

# Alexandria Gazette Packet

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SEPTEMBER 17, 2020

## Mask Penalty Indoors, Side-Eye Outdoors

State Senate approves civil penalty indoors, City Council ditches fines outdoors.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**N**ot wearing a mask indoors might get you a \$500 fine from the Commonwealth of Virginia, although failing to wear on the sidewalk outside will get you just a side-eye from the City of Alexandria.

The ongoing debate over civil penalties shows a divergence of opinions about how and when to hit people with a fine for failing to wear a mask. Earlier this month, the House of Delegates and the state Senate both passed legislation creating a new civil penalty for people who violate the governor's executive order mandating masks in public places indoors. Then, last week, the Alexandria City Council considered and rejected a civil penalty for not wearing a mask in public places outdoors when social distancing isn't possible.

"We think having an ordinance will help us get more compliance, and that's what we're trying to ratchet up," said City Manager Mark Jinks, who recommended a civil penalty for not wearing masks outdoors. "Having a fine amount on the sign helps get compliance."



If customers inside stores along King Street are not wearing masks, they could get hit with a \$500 fine. Masks are also required outside those stores on the busy sidewalks along King Street, but members of the Alexandria City Council rejected an effort to create a similar civil penalty for the outdoors.

Members of the Alexandria City Council raised concerns about how a civil penalty could possibly be enforced, especially after several members of the public testified against the idea. Several members

expressed fears that city officials issuing tickets to unmasked people on the sidewalk would lead to escalating conflicts, which have already been a problem in the city and elsewhere. Ultimately, council members ended up moving forward with a mask ordinance requiring a mask outdoors that has no penalty. Councilman Canek Aguirre and Councilwoman Del Pepper voted against the motion.

"There should not be tickets," said Pepper. "There should not be staff or council members or anybody else trying to hand out masks or give tickets or in any way shame people."

**MEANWHILE, IN RICHMOND,** members of the General Assembly are considering a new civil penalty for not wearing a mask in violation of the governor's executive order. Currently, violating the mask order is misdemeanor, which means that officials from the Virginia Department of Health would need to meet the threshold for pursuing a criminal case if they wanted to seek compliance. As a result, officials from the Health Department say, criminal cases are almost never pursued. That's why lawmakers

SEE MASK PENALTY, PAGE 4

## Just Say Yes Monte Durham salon opens in Old Town.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**C**elebrity stylist Monte Durham of TLC's "Say Yes to the Dress" celebrated the grand opening of his new eponymous salon Sept. 12 in Old Town with a ribbon cutting followed by a reception held at Hummingbird Bar & Kitchen at Hotel Indigo.

"I just want to thank everybody for their love and support and for coming out to celebrate with us today," said Durham just before cutting the ribbon to the new salon.

Mayor Justin Wilson was among the crowd of family and friends joining the longtime Alexandria resident.

"We are very thrilled that Monte is putting Alexandria on the map again and bringing business to the city," Wilson

said. "Congratulations and thank you for making this happen."

The reception desk of Salon Monte, located at 210 S. Union St., will be staffed by Durham's childhood friend Carla Cooley Wedell.

"We have been friends since the '70s," Cooley Wedell said. "We were disco partners then worked together at the Red Door Salon. Now we are reuniting on this very special project."

The salon has instituted safety measures to protect clients and staff. Masks are required and the salon will abide by state and city regulations regarding COVID-19 precautions.

The opening of the salon coincided with the date of Jackie Kennedy's wedding to John Kennedy in 1953. Durham is an admirer of the late First Lady and the salon fea-

SEE MONTE DURHAM, PAGE 4



Monte Durham, right, cuts the ribbon at the grand opening of his new eponymous salon Sept. 12 in Old Town. With him are (l-r) Mickey Durham, Jack Evans and Mayor Justin Wilson.

PHOTO BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

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#WeAreAlexandria



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# NEWS



Spc. Craig Amundson



Eddie A. Dillard



Capt. Robert Edward Dolan



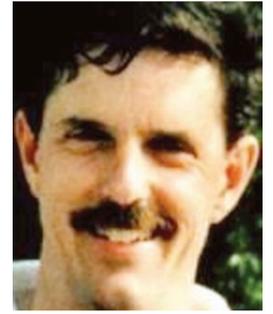
Diane M. Hale-McKinzy



Bryan C. Jack



Steven D. Jacoby



Terence M. Lynch



Maj. Clifford L. Patterson Jr.



Cmdr. Robert Allan Schlegel



Lt. Col. Gary F. Smith



Norma Lang Steuerle



Sandra C. Taylor



Meta L. Waller

## 'We Will Never Forget' City marks 19th anniversary of 9-11 attacks.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

It remains the worst terrorist attack in U.S. history: an unimaginable act of terrorism that took the lives of 13 Alexandria residents on Sept. 11, 2001.

Alexandria firefighters were part of the emergency rescue and recovery efforts at the Pentagon and on Sept. 11, 2020, the city paid tribute to those killed, injured or otherwise affected by the attacks in a virtual remembrance ceremony.

The annual ceremony was prerecorded to avoid a large gathering and featured remarks from Mayor Justin Wilson, City Manager Mark Jinks, and representatives from the Fire Department, Police Department and Sheriff's Office. The tribute also included the "Return to Quarters" bell-ringing ceremony. It can be viewed at [www.alexandriava.gov](http://www.alexandriava.gov).

### Remembering Alexandria's victims of 9-11

#### Spc. Craig Amundson

Spec. Craig S. Amundson, 28, was assigned to the Army's Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel as a graphic artist and was at work at the Pentagon the morning of Sept. 11, 2001. He was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart and Meritorious Service Award.

#### Eddie A. Dillard

Eddie A. Dillard, 54, was a passenger aboard American Airlines flight 77. He left behind a wife of 15 years, Rosemary, and one son, Edrick L. Dillard.

#### Capt. Robert Edward Dolan

Captain Robert Dolan, 43, was working on the first floor of the Pentagon as head of the



Lt. Jim Morris, far bottom right, and fellow firefighters from Alexandria and Fairfax County Fire and Rescue join soldiers atop the Pentagon to unfurl an American flag during rescue and recovery efforts Sept. 12, 2001. Morris's brother Seth perished in the attacks on the World Trade Center.

U.S. Navy's Strategy and Concepts Branch when American Airlines Flight 77 struck the building. He was a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and commander of the USS John Hancock.

#### Diane M. Hale-McKinzy

Diane Hale-McKinzy, 38, was a civilian employee for the U.S. Army at the Pentagon. Born in Lithonia, Ga., she served in the Army for four years before beginning a career in civil service.

#### Bryan C. Jack

Bryan C. Jack, 48, was on American Airlines Flight 77 when the plane struck the Pentagon, where he worked as the head of the Defense Department's programming and fiscal economics division. Jack and his longtime companion, artist Barbara Rachko, were married on June

16, 2001, just 87 days before his death.

#### Steven D. Jacoby

Steven "Jake" Jacoby, 43, was the chief operating officer of Metrocall and a passenger on American Airlines Flight 77.

A community leader, Jacoby sat on the board of Men Against Breast Cancer and was actively involved with the Camp Fantastic Special Love charity golf tournament as well as Catholic Charities.

#### Terence M. Lynch

Terence Michael Lynch, 49, was one of three consultants from Booz Allen Hamilton who perished during a meeting at the Pentagon. On the day of his death, he was attending a meeting to extend survivor benefits to military families.

#### Maj. Clifford L. Patterson Jr.

Major Clifford L. Patterson, Jr., 33, was a native of Washington D.C. and graduate of St. John's College High School. In 1991 he graduated from Howard University as a Distinguished Military Graduate. He was working at the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001.

#### Cmdr. Robert Allan Schlegel

Cmdr. Robert A. Schlegel, 38, followed his father and brothers in the Navy. Prior to being posted to the Pentagon, he was executive officer of the USS Arthur W. Radford, a 9,000-ton destroyer.

#### Lt. Col. Gary F. Smith (Ret.)

Retired Army Lt. Col. Gary Smith, 55, was at a meeting at the Pentagon when American Airlines Flight 77 struck. A resident of Wayneswood, Smith coached his daughter's soccer teams, kept time for the West Potomac High School track team and was a fixture at high school football games on Friday nights.

#### Norma Lang Steuerle

Norma Lang Steuerle, 54, was active in the Old Town community as a clinical psychologist and through Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church. She was aboard American Airlines Flight 77 en route to visit a daughter in Japan and her husband Eugene, who was teaching a seminar in Singapore.

#### Sandra C. Taylor

Sandra Carol Taylor, 50, worked as a civilian for the U.S. Army for 30 years and at the Pentagon for almost 10. She was a volunteer at the Hospice of Northern Virginia and at the time of her death was engaged to Timothy Dudgeon.

#### Meta L. Waller

Meta L. Waller, 60, was a 12-year civilian employee of the U.S. Army at the Pentagon and was at her desk when the hijacked airliner struck the building. Named after her grandmother, the African American sculptor Meta Warrick Fuller, Waller received a master's degree in government from Harvard University and was active in civil rights.

# 18th Annual Arts Festival New Carlyle location a success with artists.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**T**he 18th annual Alexandria Old Town Arts Festival took place Sept. 12 and 13 in the Carlyle district, one of many changes to the city's longtime arts festival.

The festival announced the change in location earlier this year from King Street to the Carlyle district. Under COVID-19 regulations, safety precautions were in place for both exhibitors and attendees.

"I like this location a lot," said Ana Jones of Ana's Jazzy Art. "King Street has that old world charm but here it is calm and serene where customers can walk around and take it all in. King Street would get so crowded sometimes it was like a herd walking by."



Chris Gug of Gug Underwater Photography displays his work Sept. 12 at the 18th annual Alexandria Old Town Arts Festival.

Safety measures included more spacing between booths and required masks for artists and attendees.

"I have provided a COVID station with masks, gloves and sanitizer in case anyone needs them," Jones added.

Mixed media on canvas artist Colin Maher said that the artists were not informed of the decision to leave King Street.

"The artists don't really know why we left King Street," Maher said. "But this venue is more cohesive and as long as we're in Alexandria, the location is not an issue for us."

Artist Bob Ferraro of North Branford, Conn., agrees.

"We love the location," Ferraro said. "Set up was easy and while attendance seems slower, there are a lot of other factors involved this year. We are happy here."

PHOTO BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

## Monte Durham Salon Opens in Old Town



FROM PAGE 1

tures a portrait of her as well as a replica of her wedding dress.

Services offered include haircuts and coloring for both men and women. Prices start at \$65 for a shampoo and styling with a staff stylist. Durham's rates begin at \$95 for shampoo and styling, \$195 for ladies haircut and style and \$85 for gentlemen's haircut and style. Durham's private label hair care products are also available for sale.

Salon Monte – 210 S. Union St., Alexandria. 703-217-7077. [www.salonmonte.com](http://www.salonmonte.com)

**Monte Durham talks with Lisa Tracy about possible hair styles at the Sept. 12 opening of his new salon in Old Town.**



Monte Durham, second from right, with Ray and Carla Cooley Wedell and Dan Via at the Sept. 12 grand opening celebration of Durham's new salon in Old Town.

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

## Mask Penalty Indoors, Side-Eye Outdoors

FROM PAGE 1

are seeking adding a new civil penalty, which would allow the Department of Health to hit violators with a fine of up to \$500.

"When we have a public health emergency, we can only protect ourselves when every individual abides by some rules," said Sen. Barbara Favola (D-31). "This doesn't expand the rules that are under the governor's executive order. This merely makes it easier to enforce those rules for everybody's health"

The House version of the bill passed with six Republican votes, and the Senate version passed with one Republican vote. Most Republicans say they're concerned that giving the governor the power to enforce executive orders with a civil penalty could be abused, and they didn't want to

lay the groundwork for a future governor using the authority in a way that might be unreasonable. During a debate on the Senate floor, Sen. Ryan McDougle (R-4) seasoned the debate with a specific scenario

"Heart disease kills more Virginians than the current pandemic," said McDougle. "The governor could place a civil penalty of up to \$500 on the use of salt."

"That is a very interesting scenario," responded Sen. Creigh Deeds (D-25), who introduced the bill. "The governor has not declared a state of emergency with respect to heart disease. He's declared a state of emergency with respect to this pandemic."

**THE DEBATE OVER MASKS** can be contentious. While most people are fine with wearing them to prevent the spread of covid-19, opponents of wearing masks in

public are often loud and hostile. That's led to conflicts in grocery stores and restaurants across Alexandria, where businesses that are already beleaguered by the economic crisis now have to figure out how to handle irate customers. During the City Council's public hearing about the mask ordinance, one speaker outlined a conspiracy theories culminating in a suggestion that social distancing mandate was a plot to use satellite surveillance identification technology.

"There was a substantial portion of misinformation in there that's very dangerous," responded Alexandria Mayor Justin Wilson. "Please refer to public health experts before you take any health advice from public testimony."

Tensions are also high in Richmond, where Sen. Amanda Chase (R-11) refuses to wear a mask. She has a doctor's note say-

ing she can't wear a mask for medical reasons, although she was dismissive of masks before she started talking publicly about her medical exemption. The Senate clerk's office arranged for her to be surrounded by plexiglass walls at the back of the makeshift Senate chamber, which is located at the Science Museum of Virginia to accommodate social distancing. She voted with all Senate Republicans except Sen. Richard Stuart (R-28) against the bill Deeds introduced creating the new civil penalty.

"Those who vote for this are basically voting in favor of extortion," said Sen. Amanda Chase (R-11), a Republican who is running for governor.

That bill is now headed to the House of Delegates, which is expected to take it up this week.

# NEWS

## 8th Congressional District Candidate Forum

The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area invites you to join its U.S. House of Representatives - Virginia 8th District Candidate Forum, to be held online on Wednesday, Sept. 23 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. The candidates certified for the Nov. 3 general election are U.S. Rep. Donald S. Beyer Jr. (D); and Jeff A. Jordan (R).

This event is free and open to the public. Register at: [https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/WN\\_n2O-kz-GTX6TUY7y\\_zT-SiQ](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/WN_n2O-kz-GTX6TUY7y_zT-SiQ)

Questions addressed to both candidates should be submitted in advance at: <https://forms.gle/h7jbiNn4y1aTadjv7>

League of Women Voters' Candidate Forums are nonpartisan. The League never supports or opposes any party or candidate. We invite all certified candidates competing for office in their respective districts.

Please direct any questions about the event to: [pr@lwv-fairfax.org](mailto:pr@lwv-fairfax.org)

The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area is a non-partisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, and works to increase understanding of major public policy issues.

### BULLETIN BOARD

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

### THURSDAY/SEPT. 17

Fall Garden Tour & Tea. 1-3 p.m. At Green Spring Gardens, Alexandria. (Adult) Tour the lush demonstration gardens with a master gardener docent who will inspire you with stories of Green Spring past and present and highlight the standout plants of fall. Afterwards, enjoy a delicious English afternoon tea in the 1784 Historic House. \$36 per person. Call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173.

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 19

Floral Design Workshop: Autumn Beauty. 1-2:30 p.m. At Green Spring Gardens, Alexandria. (16-Adult) Enjoy autumn's rich colors and textures by bringing them into your home. Learn step-by-step how to create a unique, take-home floral design that celebrates the season with the help of professional floral designer Betty Ann Galway. Learn tips and tricks of the trade to practice on your own designs at home. \$39 per person (plus a \$30 supply fee). Register online at [www.fairfax-county.gov/parks/parktakes](http://www.fairfax-county.gov/parks/parktakes) (code BA9.A17E) or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173.

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# OPINION

## Considering the Role of Law Enforcement

Asking for Council decisions based on facts specific to residents and employees of this city; don't create a superfluous program in attempt to make an example of our department.

BY LT. MARCUS DOWNEY  
AND PRESIDENT, IUPA  
SUPERVISOR'S CHAPTER  
OF. OSCAR OLLAND,  
PRESIDENT, IUPA CHAPTER 5

Over the last few months, the role of law enforcement within the community has become a frequent topic of discussion. The death of George Floyd during an encounter with the Minneapolis Police Department, and several subsequent high-profile incidents, have created public scrutiny of law enforcement as a whole and a reevaluation of the profession, including the duties and responsibilities of our law enforcement officers and the standards and practices of the agencies that employ them.

Immediately following the Floyd incident, Alexandria City Council voted to create a Community Police Review Board (CRB), much to the surprise of the hundreds of Alexandria Police Officers. Such a board is typically created after a police department suffers from questionable uses of force, an increase in crime or officer complaints, or a lack of accountability or transparency in dealing with the public.

The Alexandria Police Department has long been a beacon of honor, respect, and accountability to the residents and visitors of the city. It is vital that Alexandria residents and Council members have a thorough understanding of the high-quality work that the men and women of the police department provide daily so they may make an informed decision on the scope of the proposed Community Review

Board. We invite City Council to attend the police citizens academy and participate in the department's ride-along program to gain first-hand insight in this unique profession. This significant decision should be based solely on facts and be absent of emotional influence of outside events or prejudice toward the profession of law enforcement itself.

**Use of Force:** In calendar year 2019, Alexandria Police Officers responded to 80,928 calls for service and arrested 4,316 subjects, just 28 of which required some level of force to effect the arrest. That means just .0003% of the calls for service resulted in a use of force. After each use of force incident, the department's Office of Professional Responsibility, an internal police unit staffed by veteran investigative supervisors, completes an investigation to determine if the force was justified. Each of the 28 incidents in 2019 was deemed appropriate. More information about these incidents are available on the police department's website and are shared with the Human Rights Commission as well.

**Officer Complaints:** From 2015 to 2019, Alexandria Officers responded to an average of 78,744 calls for service with an average of 103 formal complaints, just .001%. This miniscule number is based on the high ethical standard our officers exhibit with each citizen contact. Additionally, a majority of these complaints were generated from within the agency itself. This means employees and supervisors are holding each other accountable for their actions.

We also point to the most recent Alexandria Community Livability Report, in which residents were questioned about Alexandria's quality of life and government programs.

The survey revealed that the community "felt positively about their interaction with most rating their experience as excellent or good. Survey respondents were also satisfied with the relationship between the department and the community, as most residents assessed the police departments' ability to collaborate with the community to address crime, respond to resident concerns and foster positive relationships positively."

**Crime Statistics:** Part 1 crime, what the Department of Justice deems the eight most serious offenses, dropped more than 25% from 2009 to 2019 in the City of Alexandria.

This occurred while the population in the City increased by approximately 20,000 people. Alexandria has also frequently been deemed one of the safest cities in America by various national surveys.

**Accountability:** The Alexandria Police Department has been accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) for more than 30 years. CALEA requires that the department remain in compliance with more than 480 professional standards. As mentioned, the department also staffs a highly qualified Office of Professional Responsibility staff that investigates allegations of officer misconduct and excessive force complaints. The Virginia State Police handles

all officer involved shooting investigations and the Alexandria Human Rights Commission has the ability to investigate complaints of racial or gender bias.

**Transparency:** The directives that govern officer's standard of conduct are on the department's website and available to view by anyone at any time. This includes our use of force directive.

The decision to direct the city manager to create the Community Review Board happened just days after more than half a dozen vigils and protests occurred in the City, ranging from one hundred to several thousand attendees.

The Alexandria Police Department attended each rally to provide security for the attendees to exercise their First Amendment rights and as a symbol of solidarity with the community. At a time when tensions were high and all eyes were on us, we responded admirably, navigating each event with poise and professionalism, traits that are expected of an employee of the Alexandria Police Department.

Regardless of what is decided with the scope and authority of the Community Review Board, Alexandria Police officers will continue to provide the highest quality of policing to its residents.

We ask that City Council make reasonable, appropriate decisions based on facts specific to residents and employees of this city, not create a superfluous program in attempt to make an example of our department.

*Lt. Marcus Downey is President, IUPA Supervisor's Chapter; Ofc. Oscar Olland is President, IUPA Chapter 5*

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Paid Sick Days: Necessary Benefit

Your article on Sept. 10 highlighted the ongoing fight for a paid sick day standard for workers in Virginia. As a business owner in Alexandria, I view paid sick days as a necessary benefit for employers to provide to their employees.

I started my company with a \$500 investment, and it has grown

to the \$10 million dollar company that it is today. Even when I was first starting out with nowhere near the revenue that I have now, I always offered insurance and benefits. I knew that I could not grow from "me" to "we" without thinking about how to attract great employees.

When you have employees that know you are investing in them with benefits like paid time off, they become more invested in your business and they want to do well. And great employees market your

company for you and refer other great employees!

Paid sick days are important every year, but during this pandemic they are more important than ever. Many of us have the luxury of working from home during this health crisis, but there are many workers who don't have that option. All workers deserve paid time off so that they stay home if they are sick. I have encouraged our employees to take care of themselves during this

pandemic. We all have to do our

part in keeping our community safe and healthy, and that means all business owners.

**LaJuanna Russell**  
Alexandria

*LaJuanna Russell is the CEO and President of Business Management Associates, Inc. based in Alexandria, VA. She is also the Chair of the Small Business Majority, an organization that advocates for small business issues at the federal, state, and local government levels.*

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Gazette Packet

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Published by  
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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A Connection Newspaper

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



# LETTERS

## Another Flooding Incident

To: Mr Yon Lambert, Director, Department of Transportation and Environmental Services

Dear Mr Lambert,  
This is the third letter I've written to you. You did answer my first letter of July 27 but I have not gotten a reply to the second of Aug. 24. As you know, Alexandria had another flooding incident on Sept 10. Luckily my house was spared – by inches, though others were not so fortunate. Ironically, the rain occurred at almost the exact time workers were finishing the repairs to my floors from the July 23, 2020 flood! They were astonished at the amount of water that accumulated around my house so quickly.

I hope you subscribe to the Nextdoor bulletin board site. There are over 150 posts about Alexandrians' experiences with local flooding on Sept 10.

I asked for help in my last letter. I urge the City to provide the services of civil engineers to help homeowners devise and understand solutions to the flooding in our homes. We can't wait for a ten-year City plan to help us. I hope such a plan is in effect, though I haven't seen it. I doubt the River-Renew project will help the storm drains take away water faster. In fact, I'm afraid it will slow things down as the sewage and water need to be separated. Several people on Nextdoor mentioned they have tried many solutions. We looked into crawl space encapsulation. For \$45,000, we couldn't be assured the proposed solution would solve our flooding problem. It would make our crawl space much nicer but when the water gets two feet up the sides of our house, as in July 2019, I don't think it would be effective.

I am also asking for a meeting with you and relevant staff. The Mayor has offered to meet with residents. My neighbor, Christine Thuot on Gibbon St, has contacted him and asked for a meeting. But we both want to meet with engi-

neers who understand the City's sewer/drain system and can offer practical solutions to homeowners. We need solutions not statistics.

Thank you for your attention to this serious matter.

**Ann S Liddle**  
Alexandria

## Help Low Income Neighbors

Our low-income neighbors need our support. With the first of the month, millions of low-income households are struggling to make ends meet. Millions have lost their jobs or income and when people cannot work, they cannot pay the rent and have challenges feeding their family.

In Virginia, in July, about 12,000 eviction cases were pending in Virginia courts, according to the Virginian-Pilot. While it is great that the CDC is declaring a halt to evictions for the rest of the year, emergency rental assistance is still needed for both renters and small landlords.

There appears to be some bipartisan support in Congress to provide emergency rental assistance and increases in SNAP assistance. This will help renters avoid an eviction "cliff" later this year, support small landlords who still face bills. Meanwhile, families need to buy groceries. But the White House is stalling, we must remind policymakers that families cannot wait - we need another relief package NOW and for emergency rental assistance and increase to SNAP funding to be a priority.

It's time for Congress and President Trump to resume negotiations now and enact a robust COVID-19 deal that includes \$100 billion in emergency rental assistance and a 15 percent increase in SNAP benefits. The citizens of Virginia believe that a "society is defined by how it treats the weakest among us" and we hope that our Representative believe the same. Call your legislator and ask them to support low-income renters.

**Nancy R Morgan**  
Alexandria



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# Annie Withers' Losses: Influenza Pandemic

Only Annie Johnson Withers could describe her own feelings when she lost a grandson and two daughters just a day apart from each other. It was a devastating time for her.

Annie Johnson and her parents, Edmund and Martha migrated to Alexandria during the civil war from Culpeper, Virginia. Annie met her future husband, James Archibald Withers, who had also migrated to Alexandria with his parents Archie and Rachel from Culpeper. Annie and Archibald married in Alexandria in December 1869. They had several children that included two daughters, Mary Elizabeth and Annie Maria.

## THE OTHER ALEXANDRIA

At the end of World War I, a pandemic hit the United States. The Influenza (Flu) Pandemic spread throughout the United States. Many cities reported the impact of the Flu on their population, and Alexandria was not spared either.

It was a slightly cool day on Oct. 16, 1918, when Mary Elizabeth Withers Shanklin died from Broncho-Pneumonia caused by the Flu. She was thirty years old. She left behind her husband, David E. Shanklin and five children including her one-year-old daughter, Mary. Before family members heard the news about Mary Elizabeth's death, her sister was also dying.

Annie Maria Withers Gray was in bed sick when her three-year-old son, George F. Gray died of Broncho-Pneumonia caused by the Flu. He was buried at Douglass Cemetery on Oct. 15, 1918.

Two days later, on Oct. 17, 1918 his mother, Annie, died on that overcast, cool day. She died less than 24 hours after her sister, Mary Elizabeth. Annie Maria Withers Gray died from Pneumonia caused by the Flu. She was twenty-four years old. She left behind



Annie Johnson Withers

her husband, John Edward Gray and her two sons, John and Preston.

Graveside funerals for the two sisters took place on Oct. 19, 1918 at the Douglas Cemetery in Alexandria. Their mother, Annie Johnson Withers experienced the painful losses of her two daughters and a grandson. She had already buried her husband in 1906. She could not bear the pain of her losses, so she migrated to Manhattan, New York where she had relatives. Annie remained in New York until her death after 1920.

Mary Elizabeth Withers Shanklin's two grandchildren remember family members talking about the death of Mary Elizabeth and Annie Maria. Sammie Shanklin and his cousin, Helen Shanklin Coles were told that their grandmother and their grandmother's

sister died within days of each other. Anna Maria, the younger of the two sisters, succumbed to the Flu without knowing that her sister, Mary had died the day before.

Mary Elizabeth, George F. and Annie Maria all died at home. Mary Elizabeth lived at 824 South Columbus Street; George F. and his mother, Annie Maria lived at 635 St. Asaph Street.

The spouses of both sisters lived productive lives, and raised their children in their widowhood. David E. Shanklin died at the age of 92, and John Edward Gray, Sr. died at the age of 57.

Today, with COVID-19, I think about all those people that have lost several members of their family at one time, just like the Shanklin and Gray families. What connects



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Sammie Shanklin, Helen Shanklin Coles and standing Gwen Shanklin

the mothers of those who died from the Flu Pandemic in 1918 and COVID-19 is the pain they experienced losing their children. Annie Johnson Withers had that experience. It is a lesson to be learned from this family, and that is, never forget the ones you lost. Keep their stories alive for future generations.

Thank you Sammie Shanklin and Helen Shanklin Coles for sharing your family story that has been kept in your family for more than one-hundred years.

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

# Alexandria Celebrates the U.S. Constitution

The U. S. Constitution will be celebrated in Alexandria City Public Schools during the week of Sept. 17-23, 2020. In preparation for the celebration – a virtual celebration -- Mayor Justin Wilson signed the Proclamation honoring the signing of the U. S. Constitution in Council Chambers at City Hall. The signing marks the U. S. Constitution's 233rd anniversary.

The tradition of celebrating the U. S. Constitution began in 1956 after the Daughters of the American Revolution petitioned Congress to dedicate the week of Sept. 17-23 to commemorate the signing. The aims of Constitution Week are to emphasize a citizen's responsibility to protect the Constitution, to educate people about the role of the U. S. Constitution and to encourage the study of historical events leading to the drafting of the document.

The U.S. Constitution provides the framework of the American government – its principles and structure – and upholds and protects the freedoms Americans hold dear. The document reflects the thinking of four Virginians: James Madison, George



Mayor Justin Wilson signed the Constitution Week Proclamation for 2020 in Council Chambers. Attendees include: Amy Jackson, City Council member and John Alexander Chapter, DAR member; Susan Palmer, Nelly Custis Chapter, DAR; Debra Lindsay (rear) past Music Director, Samuel W. Tucker Elementary School; Linda Greenberg, John Alexander Chapter Constitution Week Chair and event organizer; Arianna Espiritu, Hammond Middle School student; Linda Ferrara, Dr. Elisha Dick Chapter Constitution Week Chair, Mayor Justin Wilson, and Tillie Cassidy, Kate Waller Barrett Regent.

Mason, Thomas Jefferson, and George Washington.

Witnessing the signing by Mayor Wilson were members from local chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution: John Alexander, Dr. Elisha Dick, Nelly Custis and Kate Waller Barrett, as well as Amy Jackson, Council member, Debra Lindsay, past Music Director at Samuel W. Tucker Elementary School, and Arianna Espiritu, a student at Hammond Middle School.

Previously recorded choral renditions of patriotic songs by ACPS students from T. C. Williams High School, Samuel W. Tucker and Douglas MacArthur Public Schools and Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy are included in the video recording to be shown during the week of Sept. 17 on ACPS's Channel 71.

The DAR has over 175,000 members with approximately 3,000 chapters in 50 states and 13 foreign countries. For more information about DAR programs and the Constitution Week Proclamation signing, please contact Linda Greenberg, John Alexander Chapter.

# The Search Continues Sept. 18 is POW/MIA Day.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

The strains of “God Bless America” were the last words anyone would hear from Capt. Humbert “Rocky” Versace before he was executed Sept. 26, 1963, while a prisoner of war in Vietnam. Versace, whose remains have never been found, is one of six Alexandrians listed as Missing in Action from the Vietnam War.

“There are 67 soldiers from Alexandria whose names are inscribed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall,” said Col. Kevin Rue (ret.), a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and member of the Friends of Rocky Versace organization. “Six of those men, including Rocky, are still considered missing in action.”

National POW/MIA Recognition Day will be observed Sept. 18. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the city’s annual remembrance ceremony at the Capt. Rocky Versace Plaza and Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Del Ray will not be held.

First observed in 1979, National POW/MIA Recognition Day is



**Captain Eugene “Red” McDaniel, brutally tortured as a prisoner of the Vietnam War, looks at the display honoring Alexandria’s POW/MIA veterans during a 2019 visit to the Rocky Versace Plaza and Vietnam Veterans Memorial at the Mount Vernon Recreation Center.**

a day when the nation pauses to honor returned prisoners of war, remember those U.S. military members and civilians who remain missing from past wars and to support ongoing search efforts to find those who have not been

recovered.

In addition to Versace, other Vietnam MIAs from Alexandria include SSG Douglas R. Blodgett (USA), Maj. Joseph E. Davies (USAF), Maj. Morgan J. Donahue (USAF), Lt. Leland S. McCants

(USA), and SMN App. John A. Winkler (USN). In Virginia, there are 45 Vietnam War MIAs.

According to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, 83,114 Americans who fought in wars dat-  
SEE THE SEARCH, PAGE 14

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## PEOPLE

# A Chilly Reception **ALIVE!** receives donated shipping container.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**M**ayor Justin Wilson was among those on hand Sept. 14 when the nonprofit ALIVE! was formally presented with a refrigerated shipping container from AMX Leasing, the trailer/tractor arm of Abilene Motor Express. The donation was made by Marion Moon, the CEO of Convention & Tradeshow Freight Specialists, and the container will be housed on the property of Alexandria Renew Enterprises.

"Marion came to us and asked, 'What do you need?'" said ALIVE! executive director Jennifer Ayers. "We replied, 'refrigeration' and Marion delivered. Marion saw a need for us to have the right tools to expand our operations to serve more Alexandrians in need."

The container will provide needed refrigerated space and storage for ALIVE! to better respond to the increased demand for food. Since the pandemic hit in March, ALIVE! has distributed over five times its monthly average of pounds of food. ALIVE! currently serves over 12,000 individuals per month at its food distributions and through its Com-



ALIVE! executive director Jennifer Ayers, center, celebrates the donation of a refrigerated shipping container by AMX Leasing & Logistics Sept. 14 on the grounds of AlexRenew. Picture with Ayers are (l-r) Mayor Justin Wilson, Marion Moon, Mel Lynn of AMX, Steve Bransford, Kate Garvey and Ann Patterson.

munity Partners' food pantries.

"We have limited storage space for refrigerated products like produce and dairy," said Dennis Warnke, ALIVE! Food Program Committee Chair. "The demand for those products is massive so having the ability to store these items will help us better serve the community."

Moon, a Living Legend of Alexandria, is the founder and CEO of Convention Freight Services and operates under the trailer/tractor leasing arm of Abilene Motor Express.

"Abilene has been fortunate during the pandemic," said Alan K. Jones of Abilene Motors. "So when Marion reached out with the opportunity to help others that have been affected more than us we, were more than happy to help. While this is a large donation, when compared to the good it can do for the Alexandria community, it's truly insignificant."

ALIVE! provides food, shelter and emergency financial assistance to Alexandrians in need. Founded in 1969, ALIVE! is comprised of 45 faith-based organizations and thousands of volunteers, partners, and supporters. For more information, visit [www.alive-inc.org](http://www.alive-inc.org) or call 703-837-9321.

PHOTO BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

# Worlds You Never Imagined Through 12-Year-Old Eyes

BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**H**ow can 12-year-old Sam Morrison pick his favorite place between Paris, the hinterlands of Thailand or the Sea of Galilee? "That's a tough one. I liked them all the same," Sam says. "But I think about South Africa because the people were so friendly, really nice and there was a lot of wildlife. I love wildlife a lot. We would get up at 5 a.m. to get started when the wildlife wake up and start doing their thing.

We would go until noon." He recalls they saw lions and bobcats and lots of elephants. His father also remembers a wildlife refuge that had adopted abused animals such as lions from the circus.

Sam has put his traveling adventures in "Backpacks and Baguettes: Coloring the World through Young Eyes," a new book which he wrote with his dad, Dan (Angus) Morrison. The pages recount his observations from some of the countries he has visited and are full of global graffiti and street art from those countries that you can color in yourself. Sam is himself a hybrid, half American and half British and now living in Alexandria.

Sam says, "My advice to people any age who want to write a book is you have to contribute time to it. You have to work on it every day or it won't get done." Sam says he would sit next to his dad for 20 minutes a day and tell him what to write on the computer. Or his dad adds, they would remember things together.

Sam began writing the book when he was 11-years-old and just finished it when he was turning twelve. He based most of his memories of trips beginning when he was



Sam Morrison in Paris, his home base for most of his travels

3-years-old living in Paris but recalls his memories of Mosset and Scarborough began when he was only a year old.

Each chapter had a similar profile with a description of the place, the food and the children. Dan says this organization made the book easier to write than if they had just used stream-of-consciousness. Although Sam is fond of pasta with tomato sauce, Sam picks the food of Norway as the most memorable with "beef and meat and a lot of stuff." He remembers one night they went to a restaurant and two men nearby were eating meat off a sheep's head, including the eyeballs." Sam says, "I loved it. It was very different than Paris or Washington."

Sam says when they lived in Paris they ate a lot of different foods. Dan interjects that they were "market tourists" going to



Sam at the Sea of Galilee.

all of their local markets. Grazing was a real pleasure. When they lived in the 16th arrondissement in Paris, Dan remembers a very long beautiful market stretched all the way to the Seine. One of Sam's favorites in Paris was making meatballs with his father, compliments of the heritage of his Sicilian great grandmother, and putting them in the oven the next day.

If you ask Sam about favorite foods, it's not the scorpions on sticks at Thai street markets or the mango in the Mekong Delta, Moroccan couscous or South African biltong. He lists the choice of kids around the world. "I'm a big fan of pasta with tomato sauce."

But he has to break his answer down by starter, main and dessert. "My favorite starter is melon with ham. And the main is steak frites or pasta." And for dessert he chooses tiramisu although he can't find any he considers authentic anywhere around here.

Sam thinks kids in Paris are kind of different because they live in a big international city and are exposed to many different cultures. "It's not mainly a French place because people live here from all over the world. It

makes the kids more open-minded because they get to try so many new things." At the other end of the spectrum are the kids in S. Africa with a very different lifestyle. "I've lived in a city all my life and a lot of them live in poverty, sadly. But kids get to see a lot more wildlife."

Any day could be a new adventure. "I had a real weird occurrence in Thailand." They were riding in a tuk tuk, and they went past a bank with an open window. "We saw monkeys who snuck in the window and started wrecking the place. Paper was flying everywhere." He says some men with sticks came and chased the monkeys away. "The monkeys weren't trying to rob the bank." Sam speculates, "There are lots of shiny things in a bank." Dan explains the Thai have a holiday every year where they feed the monkeys to show the symbiotic relationship between monkeys and people.

Sam's home base for travels was Paris where he lived with his parents for 6-1/2 years. He says his book doesn't include all of the countries where he has traveled and he hopes to keep going "although it will be harder now that I've moved to the U.S. because those places are farther away than Paris. "But I've never been to South America, probably that's next."

Dan says "the idea of writing a book just sort of came to us." He explains that on the way to Sam's school he and Sam shuttled their next door neighbor to Georgetown Hospital for treatments for pancreatic cancer. "It was three generations of men in a car chatting. It occurred to me that if we didn't capture how a 12-year-old interprets the world, it would fly away."

The book is due to be available on Amazon on Oct. 6. You can find Sam on Instagram @samrmorrison.

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PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED/ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE

# Pet Pantry's Doors Wide Open for a Community in Need

BY BARBARA S. MOFFET

Linda Easley didn't know where to turn. In recent years she had suffered a debilitating injury, lost her mobile home to a flood and then her money to identity theft. Now, living with a relative in Northern Virginia, she lacked funds to feed her longtime cherished pet, a nine-year-old Lhasa Apso named Bunny. Although Easley had worked for homeless shelters in the area for more than 30 years, she had never been to the Animal Welfare League (AWLA). In July, she made her first visit.

"I hadn't known about the Pet Pantry there before, but it was perfect for my needs," Easley said. "I was able to get about a month's worth of food for Bunny, along with a new leash and harness and a soft bed for her. They were just so nice."

The AWLA's Community Pet Pantry has been providing food and other pet supplies to Alexandria residents for years, but demand has gone through the roof as the pandemic has drained people's budgets. Many seeking assistance have lost their jobs or have seen their work hours drastically cut. In February, the Pet Pantry gave away 384 pounds of food and supplies, but by June the monthly total had soared to 1,853 pounds, says Demetrius Jackson, AWLA Community Programs Coordinator. So far this year, the Pet Pantry has provided more than 7,000 pounds of food and pet supplies to the community.

The greatest demand has been for canned and dry dog and cat food, puppy pads and cat litter — thousands of pounds of it — delivered curbside to people in their cars. Besides the supplies offered in Northern Virginia, the AWLA also provides pet supplies to shelters and rescue groups in southern Virginia and West Virginia that lack resources.

"People are willing to go to great lengths to provide for their pet," said Joanna Fortin, AWLA's Director of Community Programs. One man walked more than a mile to pick up food and supplies for his dog and has been in touch since then for additional items. "We want to be able to help anyone who needs us," she said. "We've had some people who were hesitant to ask for help but left feeling encouraged. We're here as a resource for them, a safety net."

The food and supplies are donated to the Pet Pantry by the AL-



PHOTO COURTESY OF AWLA

AWLA Community Programs Coordinator Demetrius Jackson packs up items from the Pet Pantry, which provides pet food and supplies to community members in need.



PHOTO BY LINDA EASLEY

Bunny, the cherished pet of Linda Easley, benefitted when Easley turned to the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria for help with food, a leash and a dog bed.

alexandria community, including businesses that contribute excess stock or hold donation drives. Residents interested in donating items can drop them off at the shelter or refer to the shelter's Amazon wish list at [AlexandriaAnimals.org/Pet-Pantry](http://AlexandriaAnimals.org/Pet-Pantry).

"We're very lucky that the community wants to help out so much," Jackson said. "When we have a specific need, we'll ask for help on social media, and within days, we have what we requested and more."

Fortin and Jackson operate the AWLA's Community Programs, which go far beyond the Pet Pantry. The Crisis Care program provides temporary boarding at the shelter

for pet owners experiencing emergencies such as homelessness, hospitalization or domestic violence. A partnership with Alexandria's Senior Services provides "AniMeals" of food and pet supplies to seniors and housebound community members. Relationships with nine area veterinary groups offer vouchers to help pet owners afford spay and neuter surgery, and the Trap-Neuter-Return Program arranges the surgery for homeless cats in order to humanely reduce the City's outdoor cat population.

Community Programs has also forged partnerships with numerous community groups: pet food and supplies, for example, have been offered at events organized by Alexandria's ALIVE! food program. Before the pandemic, Community Programs worked with the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority to stage Pet Care Fairs in the city to provide free rabies vaccines, pet food and supplies to area residents. On Sept. 2, the AWLA held its first drive-up rabies vaccine clinic, seeing 23 cats and dogs; additional clinics are planned.

"Our biggest goal is to keep pets in their homes with the families they are a part of," Fortin said. "Pets are providing such important emotional support for people,

SEE PET PANTRY'S, PAGE 14

lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way. 2. not appreciated or understood. 3. no longer owned or known



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# Calling All Cats: Mount Purrnon Offers Cuddles, Rescue on the Menu

BY HOPE NELSON  
GAZETTE PACKET

**C**at lovers of the region, rejoice: Alexandria's first cat café is on the loose. Despite delays, unexpected permitting issues and even a pandemic, Mount Purrnon Cat Café opened its doors at 109 S. Alfred Street last month and has been delighting both felines and those who love them ever since.

Waiting out the covid-19 pandemic wasn't an option, said owner Kristin Cowan. Not when there were cats out there waiting for new homes. And not when Mount Purrnon had come so far and was on the precipice of opening before the pandemic struck.

**APPETITE** "We just kind of went for it," Cowan said. "We're taking it day by day and trying to look at the positive side of everything. Every time we send a cat home, we get very excited."

So far, the café has sent 17 cats to new homes, most recently the "fan favorite" Lily, who'd won over dozens of hearts during her stay.

"We've had so many people say she was their favorite, they just couldn't adopt her" at the moment, Cowan said.

Fourteen cats reside at Mount Purrnon as of press time. All of them come from partner Fancy Cats and Dogs Rescue Team, which



**Pam and Aqua, a 1-year-old bonded pair**

The last two stalwarts of the original adoptable group of cats, Pam is a medium-haired black cat; Aqua is a calico. Both are wonderful cats, owner Kristin Cowan says, who've managed to be overlooked by adopters so far. But they've taken matters into their own paws and now can often be found lounging about in the window.

pulls animals from various shelters around the region that have a high euthanasia rate.

"The majority of ours are from Caroline County, Maryland, but we've gotten some from North Carolina, Baltimore County and West Virginia," Cowan said.

The cat café process works like this: Book a reservation on Mount Purrnon's website



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MOUNT PURRNON CAT CAFE

(located at <https://www.mtpurrnoncatcafe.com/>), select a time slot and show up at your appointed time. (Walk-ins are welcome based on space available for half-hour increments.) Pro tip: While Saturdays and Sundays are often filled to the brim, the weekdays offer much more scheduling flexibility – and more one-on-one time with the kitties.

And don't forget your mask.

"We are limiting capacity to 20 people per hour," Cowan said, adding that her team is rigorously cleaning and sanitizing after every group of visitors.

With all the focus on the felines, it's easy to forget that Mount Purrnon Cat Café is, also, a café. While Cowan says the eatery is still in the process of obtaining its ABC license ("It's an ongoing process that we're working on really hard. It's out of our hands right now," she said), there's still plenty to eat and drink. Perk up with espresso, cappuccino and coffee; fill your stomach with an assortment of prepackaged meals from local vendors. Sandwiches, salads, parfaits, grain bowls and sweet treats like edible cookie dough give you all you need for anything from a light bite to a hearty nosh.

Up next for Mount Purrnon: More events. The café is hosting a meditation class (complete with cats, naturally) this Saturday from 7 to 9 p.m. Not quite up for a socially distanced class in person just yet? A virtual option is also available. Prices are \$25 for in-person and \$15 for virtual; register on Mount Purrnon's website.

Hope Nelson is the author of "Classic Restaurants of Alexandria" and owns the Kitchen Recessionista blog, located at [www.kitchenrecessionista.com](http://www.kitchenrecessionista.com). Email her any time at [hope@kitchenrecessionista.com](mailto:hope@kitchenrecessionista.com)

## Jane Franklin Dance and the Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association Present Live at the Athenaeum

**J**ane Franklin Dance presents a performance streamed live from The Athenaeum, home to Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association. Enjoy a Zoom performance event that is filled with interactive moments and real time performance, all from the ease of your own living room.

Do Not Touch – Experience an agreeable cast of characters negotiating themes of opposition through movement, words and images. See the interplay of an ordinary discussion about the weather and the group dynamics involved in creating compromise. Nothing to argue about? It's merely the weather and a difference of opinion. Interactions combine in a non-linear narrative and it's not just Covid-19 that limits the touch. When it's all said and done, everyone can shake hands and walk away. Fightin' Words – Presented as part of VelocityDC Dance Festival in 2016, Fightin' Words video presentation includes music performed live by Luke Choha-

ny. With original music compositions by American fiddler Patrick McAvinue that combine aspects of bluegrass, swing, and Celtic music, the dance is a bombastic romp of fist shakin' cartoon carrying-on fun.

Post performance Q & A  
**Featuring:** Jane Franklin Dance, Philip Baraoidan, Kelsey Rohr, Amy Scaringe, Brynna Wilder

Virtual Presentation From:  
The Athenaeum, home to Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association

Performance Date/Time:  
Saturday October 3, 2020 @ 7:30 pm

**Tickets:** FREE with donations accepted (\$10 suggested minimum to help Jane Franklin Dance & Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association)

Registration is required; Info: <https://www.janefranklin.com/live>

❖ donations of \$20 and above receive a free viewing code for a Vimeo on Demand performance.

## CALENDAR

### SEPT. 1-28

Reflection. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. At Gallery Underground, 2120 Crystal Drive, Arlington. Reflection, a solo exhibition of acrylic abstract paintings by Vian Borchert. Many were produced during quarantine and Coronavirus times, as she reflects on our new reality and our new normal. Visit the website: <https://galleryunderground.org/2020/07/reflection-september-show/>

### SEPT. 9-OCT. 14

Weekly Free Outdoor Yoga Class. 6-7 p.m. At Del Ray Psych & Wellness Parking Lot, 1900 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria.  
Maureen Clyne, an affiliated agent with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in the Alexandria office, will be leading free outdoor yoga classes in the Del Ray neighborhood of Alexandria. This community event, Harvest Moon Yoga 2020, is suitable for all levels and open to the public. The class is taught by Clyne, a senior yoga instructor, and is sponsored by Del Ray Psych & Wellness. Contact: Maureen Clynel: 703-967-8884.

### THURSDAY/SEPT. 17

Local Author Lecture Series: The Cabinet. 7 p.m. Via Zoom. Local author Dr. Lindsay M. Chervinsky will discuss her new book, The Cabinet: George Washington and the Creation of an American Institution. The U.S. Constitution did not create the president's cabinet — the delegates to the Constitutional Convention explicitly rejected the idea. But faced with unprecedented diplomatic, constitutional, and domestic challenges, President

George Washington concluded he couldn't make decisions alone. Two-and-a-half years into his presidency, Washington convened the first cabinet meeting with some now-famous figures: Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson, Henry Knox, and Edmund Randolph. Over the next several years, they provided crucial support and advice as Washington established cabinet precedent.  
Cost is \$6 available at [alexandriava.gov/shop](http://alexandriava.gov/shop).

### THURSDAY/SEPT. 17

Secrets, Spies, Sputnik and Huntley. 10 a.m. to noon. At Historic Huntley, 6918 Harrison Lane, Alexandria. Take a stroll through the less-visited side of Huntley Meadows Park to uncover its history of spies and espionage. Learn how the Cold War struggle between the US and the former Soviet Union shaped Huntley and the Fairfax County we know today. Meet at the South Kings Highway entrance to the park, and plan on a 2.4-mile walk over flat terrain. The cost is \$10 per person. Call the park at 703-768-2525.

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 19

4th Annual Packards Virginia Orphan Car Show. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. At Alexandria History Museum at The Lyceum, Alexandria. Do you remember trying to buy a Packard at the local dealerships in the 1940s in Alexandria? Visit some of these cars in the parking lot of the Alexandria History Museum at The Lyceum for a classic car show. It will feature a variety of Packards and other "orphan" vehicles, a term for cars that are no longer

manufactured. Co-sponsored by Packards Virginia.

### MONDAY/SEPT. 21

Election Readiness. 3-4:30 p.m. Virtual. The 2020 Election will be like no other election in American history with the pandemic, vote-by-mail in more states, early voting, increasing pressure of the U.S. Postal Service and controversies about the ability of local governments to meet the challenges. This three-person panel presentation and discussion will bring you up to date on what is happening on the state level and in Arlington to ensure an accurate election and how/when results will be reported. Advance registration is not required, and this free event is open to all. You may be prompted to enter your name and email address before being admitted to the webinar. Zoom Webinar Details: <https://en-corelearning.asapconnected.com/EventDetail.aspx?pk=1767095>

### MONDAY/SEPT. 21

"At the Full Yum." 7 p.m. At Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington. Complete opposites Darcia and Jacob struggle to civilly co-parent their teenage son, Ohaji. When a riot that breaks out after a Black teenager is killed by police causes a lockdown, the two are trapped together in their Michigan Park neighborhood – with Ohaji nowhere to be found. The same night is then relived through an alternate reality in a thrilling and captivating reflection of DC – and those who call it home – outside the political bubble. Visit <https://www.sigtheatre.org/about/sigworks/>

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## MONDAY/SEPT. 21

**Outdoor Storytime.** 9-9:45 a.m. At Green Springs Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Throw down a picnic blanket or just sit in the grass with your children and listen to Green Spring's storytellers weave their tales. Afterwards, take some time to explore around the gardens, ponds and historic house. The cost is \$3 per person, and the program is designed for participants age 2 to adult. Call 703-642-5173.

## TUESDAY/SEPT. 22

**Evening Hike.** 6:30-8 p.m. At Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd., Alexandria. Celebrate the first night of fall with a pleasant evening tour of the park at sunset. Learn about common wildlife in the marsh and where to find these critters. The cost is \$8 per person. Meet at the outdoor classroom. Masks or face coverings are required for outdoor programs at Park Authority facilities when physical distancing cannot be maintained. Exceptions will be made for health reasons or for activities such as eating or exercising. Call 703-768-2525.

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 26

**Virtual Speakeasy Night.** At Lee-Fendall House Museum, Alexandria. Celebrate with the Lee-Fendall House Museum during its fifth annual speakeasy fundraiser – but this year, the party is all online. The event will support the museum's vital work in historic preservation and education, while keeping up what has become a popular local tradition. The online party kicks off with an exclusive cocktail lesson courtesy of Alexandria's most exciting new eatery, King's Ransom. Next, learn the latest dance crazes from 1920 with a dance class, led by acclaimed local performers Fidgety Feet and accompanied by a few swinging jazz standards - remember to wear your '20s best for the virtual costume contest. Tickets are available at SipsAndSecretsVirtual.Eventbrite.com.

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 26

### ALEXANDRIA DRIVE-IN THEATRE

The Alexandria Drive-In Theatre, presented by Alexandria based businesses ALX Community and The Garden, is now opened. The six-part movie series will run on Saturdays through October 3 and will feature a popular collection of movie classics and family favorites. The drive-in theatre will be located in the Eisenhower section of Alexandria in the parking lot connected to commercial space owned by real estate developer and event partner Stonebridge. The lot can accommodate up to 215 cars per screening. Alexandria Drive-In Movie Line Up:  
Saturday, Sept. 19, 2020 -- "Field of Dreams"  
Saturday, Sept. 26, 2020 -- "ET"  
Saturday, Oct. 3, 2020 -- "Mamma Mia"  
Website: [www.AlexandriaDriveIn.com](http://www.AlexandriaDriveIn.com). Cost: \$30 per car/per screening. No refunds. 100% ticket costs go to two local Alexandria-based charities.

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS PAPER, CALL BY MONDAY 11:00 AM 703-778-9411

Obituary	Obituary
<p><b>Lordian Peter Savaskel Turner</b>, a civil engineer and 34-year resident of Alexandria, Virginia, died unexpectedly on September 8, 2020 at his home. Lordian is survived by his wife of 40 years, Maria Turner, his children, Olinka and Tai, his four grandchildren, Jayden, Taitiana, Maia and Zoe, as well as his nine siblings. Lordian was born on June 10, 1952 to Wendel Turner and Hermine Jones of Jamaica. He received both bachelor's and master's degrees from Howard University in the field of Civil Engineering. As of his passing, he was employed by Michael Baker International for 34 years in both the Alexandria, Virginia and Linthicum, Maryland offices. Lordian was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother, church member, and friend. He enjoyed running, walking, spending time at the beach, or taking in the peace and quiet in the early morning hours. But his passion and his heart were his love for his family and his church. His Christian life which was evident in his walk and his talk. His actions spoke louder than the words he spoke. A graveside service was held for family on Wednesday, September 16, 2020 at Pleasant Valley Memorial Park in Annandale, Virginia.</p>	

Obituary	Obituary
<p><b>PHYLLIS BROWN</b> <b>Phyllis Eva Brown, 89</b>, passed away March 5, 2020 at the retirement community Village on the Isle, Venice, FL. She was born September 17, 1930 in Mt. Vernon, VA. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Harry E. Brown; a sister, Clethia Badger; and her parents, Lonzo Badger and Phyllis (Roberts) Badger. Phyllis retired as Clerk of Court for the Alexandria Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court in Alexandria, VA in 1991 after serving 41 years in the court system. In 1974, she was appointed to the Clerks Advisory Committee to the Committee on District Courts and served in that capacity until 1983. During that time, Phyllis served on many projects committed to developing the Virginia district courts' automation of case management, to and including criminal and traffic adjudication, uniform reciprocal enforcement of support forms, juvenile expungement study, accounting and docketing manuals, grievance and appeal procedures for court employees and an employee classification study. In 1983, she was recognized by the Virginia Council of Juvenile Court Judges for her very substantial contribution to the furtherance of justice in the Virginia Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Courts. In 2000, the Clerk's Office of the Alexandria Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court was named in her honor. In 1993, Phyllis and Harry and their two cats, Gilbert and Sullivan, moved from Virginia to Rotunda West, FL. She and Harry enjoyed building a new home and she loved flower gardening. They were members of St. David's Episcopal Church in Englewood and Phyllis served on ECW and volunteered in the Thrift Shop. In 2013, Phyllis relocated to the Village on the Isle in Venice. She will be missed by many but mostly by her best friend, Arlene Rager. Interment was at Mount Comfort Cemetery in Alexandria, VA. Donations may be made to St. David's Episcopal Church Memorial Fund, 401 South Broadway, Englewood, FL 34223 or to Suncoast Humane Society, 6781 San Casa Drive, Englewood, FL 34224.</p>	

Legals	Legals
<p><b>Notice is hereby given that Group Ride Service LLC, located at 8100 Russell Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309, has filed an application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity that would authorize the transportation of passengers for compensation as a common carrier over irregular routes in the Virginia cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas, Manassas Park and the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William. The carrier will also be authorized to transport Medicaid recipients statewide as a Non-Emergency Medical Transportation carrier as defined in Code of Virginia section 46.2-2000.</b></p> <p><b>Any person who desires to protest the application and be a party to the matter must submit a signed and dated written request setting forth (1) a precise statement of the party's interest and how the party could be aggrieved if the application was granted; (2) a full and clear statement of the facts that the person is prepared to provide by competent evidence; (3) a statement of the specific relief sought; (4) the name of the applicant and case number assigned to the application; and (5) a certification that a copy of the protest was sent to the applicant. The case number assigned to this application is MC2000221DD.</b></p> <p><b>Written protests must be mailed to DMV Motor Carrier Services, Attn: Operating Authority, P. O. Box 27412, Richmond, VA 23269-0001 and must be postmarked on or before September XX, 2020.</b></p> <p><b>Any protest filed with competent evidence will be carefully considered by DMV. However, DMV will have full discretion as to whether a hearing is warranted based on the merits of the protest filed.</b></p>	

Announcements	Announcements
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<p><b>For Sale:</b> Conference room table w/6 chairs, executive desks, executive chairs, bookcases, file cabinets, white boards, end tables, wood kitchen table w/6 chairs, and more. Contact Diane, 703-299-4043 to view all items.</p>	
Announcements	Announcements

## ★ ★ ★ UPCOMING ★ ★ ★ AUCTIONS

<p><b>Washington, VA</b></p>	<p><b>ABSOLUTE: Beautiful 182 Acre Farm</b> <b>Friday, Sept.25 @ 12:30PM</b> 13583 Lee Hwy, Washington, VA 62mi from DC, this is a perfect balance of privacy and convenience. Offered in 5 scenic tracts from 16 to 79 acres. <b>Bid live or online at trfauctions.com</b></p>
<p><b>Nelson Co.</b></p>	<p><b>ABSOLUTE: Brick Office in Lovingson</b> <b>Tue, Sept.29 @ 12:30PM</b> 86 Tanbark Plaza, Lovingson, VA 1,040 sq.ft. brick office with basement and public water/sewer located just off US-29 in Nelson County. Sells to highest bidder. <b>Bid live or online at trfauctions.com</b></p>
<p><b>Smith Mtn Lake</b></p>	<p><b>Scenic 56 Acre Farm in Bedford Co.</b> <b>Friday, Oct.2 @ 12:30PM</b> 3018 Stony Fork Rd, Moneta, VA This beautiful farm enjoys views of the Blue Ridge Mountains and is just 8mi from Smith Mtn Lake. Offered in 3 tracts. <b>Bid live or online at trfauctions.com</b></p>

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Announcements	Announcements
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## And So It Begins



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Eleven years, six months and two weeks, approximately, after being diagnosed with "terminal" cancer: stage IV non small cell lung cancer, I have begun my treatment for stage IV papillary thyroid cancer. I'll be taking three pills a day, all at once, same time every day. The list of possible side effects are as long and scary as it presumably gets (blood clots, arrhythmia, to highlight just a few). I doubt its bluster. Likely somewhere between it depends and probably. Every patient is different of course so what happens next - to me, can only be forewarned. It cannot be foretold - with any kind of certainty, that is.

What I've read about these straight-on effects so far is somewhere along the lines of the cancer untreated would be worse so pick your poison, I suppose. I didn't exactly pick, but the poison - euphemistically speaking

if not literally, which has been prescribed, arrived by mail at my home as of 1:30 this afternoon and I see no reason to wait. Gulp. Let us go forth in hope because there are no guarantees here. The guarantees left the building late Feb., 2009 with my initial diagnosis. Maintaining a positive attitude and a good sense of humor has to remain my not-to-so-secret weapon. Granted, wishing and thinking a thing doesn't make it so, but moaning and groaning about it will be neither productive nor prudent. It would simply reinforce a negative and as Brian Dennehy (a.k.a. "Cobb") said in the movie "Silverado" about a completely different subject: "We can't be having none of that now, can we?"

I think the reason I'm meandering about here and in life is that I don't have a clear understanding of my prognosis yet, though I have asked. Moreover, since my new normal has only just begun, I don't have my routine down and as a result, the treatment process has not become second nature. And until it's no longer first nature, I'll be more preoccupied and cognizant of what I'm doing and why, and when I should be doing it. Primarily, this confusion/series of arrangements has to do with coordinating taking the three thyroid cancer pills with my current and pre-existing - going back 11-plus years, pill regimen which involves upwards of 60 pills daily. It's not overly complicated. It's just new and some pills shouldn't be taken together as is the case with the synthroid medication, the anti-nausea pill and additionally, not all pills can be taken with food, without food and so forth. I realize this isn't rocket science, but my life sort of depends on it, so it's kind of important that I pay attention to what and when I'm ingesting.

And it's this newness that is scary because it represents the great unknown - for me: Will the side effects be debilitating, life changing? Will they be treatable/manageable? Will my life expectancy once again be front and center as I wobble back and forth from lab work, diagnostic scans and follow-up appointments? Previously I sort of knew where I stood. Now, I don't really know anything. Oddly enough, having been there and done that is not as comforting as I would have anticipated.

Even though I've switched over - so to speak, from lung cancer to thyroid cancer, I can't really say I've experienced a "Serenity now-" type moment. I'm not nearly so confident in my outcome now as I sort of was when I

only had lung cancer. Being diagnosed with a 'new' cancer, 11-plus years in the presenting, hardly reassures that all is under control. I mean, what about my "incurable" lung cancer? We're not treating it anymore. Is it going to now grow and reassert itself and if it does, will we then stop the thyroid cancer treatment? It seems that there could be a return to sender situation here where I'll be back and forth between oncology and endocrinology. I'll figure it out. I'm not afraid to ask the tough questions. It's the answers that might scare me though.

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

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## NEWS

# The Search Continues

FROM PAGE 9

ing back to World War II are still missing, including: 73,515 from World War II; 7,841 from the Korean War; 1,626 from Vietnam; 126 from the Cold War; and 6 from conflicts since 1991.

Seventy-five percent of those missing Americans are somewhere in the Asia-Pacific with more than 41,000 presumed lost at sea.

"Rocky was just two weeks away from heading home and entering the priesthood

when he was captured," Rue said. "He and the others made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. It's important to tell the story of each of these men and let their families know they will never be forgotten."

Information on each of Alexandria's Vietnam MIAs can be found online at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund Wall of Faces website ([www.vvmf.org](http://www.vvmf.org)). Rue or the Friends of Rocky Versace can be contacted at FoRV59@gmail.com.

# Pet Pantry's Doors Open

FROM PAGE 11

and for our Pet Pantry clients, their pet might be the only company they have at home. We would much rather help pets stay with the family they love than have to find them a new home when a lack of access to resources is the only obstacle."

Jackson said that those who seek help from the Pet Pantry tell him they will do anything to hold on to their pet. "I haven't met a single person who's upset, they're just so grateful," he said. "I grew up in Alexandria, and it's really nice to give back to the city."

The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria is a local 501(c)(3) organization that operates the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter, Alexandria's only open-access animal shelter. In response to the global pandemic, the AWLA has initiated a virtual adoption process that has seen adoption of dozens of pets and is operating a Pet Pantry that has provided more than 7,000 pounds of pet food and supplies. The AWLA also offers assistance to Alexandrians with questions about wildlife and animals in the community. More information can be found at [AlexandriaAnimals.org](http://AlexandriaAnimals.org)



PHOTO COURTESY OF AW/LA

**AWLA Director of Community Programs Joanna Fortin unloads donated pet supplies to help stock the Pet Pantry.**

### Obituary



**Mary Evangeline Gallup Snider** departed our world in peace with her family at her side on Sunday, August 30th, 2020 at the Alexandria Inova Hospital. Her death resulted from a severe lung infection following a recent diagnosis of Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia, a secondary cancer related to her 2009 Multiple Myeloma cancer condition, which had been in remission.

Mary was born to Mr. Benton Babbit Gallup and Mrs. Beverly Victory Hibbard Gallup on March 2nd, 1945 in Chicago, Illinois. The family resided in Morgan Park throughout her childhood but relocated to Hinsdale, Illinois in 1961, where she graduated from Hinsdale High School in 1963. She earned a bachelor's degree in Fine Arts from Cornell College in 1967 where her passion as a painter was for color school artwork and art history. In 1971 she married Richard D. Snider of Bethesda, Maryland and they remained a loving couple for 49 years. She was a creative and beloved teacher at the Potomac School in McLean Virginia until her retirement in 2003 and worked previously as the Director of Financial Aid at the Corcoran School of Art in Washington, D.C.

Her immediate family has a wealth of loving memories stored up for the future, in which she is survived by her husband, Richard D. Snider, of Alexandria, VA, her son Benton Davis Snider and her daughter in law Kimberly Panozzo Snider, as well as her daughter, Sara Snider Papademetriou, her son in law, Nicholas Papademetriou and her 7 year old grandson Luca Beck Papademetriou, all of Washington, D.C. as well as her brother, John Edward Gallup and sister in law Rita Bassi Gallup of La Jolla CA.

As was her wish, she was cremated and her ashes will be kept at her beloved Bethany Beach, DE home and the British Virgin Islands home she visited often. Funeral arrangements are private and are provided by the Demaine Funeral Home of 520 S Washington St, Alexandria, VA.

In lieu of flowers or other gifts of any kind, the family requests that donations be made to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society where gifts can be personalized in her memory @ [give.lls.org](http://give.lls.org) so that as the future unfolds, she will be an integral part of the cure for this terrible disease.

Let us know about an upcoming event

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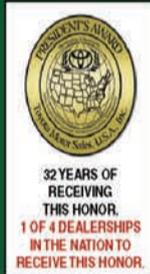
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**MACHINE ROTORS ADDITIONAL**

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 9/30/20.

## BG VITAL FLUID SERVICE

**10% OFF** YOUR FIRST SERVICE

**15% OFF** YOUR SECOND SERVICE

Power Steering • Automatic Transmission • Brake System

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## TRUESTART™ BATTERIES

**SPECIAL OFFER**

**\$129<sup>95</sup>**

INCLUDES BATTERY INSTALLATION

**Includes:** 84 month warranty, 24 month free replacement,

24 month free roadside assistance.

Does not apply to hybrid batteries.

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**NEW HOURS SPECIAL!**  
DROP OFF YOUR VEHICLE BETWEEN **6AM & 7AM**  
WITH A SCHEDULED APPOINTMENT & RECEIVE  
**12% OFF** ANY ONE REPAIR.

MAXIMUM DISCOUNT, \$150

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA PARTS CENTER ONLY. GOOD THRU 9/30/20.

## OIL & FILTER CHANGE

**\$24<sup>95</sup>**

NON-SYNTHETIC

**\$34<sup>95</sup>**

SYNTHETIC

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

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 9/30/20.

Jack Taylor's  
**ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA**

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

McEneaney Associates has always had one motto in mind... not to be the biggest, but the best. This year marks our 40th year in Alexandria, and we are celebrating our investment in helping to build our town into the thriving community it is today. To learn more about our Associates and our firm, visit [www.WeAreAlexandria.com](http://www.WeAreAlexandria.com)

#WeAreAlexandria



**Alexandria City | \$2,900,000**

Set on 2.25 acres, this one-of-a-kind property is a true sanctuary. Designed by Charles Callander, the main house remains nearly unchanged with beautiful custom-built features. A separate complementary, 1,700-SF, two-story guest house overlooks a 20'x50' heated pool. **Jodie Burns 571.228.5790**  
[www.JodieBurns.com](http://www.JodieBurns.com)



**Yacht Haven | \$1,397,000**

Private Oasis! Stunning remastered contemporary 3-bedroom, 4.5-bath home with beautifully landscaped half acre gardens including pool, hot tub, fire pit, outdoor kitchen, pond & waterfall! Party room or at home meeting/office space above separate 2-car garage! **Kate Patterson 703.627.2166**  
[www.KatePattersonHomes.com](http://www.KatePattersonHomes.com)



**Clifton | \$1,795,000**

Absolutely stunning Craftsman-style Farmhouse on 6.3 acres. This home seamlessly blends luxury & casual lifestyles with open floor plan, 7 large bedrooms, 6 full & 1 half baths, wrap-around porch, & a fantastic finished basement. 3-car oversized garage with space above. **Peter Crouch 703.244.4024**  
[www.6811CliftonRoad.com](http://www.6811CliftonRoad.com)



**Woodleigh Woods | \$674,900**

Contemporary Colonial on fully fenced .33+ acre cul-de-sac lot in peaceful Mount Vernon. Energy-efficient solar panels keep electric bills low low low. 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths & 2 half baths, over 2,600+ finished SF, 1 car garage & outdoor living spaces. Ready for you! **Christine Robinson 240.925.7100**  
[www.robinsonchristine.com](http://www.robinsonchristine.com)



**Groveton Woods | \$410,000**

Great location in sought after, partially gated, townhouse community. Featuring wide open floor plan with tons of natural light, new carpeting, gourmet kitchen with brand new appliances; 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, garage & private driveway. Commuter's dream! **Klanci Vanderhyde 703.919.4460**  
[www.KlanciVanderhyde.com](http://www.KlanciVanderhyde.com)



**Dawsons Landing | \$499,900**

Turn-key Colonial in Woodbridge on .40+ acre cul-de-sac lot backing to trees in tranquil Rippon Landing. Natural light & privacy, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, over 2,600+ finished SF, 2 car oversized garage, outdoor living + many upgrades. Close to VRE & shopping. **Christine Robinson 240.925.7100**  
[www.robinsonchristine.com](http://www.robinsonchristine.com)



**Old Town  
\$1,875,000**

Fabulous renovated 3-bedroom, 3.55-bath townhome offers exquisite interiors plus an elevator. Inviting great room with wet bar & gas fireplace, exciting chef's kitchen with Wolf appliances & custom cabinets. Luxurious master suite with spa-like bath. Private patio and 2-car garage parking.

**Babs Beckwith 703.627.5421**  
[www.BabsBeckwith.com](http://www.BabsBeckwith.com)



**Old Town  
\$1,198,000**

Early 19th century end townhome, expanded to almost double its original size includes 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, family room adjacent to the striking eat-in kitchen, hardwood floors and built-ins plus unique ambiance of Old Town. Wide deck leads to charming walled garden with brick patio.

**Ann Duff 703.965.8700**  
[www.AnnDuff.com](http://www.AnnDuff.com)



OPEN SUN 9/20, 2-4PM

**Alexandria  
\$410,000**

This is not your typical duplex! Cottage-style inside and out with 2 bedrooms, 2 full baths, open kitchen, dining & living spaces, and just remodeled basement. Special touches throughout: beadboard walls, pocket doors, screened-in porch and multi-season gardens. 2233 Roanoke Drive

**Jodie Burns 571.228.5790**  
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