameron Street. “We don’t have enough family to operate both restaurants.” He explained his wife, Amela, and his sister-in-law make the desserts including the black forest cake, orange cheese-cake and their version of baklava.

Svalina explains he went to culinary school a long time ago and then worked in Italy, Croatia and Germany where he worked under one of the best known chefs. His parents wanted him to be a doctor or a dentist, “but I loved cooking, the ingredients.” And it all started when he was 6-7 years old watching his grandma cooking, making her daily bread, bean soup and goulash. “This Hungarian Goulash is her



Pour mushroom gravy over veal



Züricher Geschnetzeltes with spaetzle

recipe.”

He says goulash is a customer favorite. “Americans are slowly recognizing what is real food. Everybody is surprised.” But customers are all different. He says he has customers who will eat nothing but lamb chops for a year “and I pressure them to try schnitzel. Then they like it and just eat schnitzel for a year. I always tell people I will give them a little sample and if they don’t like they can try something else. Then everyone is happy.”

CALENDAR

Garden, 614 Oronoco St. A guided walking tour of Robert E. Lee sites in Alexandria’s Historic Old Town. \$10 in advance, \$15 gate. Call 703-548-1789 or visit www.leefendallhouse.org for more.

Old Town Arts and Crafts Fair. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Waterfront Park, 1A Prince St. Hosted by Volunteer Alexandria for over 35 years, this event offers residents and visitors of all ages the opportunity to shop and browse dozens of vendors. Art and crafts range from pottery and paintings to recycled jewelry and glass products, home & garden, clothing for people and pets, and much more. Free admission. Call 703-836-2176 or visit VolunteerAlexandria.org. Volunteers needed.

Succulents for Small Spaces. 10:30

a.m.-noon at Barrett Library, 717 Queen St. Explore what makes a plant a succulent, their geographic origins, and why they are great options for small spaces. Learn all about the light, water, and soil requirements for successfully growing succulents. Free. Advance registration requested at mgnv.org. Questions? Contact 703-228-6414 or mgarlalex@gmail.com.

Dyke Marsh Meetup Walk with a Ranger. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Belle Haven Park/ Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve. Enjoy the outdoors on this 2-mile walk with a national park ranger to see the largest freshwater marsh in the nation’s capital. Bring a pair of binoculars for viewing an eagle’s nest and other marsh life. Free. Call 703-235-1530 or visit www.nps.gov/gwmp/planyourvisit/

dykemarsh.htm.

Summer Saturdays. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Lorton. Join Gunston Hall for a summer of fun. Each Saturday in June, July, and August, stop by for a historic adventure on the grounds and in the Visitor Center. Included with regular admission. Call 703-550-9220 or visit www.gunstonhall.org/visit/guide/upcoming-events.

Author Event: Tesa Jones. 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Hooray for Books, 1555 King St. Meet Tesa Jones, author of Reflection of Memories and Cobwebs of Time. Talk with the author and pick up a signed copy. She is an alumna of Fort Hunt High School. Jones moved to North Carolina 10 years ago, and is back for the annual “Fort Hunt High School

All Class Reunion.” Visit www.hooray4books.com or call 703-548-4092 for more.

Mount Vernon Nights: Fayces U Know (R&B). 7-8 p.m. at The Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Performances will range from disco to Indian Bollywood and acoustic blues to big band. Bring a picnic dinner and a blanket and enjoy one of Fairfax County’s summer traditions. Come early to the Workhouse Arts Center to explore its vibrant arts scene. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/mt-vernion-nights for more.

THROUGH JULY 28

Celebrating 10 Years. fibre space

(1319 Prince St.) is celebrating 10 years in Old Town Alexandria. The boutique specializes in unique yarns and fibres from hand dyed, independent, local and US-made sources for knitting, crochet and spinning. They also offer a wide selection of classes, workshops, and other special events. Events include: Loopy Mango Pop-Up Workshop (July 26); 3D Knitwear, the Hisho Shawl: a workshop with Olga Buraya-Kefelian (July 28); Stitch in Space (Fridays), a weekly free event; and 10th Birthday Sale - Saturday and Sunday (July 27-28) - discounts, gifts with purchase, sweet treats and more. Visit www.fibrespace.com or call 703-664-0344.

Cupcakes at the Library. In celebration of their 225th anniversary, join the Alexandria

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ENTERTAINMENT

Libraries for cupcakes at one or all of these programs. Visit alexlibraryva.org for more.

- ❖ Saturday, July 27– 10 a.m.-noon at Duncan Branch, Yappy Hour program
- ❖ Sunday, July 28 – 1:30-3 p.m. at Beatley Central Library, Happy Birthday, Alexandria Library! program

SUNDAY/JULY 28

Birding for Beginners. 8-11 a.m. at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Get started birding with this introductory program at Huntley Meadows Park – a local haven for birdwatchers. Learn about the park's birds and gain some basic identification skills. The program, for participants age 12-adult, begins with an indoor discussion, followed by some birdwatching. \$12 per person. Children age 12-16 must be accompanied by a registered adult. Call 703-768-2525 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows.

Jones Point Meetup. 11 a.m.-noon at Jones Point Park, Jones Point Drive. Join a national park ranger to explore the long history of this little piece of land and see the last remaining inland lighthouse on the Potomac River, once a beacon to boat captains and commerce on the river. Free. Call 703-235-1530 or visit www.nps.gov/gwmp/planyourvisit/jonespoint.htm for more.

Junior Docent Tours. 2-5 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. These young historians, grades 4 and older, will be on hand to share highlights of the tavern and answer questions as guests journey through the museum. Great for families as children connect with the building through their peer tour guides as well as for adults looking for some inspiration. Included in regular admission: \$5 adults, \$3 children ages 5-12, and 4 and under are free. Call 703-746-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org for more.

Chamber Concert Series. 3-5 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. The Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association sponsors a chamber music series, weekly through Sept. 15, at the Lyceum in Old Town featuring small ensembles and soloists. This week's performance features violinist Benjamin Scott and others. Free. Donations are appreciated. Visit www.wmpa.music.org or call 703-799-8229.

EyeSoar. 4 p.m. at St. Matthews Lutheran Church, 222 M St. SW, Washington, D.C. Alexandria's Jane Franklin Dance will present EyeSoar at the Capital Fringe Festival. Space is getting tighter and longtime occupants of the Four Mile Run (Shirlington, VA) nestle with change. Through an audio, video, and movement-based performance, EyeSoar captures the evolving space, people, and organizations in this industrial neighborhood. \$20. Visit www.janefranklin.com/capital-fringe or call 703-933-1111.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SIMON AND SCHUSTER

Sheila P. Moses

Writer's Workshop for Adults

Alexandria author Sheila Moses leads a workshop for writers interested in the young-adult genre. She will provide tips on telling a good story and insight into working with a publisher to bring the story to market. Limited to 20 people. A bag lunch is recommended. Advanced reservations are required. Saturday, Aug. 3, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Durant Center, 1605 Cameron St. Cost is \$75 and due by July 29. Call 703-746-5565 or visit alexandriava.gov/Arts and scroll to Durant.

Fort Hunt Park Concerts. Through Aug. 25, Sundays, 7-8 p.m. at Fort Hunt Park, Pavilion A, 8999 Fort Hunt Road. All are welcome for free community concerts held at Fort Hunt Park every Sunday. Free. Visit www.nps.gov/gwmp/planyourvisit/forthuntconcerts.htm for performer.

MONDAY/JULY 29

Jones Point Meetup. 11 a.m.-noon at Jones Point Park, Jones Point Drive. Join a national park ranger to explore the long history of this little piece of land and see the last remaining inland lighthouse on the Potomac River, once a beacon to boat captains and commerce on the river. Free. Call 703-235-1530 or visit www.nps.gov/gwmp/planyourvisit/jonespoint.htm for more.

Read, See, Do. 2-3 p.m. at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. Carlyle House and Alexandria Library are teaming up for a reading program and activity tied in with Carlyle House. The program will take place on the Magnolia Terrace behind the house, which will be tented. Ages 4-8. Visit www.novaparks.com/parks/carlyle-house-historic-park for more.

TUESDAY/JULY 30

Twilight & Tipple Tours. 6-9 p.m. at Pope-Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Highway. Experience Frank Lloyd Wright's Pope-Leighey House by twilight. This tour series is a rare chance to see one of Wright's houses illuminated against a night sky. Grab a drink, included in the price of the tour ticket, and walk through the house on a leisurely, open house style tour with plenty of time to take stunning photos. \$35. Visit www.woodlawnpopeleighey.org/ for more.

JULY 30-AUG. 25

Art Exhibit: "Some Like It Hot." Gallery hours at Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, Studio 29, 105 North Union St. Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery presents its juried show, "Some Like It Hot" featuring work by artists and craftspersons influenced by the weather and the beautiful colors of the summer season. Themed work will be eligible for recognition by the jurors. Non-themed work may also be exhibited. Free admission. Visit www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com or call 703-548-0935.

THURSDAY/AUG. 1

Waterfront Bagpipe Concert. 8-9 p.m. at Waterfront Park, 1A Prince St. Celebrate Alexandria's Scottish heritage as bagpipes and drums provide the soundtrack. Combining precision marching with innovative musical arrangements, the City of Alexandria Pipes and Drums has been delighting audiences for over four decades. Free. Visit www.facebook.com/CityofAlexandriaPipesandDrums for more.

Submission Deadline. The Athenaeum Invitational celebrates the visual arts of Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia in the Athenaeum Gallery in Alexandria. It is a theme-based event featuring the works of both specially-invited artists who have previously exhibited in the Athenaeum Gallery, as well as works selected through a call for submissions open to anyone living or working in VA/DC/MD. This year's theme – Board: out of our minds. Visit artist.callforentry.org/festivals_unique_info.php?ID=6341 for details.

FRIDAY/AUG. 2

Mount Vernon Nights: Blue Highway (bluegrass). 7:30-8:30 at Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Performances will feature musical styles from soul to and pop and bluegrass and rock. Bring a picnic dinner and a blanket and enjoy one of Fairfax County's summer traditions. Visit

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 18

Food fit for a king on a family budget

DAILY FEATURES FOR EVERYONE!

- Monday - 1/2 Price Burger Night
- Tuesday - Kids 12 & under Eat Free with accompanying adult. 1 child per adult.
- Wednesday - Roast Turkey Special
- Thursday - Lasagna Night
- Friday - Fish Fry
- Saturday & Sunday - Full Brunch Buffet with Omelette Station

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Old Town's PX, Eamonn's to Close

BY HOPE NELSON

The high-end speakeasy PX, tucked away via a nondescript door around the corner from King Street, will serve its last cocktail this weekend, the Washingtonian reports. Owner Todd Thrasher told multiple outlets that he has opted not to renew the PX's lease on the upper floor at 728 King St. Its last night will be Saturday, July 27.

The PX's closure isn't the only property Cathal and Meshelle Armstrong's Eat Good Food Group is bidding farewell to this weekend. The downstairs fish

and chip shop, Eamonn's, also will shutter its doors on July 27, the Washingtonian confirmed.

The two closures mark the end of an era for Eat Good Food Group's reign in Alexandria. Once the owners of now-closed Restaurant Eve and Society Fair, as well as Virtue Feed and Grain (now owned by Alexandria Restaurant Partners), EGFG's only remaining property in Alexandria is the waterfront's Hummingbird. Instead, the group has migrated toward the District's Wharf.

Representatives from Eat Good Food Group had no comment to this newspaper as of press time.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Independence Day Celebration

As the Nation celebrated the Fourth of July, the City of Alexandria, Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities (RPCA), Nannie J. Lee Recreation Center rocked their red, white and blue with great pride on July 3 in celebration of the country's Independence Day. Participants, staff and volunteers of the Therapeutic Recreation and Camp Adventure Program embraced their love for America together.

Legals

Legals



CITY OF ALEXANDRIA BOARD OF EQUALIZATION HEARINGS

Pursuant to Section 58.1-3378 of the Code of Virginia, the Board of Equalization and Assessment Review for the City of Alexandria will convene on the following days to hear complaints of inequalities wherein the property owners allege a lack of equity or uniformity in assessment, errors in fact in such real estate assessments, or that the real property assessment is not assessed at fair market value. Upon hearing such complaints, the Board is legally authorized to increase, decrease, or affirm such real estate assessments.

All meetings will be held in City Hall Room 3008 (301 King St.). Notification of any meeting cancellations will be posted at alexandriava.gov/RealEstate. The 2019 currently scheduled hearing dates are:

- August 5 from 4 - 7 p.m.
- August 6 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- August 7 from 4 - 7 p.m.
- August 12 from 4 - 7 p.m.
- August 13 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- August 14 from 4 - 7 p.m.
- August 19 from 4 - 7 p.m.
- August 20 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- August 21 from 4 - 7 p.m.
- August 26 from 4 - 7 p.m.
- August 27 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- August 28 from 4 - 7 p.m.
- September 3 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- September 4 from 4 - 7 p.m.
- September 9 from 4 - 7 p.m.
- September 10 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- September 11 from 4 - 7 p.m.
- September 16 from 4 - 7 p.m.
- September 17 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- September 18 from 4 - 7 p.m.
- September 23 from 4 - 7 p.m.
- September 24 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- September 25 from 4 - 7 p.m.
- September 30 from 4 - 7 p.m.
- October 1 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- October 2 from 4 - 7 p.m.
- October 7 from 4 - 7 p.m.
- October 8 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- October 9 from 4 - 7 p.m.
- October 14 from 4 - 7 p.m.
- October 15 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- October 16 from 4 - 7 p.m.
- October 21 from 4 - 7 p.m.
- October 22 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- October 23 from 4 - 7 p.m.
- October 28 from 4 - 7 p.m.
- October 29 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- October 30 from 4 - 7 p.m.

Dockets for each hearing may be obtained by contacting the Office of Real Estate Assessments located in City Hall (301 King St.), Room 2600 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, or by calling 703.746.4180.

The deadline for filing an appeal was June 1; however, this appeal deadline is not applicable to appeals of assessments for real estate that was newly constructed pursuant to Virginia Code 59.1-3292.

Targeting 'Addictive Epidemic'

FROM PAGE 1

bill is currently under consideration from the Tax Preferences Joint Subcommittee, but the committee has yet to schedule any meetings for this year.

"The subcommittee would likely hold a meeting in the fall and review Senator Ebbin's bill at that time," said Connor Garstka, lead attorney for the Tax Preferences Joint Subcommittee.

Given that this bill could set a new precedent in e-cigarette regulation, the lobbying effort during its debate will likely be robust. "It's going to be an epic battle," said David Rehr, director of the Center for Business Civic Engagement at George Mason University. Similar to how an increasing number of states, including Virginia, have increased the purchasing age of tobacco products to 21, passage of this bill could encourage other states to pass their own taxes on e-cigarettes. "[Proponents of the bill] know that if they get it in Virginia, it could spread nationwide ... Whereas e-cigarette manufacturers don't want to face 50 different taxes in 50 different states," said Rehr.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, e-cigarettes are now the most commonly used tobacco product among youth, with approximately 1 out of every 5 high school students being frequent users.

As of July 1, 2019, Virginia is one of the 17 states to raise the purchasing age of tobacco products to 21. It is unclear, however, how effective this change



PHOTO BY LIAM BOWMAN/GAZETTE PACKET

Juul Labs, Inc. accounts for more than 70 percent of the e-cigarette market. The company has drawn criticism for the heavy use of their products among underage youths.

has been. "The age increase hasn't prohibited me from getting nicotine, because I can either ask a friend who is 21 or someone with a fake ID to buy me [Juul] pods," said a teenage user of e-cigarettes who asked to remain anonymous. "Personally, I would definitely stop buying pods altogether if they went up in price ... I also know many people who have [used] Juuls or vapes consistently for the past year or longer, so it's unlikely that they would suddenly stop purchasing these products just because of the price."

BULLETIN BOARD

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

SUMMER 2019

Free Meals Available for All Children. Free breakfast, lunch and snacks are available to all Alexandria City residents 18 years old and younger at multiple ACPS sites, City recreation centers/programs and other sites over the summer. All meals will be served free of charge regardless of what a child's meal benefit was during the regular school year. A parent or guardian should accompany children on the first visit to provide permission to receive meals and identify any food allergies. At a site, children will go through the cafeteria line and pick up the meal. There is space at each site for community members 18 years old and younger to enjoy their meal. Times of service are posted on each school door. Program sites, dates, times and locations are subject to change. Please contact sites directly to confirm. Visit www.acpsk12.org/news/?p=13816 for more.

THROUGH SEPT. 30

Senior Cool Care Program. Through Sept. 30, eligible Alexandria seniors who need cooling in their homes can benefit from the City of Alexandria Senior Cool Care Program. Contact the Division of Aging and Adult Services to find out if you are eligible. For more information, call 703.746.5999 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. or email DAAS@alexandriava.gov.

THROUGH JULY 31

Public Comment Deadline. The City of Alexandria invites residents to participate in a public comment period for a water protection permit required to construct the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station. To learn how to submit document requests or comments, or for more information, visit alexandriava.gov/PotomacYardMetro.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 31

Community Meeting. 6:30-8:30 p.m. in City Hall, Sister Cities Conference Room 1101, 301 King St. The City of Alexandria is seeking community input on the future of its flagship facility through a City Hall Visioning Study. City Hall is the center of civic activity for Alexandrians, is a source of community pride, and will remain the seat of City government. It was

originally constructed in 1871, and after many decades of service since its last renovation, major updates are needed throughout the building to better serve staff, residents and visitors. The draft approaches will be available for public comment at the City Hall Visioning Community Meeting. Visit alexandriava.gov/CityHall.

FRIDAY/AUG. 2

Application Deadline: Community Police Academy. Get to know the Alexandria Police Department (APD) in a half-day session. Learn about various aspects of the Police Department, including: patrol operations, use of force policies, the K9 Unit, Special Operations Team, crime scene investigation and criminal investigations. The session will be held at Alexandria Police Department Headquarters, 3600 Wheeler Ave., Saturday, Aug. 17, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Limited to 45 participants per session. Participants must be at least 18 years of age and live or work in the City of Alexandria. Criminal history checks will be conducted on all applicants for final approval of acceptance. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Academies or email virginia.obranovich@alexandriava.gov.

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ABC LICENSE

Virginia Winery Distribution Company, trading as VWDC, 317 Hoofs Run Drive, Alexandria, Virginia 22314. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Virginia Wine Wholesaler's license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages, Randy Phillips, Chairman.
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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CALENDAR

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Let us know about an upcoming event

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Legals



City of Alexandria Public Notice

City Invites Public to Comment on the Phase 2 Chesapeake Bay TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) Action Plan

The Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) general permit—the City's stormwater permit, issued by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ)—requires the development and implementation of a Phase 2 Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Action Plan for cleaning up the Bay to comply with the TMDL developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The Phase 2 Action Plan documents that sufficient measures have been implemented to meet the Phase 1 pollutant reduction compliance targets through June 2018 and identifies strategies to further reduce nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment pollution by 40% (cumulative) before October 31, 2023.

The public is invited to comment in writing on the Draft Phase 2 Chesapeake Bay TMDL Action Plan via email at MS4ProgramPlan@alexandriava.gov. Comments may also be dropped off or mailed to:

Transportation and Environmental Services
Stormwater Management Division
Attn: Chesapeake Bay TMDL Action Plan
2900-B Business Center Drive
Alexandria, VA 22314

The Draft Phase 2 Chesapeake Bay TMDL Action Plan is available to view at alexandriava.gov/93790. **The deadline for public comment is August 15, 2019.** Comments submitted by mail must be postmarked August 15 or earlier.

Following receipt and incorporation of public comment, the Phase 2 Bay Action Plan will be finalized and posted to the City website by October 31, 2019.

For more information about this and other TMDLs, visit the City's Total Maximum Daily Loads webpage at alexandriava.gov/52652.

Legals

Obituary

Ethel Louise Taylor Smith



On July 16, 2019, Ethel Louise Taylor Smith, was received by the good Lord to join her husband Willie Lee Smith, daughters Mona Katrina Smith and Monica Lee Smith, in heaven. Born on July 22, 1933 to Hester Pernel Taylor and Ethel Hazel Ross Taylor, she was a welcome addition to their brood of 13 and cultivated fond memories of family and friends from her life raised on Gibbon Street in Old Town Alexandria. She blossomed into a wonderful mother and devoted Army wife. Ethel embraced every challenge she faced and was an exceptional human being who lead by example of what it truly means to be a kind and caring person. Whenever orders came to move to another military installation, she turned what would be a daunting uproot for many families, into an adventure. Wherever she landed, she was a proactive participant in life, receiving multiple awards from the NCO Wives Club of Fulda, Germany, and 7th Psychological Operations Group in Okinawa, to the Loyal Order of Green Angels for her tireless commitment as a Girl Scout Leader. She is survived by her daughters, Sonia Voncere Smith, Brigitte Marie Smith and countless extended family. Funeral service will be held at Roberts Memorial United Methodist Church, 606A S. Washington St., Alexandria, VA 22314, on Saturday, July 27, 2019 at 11AM. Interment will be held on a later date at Arlington National Cemetery. www.Jeffersonfuneralchapel.com

Obituary

Obituary



Shirley J. Shelley, 96, of Alexandria, VA, was called to be with the Lord on June 27, 2019. She passed away peacefully in the comfort of her own home with her family members by her side.

Shirley, born Janet Shirley Johnston (named for her paternal grandmother) in Lakewood, Ohio near Cleveland, was a Professor Emerita of Music Education and Early Childhood Development at the University of Maryland at College Park where she taught for nearly 30 years. She has been a member of the Maryland Music Education Hall of Fame since 1994, honored for pioneering work in her field. She was a graduate of the University of Michigan earning both Bachelor and Master Degrees in Music Education as well as being a saxophonist in Michigan's Concert Band. She was a graduate of Staples High School, in Wilton, Connecticut, where she excelled in academics, music, basketball, and field hockey. Shirley had numerous hobbies over the years including quilting, hand-made lace, travelling, being with her family, horseback riding when she was younger, and all forms of music especially directing the Celtic Cross Ringers at her church. Shirley was very active in Westminster Presbyterian Church, of which she was a member for over 50 years after moving to Alexandria in 1966. Over the past few years, she was a fixture in her neighborhood and was often seen sitting outside her home on warm days and greeting all passersby, especially her four-legged friends.

Her parents, George S. Johnston, an architect originally of Kilmarnock, Scotland, and Annie W. Campbell, originally of Glasgow, Scotland, preceded Shirley in death as did her husband Robert C. Downes and brother, George W. Johnston, both formerly of Alexandria. Her parents originally moved separately from Scotland to Montreal, Quebec then after a re-acquaintance married and moved to Ohio where Shirley and her brother were born. Family moves then took them to Philadelphia, Mount Vernon, New York, and eventually southwestern Connecticut. After graduation from Michigan and starting her family, Shirley began teaching in the Detroit Public School System. She would move to the Baltimore Public School System before settling at the University of Maryland.

Shirley is survived by her three sons, Bruce (Barbara Otte) Shelley of South Barrington, Illinois, Scott Shelley of Hume, Virginia, and Gordon (Donna) Shelley, of Alexandria. Her granddaughters Kayla and Brittany Shelley of Alexandria, and her grandson Christopher (Brittany) LaBille and great grandson Rhett LaBille, of LaPlata, Maryland also survive her, as do numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives across Canada, and especially friends.

A gathering for Shirley will be on 9 August at Everly-Wheatley Funeral home, 1500 W. Braddock Road, Alexandria, from 6-8 PM. A Memorial Service for Shirley will be on 10 August at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2701 Cameron Mills Road, Alexandria, at 1:30.

The family asks that in lieu of flowers contributions can be made to The Virginia Quilt Museum, c/o Susan Farmer, 301 S. Main St., Harrisonburg VA 22801

Obituary

Announcements

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"Come On Down!"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Except I was not sitting in the audience for "The Price Is Right" when I heard my name called.

Nor was I needing to guess the cost of my infusion with my treatment that day contingent on my guess not exceeding the "actual retail price." And neither were there any of "Barker's Beauties" to wave their hands and showcase what items I would be attempting to price right.

No. There were only multiple oncology nurses standing in front of the Infusion Center's entry door calling out the names of the next patients lucky enough to begin their treatment.

It wasn't exactly "Plinko," but once inside the Center, the fun, such as it is, really begins.

At least that's the way the activity appeared to me. The preceding day was July 4, and the Center was closed forcing those Thursday patients to be rescheduled to either Wednesday or Friday. As a result, the waiting area was particularly full with patients, along with their family and friends – all of whom are encouraged to attend.

In the midst of this crowd, I sat and waited. We hadn't exactly been assigned numbers, but we were assigned oncology nurses and therefore could only enter the Infusion Center with their assistance.

Then, with all of us "waiters" looking at the entry door, waiting for an oncology nurse to walk through and call our name, the door lock clicked open and out walked two oncology nurses. As soon as they cleared the door and entered the waiting area, they called out their respective patient's names (unfortunately not mine).

Upon hearing their names, the two patients and nearly half a dozen of their supporters got up and moved eagerly toward the entry door. It reminded me of the beginning of "The Price Is Right" when four audience members' names are called in quick succession and implored to "Come On Down!" by George Gray (Johnny Olson, the original announcer, retired years ago) and officially become one of that day's contestants.

However, once inside the Infusion Center, it's dead serious.

Your life is at stake, maybe even at risk, depending upon your cancer/treatment, and at this point, you're not playing any more games (although occasionally, you may be guessing the price of things and wondering how it all gets calculated). So, you slide into your Barcalounger, hold out your arm to have your bar-coded wristband scanned and prepare for your hopefully, life-saving infusion – don't smoke 'em, even if you got 'em.

It's rare that you'll see your oncologist in the Center.

Typically, they'll be seeing patients in examining rooms, performing surgery or rounding in local hospitals. But they're always a phone call away should the nurses need any additional instructions or clarification.

Generally speaking, once inside the Center, all goes as anticipated for us patients: you're in, you're treated, you're out. And when you're out, new patients names are called and on and on it goes, just like "The Price Is Right," except the program doesn't end in an hour.

And just like "The Price Is Right," where there are no shortage of audience members wanting to participate, at the Infusion Center, likewise, there seems not to be a shortage of patients wanting to be treated either. (Granted it's not exactly the same thing, but you get my drift, I'm sure.)

Cancer is not fun, nor funny, and an Infusion Center is not filled with anticipation of cash awards and magnificent trips. There is however, lots of empathy and understanding - from your support system and from staff as well.

But it's the last place you want to be, unlike "The Price Is Right."

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

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TILE / MARBLE Friendship Firehouse Festival. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 S. Alfred St. The annual Friendship Firehouse Festival is a popular family event presented by the Friendship Veterans Fire Engine Association (FVFEA). The festival features antique fire apparatus, craft booths, and displays by community organizations. Festival participants can visit the Friendship Firehouse Museum where the 1858 hose reel carriage, voted the favorite Virginia Association of Museums Top 10 Endangered Artifact, is on display. Children can explore please-touch artifacts, will receive free fire helmets and are treated to supervised visits inside City fire trucks. Free. Food and beverages available for purchase. Visit AlexandriaVA.gov or call 703-746-3891.			
Writer's Workshop for Adults. 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Durant Center, 1605 Cameron St. Alexandria author Sheila Moses leads a workshop for writers interested in the young-adult genre. She will provide tips on telling a good story and insight into working with a publisher to bring the story to market. Limited to 20 people. A bag lunch is recommended. Advanced reservations are required. Cost is \$75 and due by July 29. Call 703-746-5565 or visit alexandriava.gov/Arts and scroll to Durant.			
Used Book Sale. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Selection of over 20,000 gently used books. Unless specially priced, \$1 for hard backs, 50 cents for large paperbacks, and 25 cents for mass market paperbacks. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-sherwood-regional.			
Jones Point Meetup. 11 a.m.-noon at Jones Point Park, Jones Point Drive. Join a national park ranger to explore the long history of this little piece of land and see the last remaining inland lighthouse on the Potomac River. Free. Call 703-235-1530 or visit www.nps.gov/gwmp/planyourvisit/jonespoint.htm for more.			
The Drew-Smith School Reunion and Picnic. Noon-5 p.m. at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, 8115 Fordson Road, Gum Springs. Tickets must be reserved and picked up before the event. Contact: Carolyn Quander at 703-772-9440 or cquander@outlook.com; and Sharon "Shubby" Suggs at 703-371-3388 or SuggsSharon3@gmail.com.			

ENTERTAINMENT

Theismann's

FROM PAGE 12

ence," he said. For instance, "Tuna poke bowl is not something you might have thought of as a staple at Theismann's."

Perhaps most notably, the restaurant will close for only about four days during the entire renovation process, Shaw said. With the months-long Metro closure, this summer seemed like the best time to take the plunge, he added, with the goal of being Alexandria's go-to hub for Washington sports teams.

"We wanted to refocus the restaurant on great food, Joe Theismann, and the next 34 years," he said.

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

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 15

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance/mt-vernon-nights for more.

AUG. 2-SEPT. 1

Art Exhibit: Fresh Meat. Gallery hours at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. "Fresh Meat" features artwork by Del Ray Artisans' newest members from 2018-2019. "Fresh Meat" highlights new faces and new techniques. Opening Reception: Friday, Aug. 2, 7-9 p.m. Register in advance for a special acrylics painting workshop on Saturday, Aug. 10. Visit DelRayArtisans.org/event/fresh-meat for more.

SATURDAY/AUG. 3

Friendship Firehouse Festival. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 S. Alfred St. The annual Friendship Firehouse Festival is a popular family event presented by the Friendship Veterans Fire Engine Association (FVFEA). The festival features antique fire apparatus, craft booths, and displays by community organizations. Festival participants can visit the Friendship Firehouse Museum where the 1858 hose reel carriage, voted the favorite Virginia Association of Museums Top 10 Endangered Artifact, is on display. Children can explore please-touch artifacts, will receive free fire helmets and are treated to supervised visits inside City fire trucks. Free. Food and beverages available for purchase. Visit AlexandriaVA.gov or call 703-746-3891.

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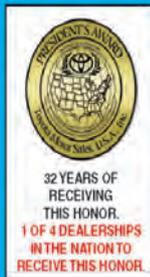
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