



Hiding at the Top of the Ticket

Race for Senate features two-term incumbent versus first-time candidate.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

When Mark Warner ran for governor in 2001, opponents knocked him for wanting to be governor without having ever run for office before. Now, almost 20 years later, Warner is seeking a third term in the Senate. His Republican opponent in the race, Daniel Gade, has never held elected office before. And Gade's closing argument to voters as the campaign draws to a close is that they should reject Warner because he's a "career politician" who is little more than a partisan hack masquerading as a moderate.

"When he says he's going to work across the aisle, what we really see is him retreating into his partisan positions," said Gade in the third and final televised debate earlier this week. "He gets bipartisan only in an election year."

Warner rejects this line of argument. When questioned about his willingness to work across the aisle, Warner mentions prominent Republicans he's worked with in the Senate, including John McCain and Orrin Hatch. He also points to support from his predecessor in office, Republican Senator John Warner. During his first campaign for the Senate he positioned himself as a "radical centrist," an approach he continues to take 12 years later.

"Virginians know my record," says Warner. "They know my record as governor, when as a Democrat with a two-to-one Republican legislature, we made record investments and remained the best-managed state, best state for business and best state to receive a public education."

The race for Senate in Virginia is not on the national radar as a race to watch, and Republicans have not identified Warner as an incumbent who might be vulnerable. Polls



FILE PHOTO BY MIKE SALMON

Sen. Mark Warner at Belle Haven to talk about the Great American Outdoors Act.

show Warner consistently with a double-digit lead over Gade. The most recent poll is from Christopher Newport University, which shows Warner with a 17 point lead.

Despite the outsized lead, the airwaves have been buzzing with ads in the race — including spots on

something there. Why go negative unless you have to?" asked Quentin Kidd, director of the Wason Center for Public Policy at Christopher Newport University. "I have not thought of this race in any sense as being competitive, but I don't know why Warner would run a negative ad."

Six years ago, when Warner was campaigning for a second term in the Senate, he was running another race that few people identified as a race to watch. But in the final days of the campaign, Republican Ed Gillespie surged and came close to beating Warner in an upset. Warner ultimately prevailed, but the unexpectedly close margin in that race

gave Republicans hope they might be able to unseat him this year if they were able to find the right

broadcast television where Warner attacks Gade.

"That suggests to me that there's



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Republican candidate for Senate Daniel Gade lost a leg in combat in Iraq.

Mark Warner
raised: \$14 million
spent: \$5 million
cash on hand: \$9 million

Daniel Gade
raised: \$993,000
spent: \$768,000
cash on hand: \$225,000

"When he says he's going to work across the aisle, what we really see is him retreating into his partisan positions."

— Republican candidate Daniel Gade

candidate.

"This is beyond an uphill race for any Republican running, especially candidates who have never held elective office and have no name recognition," said David Ramadan, a former Republican member of the House of Delegates who is now at the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University. "Mark Warner wins this one with a landslide."

THE CANDIDATES have presented a contrast that's personal and political. Gade, 45, is a combat-wounded vet who now teaches at American University and lives in Mount Vernon. Warner, 65, is a resident of Old Town who made a fortune as a founder of Nextel before becoming state party chairman and launching a campaign for governor. On the campaign trail, they've disagreed on everything from the Affordable Care act to the

Trump administration's response to coronavirus and the vacancy on the United States Supreme Court. They've also admitted a few mistakes along the way. During a debate at Norfolk State University, Gade acknowledged that he probably shouldn't have said wearing a mask during the pandemic was what government overreach and tyranny feels like.

"In May of 2020, what you saw there was me at a sort of philosoph-
SEE HIDING AT THE TOP, PAGE 14



MY VISION IS 2020

Janet Caterson Price celebrates 25 years of service in the residential real estate industry, and each year she ranks among the top Northern Virginia agents. Honesty and integrity are her hallmarks. As a Penn State graduate, Janet is a proud Nittany Lion and brings the practical experience of small business ownership, attention to detail, and high-performance standards into every aspect of her practice. She is optimistic about the advancement of our housing market, particularly in Alexandria where values are rebounding at all price points. "Let me help you fulfill your dreams during these unsettling, yet opportunistic times."



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NEWS

Evelyn deLottinville

Local business leader dies at 64.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Evelyn deLottinville, vice president and branch manager at the Duke Street branch of United Bank, died Sept. 28 after a brief battle with leukemia. She was 64.

deLottinville was a founding member of the West End Business association and served on the organization's board for many years.

"Evelyn was very active in the business community and a leader among WEBA members," said Peter Baldwin, a past president of West End Business association. "She was well respected and well liked in business as well as in her personal life. Her death at such a young age is shocking and very sad."

Evelyn Ocampo deLottinville was born March 8, 1956, in Tarlac City in the Philippines. She immigrated to Hawaii in 1976, where she met her future husband, Army officer James deLottinville. The two married and together raised two sons. deLottinville settled in Northern Virginia following her husband's retirement from the military.

deLottinville was a prominent fixture in the Alexandria business



Evelyn Ocampo deLottinville, a vice president and branch manager for United Bank, died Sept. 28 after a brief battle with leukemia. She was 64.

community. Her support of countless charities and business events extended beyond the West End to organizations across the city.

"Evelyn was my very first and only personal banker," said Realtor Elizabeth Lucchesi. "She shared great hugs and experiential knowledge from being a mom, to a grandmom, to a woman in business who deeply cared for those around her. What a blessing Eve-

"[Evelyn's] death at such a young age is shocking and very sad."

— WEBA past president
Peter Baldwin

lyn was to the Lucchesi Family - we were made better because of her of care and trust."

In addition to her energetic spirit in the business community, deLottinville was known for her love of orchids and passion for playing Bunco.

"I first met Jim and Evelyn at Fort Leavenworth in 1989," said Jean Hoogland. "Evelyn was so helpful when we moved to the DC area. I started a Bunco group and Evelyn was one of the original members. I loved hearing her say Bunco! and she was always so proud of her husband and her boys. I will so miss her smile."

deLottinville is survived by her husband James, sons Jarrel and Eric, a daughter-in-law, two granddaughters, the Ocampo family and a vast network of friends. A memorial service was held Oct. 13

SEE EVELYN, PAGE 10



Evelyn deLottinville and her husband Jim during a trip to Stonehenge in Wiltshire, England.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



Evelyn deLottinville, right, with Diane Webster at a fundraiser at the USPTO in 2013. deLottinville was a founding member of the West Ends Business association.

PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Mary Moran Dies at 65

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Mary Moran, a longtime Alexandria resident who relocated in recent years to Leonardtown, Md., died Oct. 1 following a brief battle with pancreatic cancer. She was 65.

"Mom was an absolutely remarkable woman," said Patrick Moran. "It was difficult for her to reconcile her diagnosis. It happened so damn fast -- we are still trying to figure out this new normal."

Moran was diagnosed with cancer in March but continued working until her retirement in June as a Contracting Officer with the General Services Administration.

"Even after her initial diagnosis, she kept working and taking her classes at the University of Maryland," said Patrick Moran. "Mom always had an intense desire to learn and develop new skills. She was working on a PhD in communications and studying African American history. She made such

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Mary Moran died Oct. 1 of pancreatic cancer. She was 65.

an effort to live."

Mary Margellen Howard Moran was born May 4, 1955, in North Hollywood, Calif., to the late John Wayne "Jack" Howard and Gloria Ruth Parker Koehler. She was living in San Francisco prior to relocating to Alexandria in 1978.

Moran began her professional



Mary Moran, with son Patrick, holds 1-month old granddaughter Mariella earlier this summer.

"She had so many things to do -- when that was taken from her it was heartbreaking."

— Mary Moran's son
Patrick Moran

career with A.G. Edwards in Alexandria while earning a bachelor's degree and double master's degree from the University of Maryland.

She was an avid gardener and had a passion for history and genealogy, serving as Regent and Treasurer of the Major William Thomas Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

"Mom was most passionate about genealogy," Patrick Moran said. "She had an intense commit-

SEE MARY, PAGE 10

40 UNDER 40

Chamber to Honor Young Leaders Oct. 29

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

The Alexandria Chamber of Commerce will pay tribute to the city's young business and community leaders Oct. 29 at the fifth annual 40 Under 40 awards ceremony.

"Our 40 Under 40 program has provided

us with the chance to honor amazing up-and-coming individuals who are doing fantastic things in our community, and this 2020 class is no exception," said Chamber CEO Joe Haggerty. The program will highlight each individual and his or her impact on the Alexandria community. The event will involve virtual attendance with an in-person presence from only the honorees.

The 2020 Honorees include: Andres Acosta II; Canek Aguirre; Chelsea Anderson; Chris Arnold; Allen Carrington Brooks; Virginia Bush; Jessica Du Bois; Andrew D. Garrahan; Shawna Gary; Marcy Giannunzio; Ariana Gordillo; Adrienne Griffith; Gresham W. Harkless Jr.; Amanda Hayes Rudolph; Beth Inglis; Grant Alan Joiner; Lisa Kiefer; Dr. Rachel Lazarus; Helen Lee; Garrett McGuire; Catherine Miller;

Katelin T. Moomau; Jeremy Ryan Moss; Courtney Overton; Clinton Page; Sarah Phillips; Emma Quinn; Megan Ritter Judt; Sam Silverlieb; Josh Simon; Christopher Suarez; Natalie Ivana Talis; John Taylor III; Daniel Teka; Nathan Toews; Marisa Tordella; Steven E. Ulrich; Adrianna Vallario; Dr. Joshua W. Walker; and Kayla Yingst. For tickets or more information, visit www.thechamberalx.com.



Andrés Acosta II, Support & Intervention Specialist at TC Williams High School



Canek Aguirre, Councilman at City of Alexandria



Chelsea Anderson, Director of Marketing and Communications at HomeGrown Restaurant Group



Chris Arnold, Deputy Director, Academy & Futsal at Alexandria Soccer Association



Allen Carrington Brooks, Chief Operating Officer at Building Momentum



Virginia Bush, Project Manager at Association of American Medical Colleges



Jessica Du Bois, Employee Benefits Advisor at Business Benefits Group



Andrew D. Garrahan, Associate at Covington & Burling LLP

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



Shawna Gary, Eligibility Worker at Arlington County Government



Marcy Giannunzio, Principal at DIAG Studios, PLLC



Ariana Gordillo, Director of Strategic Initiatives at National Association of Free & Charitable Clinics



Adrienne Griffith, Director, Marketing & Communications at Alexandria Economic Development Partnership



Gresham W. Harkless Jr., Owner at Blue 16 Media



Amanda Hayes Rudolph, Associate Attorney at Redmon, Peyton & Braswell, LLP



Beth Inglis, Managing Partner/Owner at Preting, LLC



Grant Alan Joiner, VP – Branch Manager at Charles Schwab



Lisa Kiefer, President and CEO at Sightline Strategy



Rachel Lazarus, Neuroscientist at AARP



Helen Lee, Environmental Program Manager at City of Alexandria



Garrett McGuire, Regional Director, External & Legislative Affairs at AT&T



Catherine Miller, Integrative Healing Practitioner at Four Directions Wellness



Katelin Moomau, Partner at Family First Law Group



Jeremy Ryan Moss, Vice President of Investments at Bonaventure



Courtney Overton, Owner & Founder at Speech of Cake, Inc.



Clinton Page, Chief Accountability Officer at Alexandria City Public Schools



Sarah Phillips, Editor & Owner at The Scout Guide



Emma Quinn, Events & Marketing Manager at Port City Brewing Company



Megan Ritter Judt, Development Manager at National Council for Adoption



Sam Silverlieb, Partner at McChrystal Group



Josh Simon, President of Lee & Associates



Christopher Suarez, School Board Member at Alexandria City Public Schools



Natalie Ivana Talis, Population Health Manager at Alexandria Health Department



John Taylor, General Manager at Alexandria Toyota



Daniel Teka, Director of Supply Chain at Inova Alexandria Hospital



Nathan Toews, Director of Meal Programs at Senior Services of Alexandria



Marisa Tordella, Director of Development at Friends of Guest House



Steven Ulrich, Financial Planner at Cassaday & Company, Inc.



Adrianna Vallario, Realtor at McEneaney Associates



Dr. Joshua William Walker, President and CEO at Japan Society



Kayla Yingst, Communications Programming Specialist at Alexandria Renew Enterprises

NEWS

Virtual Beauregard Design Meeting

The Beauregard Design Advisory Committee (BDAC) will hold a virtual meeting on Monday, Oct. 26 from 7-9 p.m. to discuss architecture and plans for Phase 1 development of the multi-parcel Upland Park site located near the northeast corner of Seminary Road and North Beauregard Street.

Phase 1 (DSUP#2019-0017) consists of townhomes, a new park and associated site improvements.

The primary topic of discussion for the project will include revised townhouse architecture. The meeting will utilize a live discussion format, Committee members will engage with the applicants of the design team to discuss the applicant's approach. Staff and the applicant will be available to answer questions from the community during the online forum.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic emergency, the meeting will be held electronically. All of the members of the Board, staff, and applicant team are participating from remote locations through a Zoom Meeting. The meeting can be accessed by the public through:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_1PPArZhFSDqGM-jPn_i3IA

Dial-in: 301.715.8592

Webinar ID: 926 5046 8325

Password: 320428

Public comment can be emailed to staff through Nov. 2 by emailing William.Cook@alexandriava.gov.

A video recording of the meeting will be available on the BDAC website after the meeting.

The purpose of the BDAC is to review applications for preliminary development plan special use permit approval within the Beauregard Small Area Plan for compliance with respective urban design guidelines or standards and make recommendations on such applications to the Planning Commission and City Council through the Director of Planning and Zoning.

For meeting materials and further information, visit the project website <https://www.alexandriava.gov/beauregard/default.aspx?id=74981> or contact William Cook, Urban Planner at William.Cook@alexandriava.gov.

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Alexandria School Board Must Vote to Get Police Out of Schools

BY ABENAA BUABENG

All children deserve to go to school and feel safe and supported. During a regular school year, we all ride the bus, walk, or carpool to school and spend the day filing in and out of different classrooms, joking with our friends in the hallways, imagining what we'll end up doing on the weekend. However, as Black and brown children, our school days also involve the anxiety and fear that we are being carefully watched. A fear that follows us from our communities to our schools.

As soon as we arrive, we see the cop cars parked in the parking lots. We don't feel safe. We are constantly nervous that any little mistake we make will be the reason we are confronted and deemed criminals by the police officers monitoring the halls of our school, a place that's supposed to take care of us and nourish our minds. This is why "getting to know" the officers in our schools isn't the solution -- if they don't make us safe in our neighborhoods, why would they make us feel safe in our schools?

Since the Black Lives Matter movement came back to the na-

tion's attention this summer, students and community members across the country have been fighting for police-free schools so that students like me are able to prosper and grow without the looming threat of violence and incarceration.

I am a youth organizer with Tenants and Workers United, and we've been fighting to improve the conditions in our school system. We've listened to each others' stories and come to the conclusion that most of us feel unsafe and uncomfortable in our learning environments because the presence of School Resource Officers weighs so heavily on our minds. We feel we can't move through our schools freely without SROs assuming we are up to no good.

We've experienced situations where officers pull students out of class for being distracted, but isn't an armed officer physically handling one of our classmates and taking them away more disruptive to our academic success and mental health?

Some of us even attended George Washington Middle School when the SRO on site accidentally discharged a weapon inside our school, a mistake that can easily

endanger someone in stressful situations.

The fact that they are armed in the first place is very disturbing to us. We know for a fact that SROs are only required to have two months of training, yet we are supposed to trust our lives in their hands? This is why we, as youth of color, feel it is important to speak out about this issue that is directly affecting us.

We have spoken to school board members, city council members, our superintendent and even Mayor Wilson.

We've researched and found that youth of color are suspended from schools at disproportionately higher levels compared to our white classmates, which often leads to involving the police. For example, in the 2017-2018 school year, 18% of out-of-school suspensions involved law enforcement referrals. Because of these numbers, we've fought to implement restorative justice practices as alternatives to suspensions that would give us the opportunity to be heard, understood, and given chances to grow instead of being pushed into the school-to-prison pipeline. However, it makes no sense for us to have to ask for more resources

and funding for restorative justice practices, when SROs will continue to criminalize us.

This is why we fully believe that the only way the school board will ensure Black and brown youth are given a chance to a healthy, successful academic career will be by ending the school-to-prison pipeline by voting to not partner with Alexandria Police.

If ACPS really wants to create and maintain safe and healthy schools, they should invest in proper training for our counselors, social workers, and teachers and provide other resources that actually effectively nurture our lives. Renewing or only slightly changing the contract with Alexandria police will only continue the harm already being done to youth of color like ourselves. The ACPS school board has the power to end their contract with Alexandria Police and they should, because our schools should be for education not criminalization. Fund our futures, not our trauma.

Abenaa Buabeng is a youth organizer with Tenants and Workers United, an organization that builds power in low-income, immigrant communities of color to improve the quality of lives in Northern Virginia.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Police in ACPC Harms Students, Especially Black And Brown Students and Students with Disabilities

A July 3 Gazette-Packet article entitled "Reconsidering Police in Schools in Alexandria" tapped into the growing demands of activist groups, the American Civil Liberties Union of Virginia, and ACPS students to remove police from our schools. Since then, community members have urged the School Board to end the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Alexandria Police Department through a Board-originated survey and through a public hearing which occurred on Oct. 1.

Results of the survey -- which failed to even present the option of ending

the MOU -- showed that of the 81 respondents, 40 mentioned removing police or school resource officers from ACPS (another 16 respondents expressed that revisions to the MOU were needed). At the hearing, all 20 speakers, including students, parents, and representatives from Tenants and Workers United, Alexandria NAACP, and Grassroots Alexandria, explained how the presence of police officers harms our students, especially Black and brown students and stu-

dents with disabilities.

This year, The American Federation of Teachers, one of the country's largest teachers' unions, passed a resolution calling for the separation of school safety and policing. School systems across the country, in ending or phasing out police presence, have come to the realization that police do not make

our schools safer; rather, they contribute to the school-to-prison pipeline, violate students' rights, and create a hostile learning environment. Alexandria is not immune from the challenges facing the rest of the country, and that includes the harms posed by police in schools. Some School Board members are not yet convinced

that renewing the MOU will be detrimental to our community.

Concerned readers should make their voices heard on this issue by writing to the Board at board@acps.k12.va.us before they make their final decision on Oct. 29.

Shira Eller
Grassroots Alexandria

Does Changing the Names Violate Free Speech?

Public edifices typically acquire their names at their time of construction. The names chosen represent the views and values of those responsible for designing, building, and for the most part funding these projects. They do not -- and need not -- represent our views today because they -- not we -- erected these edifices. By our changing these names now, we imply that we are the ones responsible for what others have done. Future students too young to know the previous names would, increasingly over time, associate the new names with the existing edifices, a sort of false witness against the generations responsible for their

construction.

These edifices are legacies of their times, so their names should be likewise. To change their names now, so long after these buildings were constructed, implies that these buildings are something they are not. A new edifice will take the place of the MacArthur School, so it would be appropriate to rename the building once we have built a new one, but so long as the current buildings housing T.C. Williams High School and Matthew Maury Elementary School stand, they should keep their names because to change the names now, without changing the entities to which the names are attached, is a form of ex

post facto law which the U.S. Constitution forbids.

History is whole. We receive it as it was, with both its achievements and its demerits. And the history which we make, we will pass on with both its achievements and its demerits. We will not have labored to erect and fund edifices honoring those we regard highly, for future generations to second-guess us and rename them, because these edifices and the names we attach to them are our message to the future. The future is not obligated to agree with our message, but neither should it censor it because censorship violates the spirit of

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Giving Back to the Youth: Joyce Casey Sanchez

BY CHAR MCCARGO BAH
GAZETTE PACKET

Mrs. Joyce Casey Sanchez is an 87-year old who lives in the Seminary area of Alexandria, Va. A third generation Alexandrian, she grew up in a close-knit community in Seminary where neighbors cared for one another. It was a time when neighbors would discipline the children in the community when the youth stepped out of line. The parents of those children did not question the authority of community members as surrogate parents. Joyce and her three siblings grew up under the watchful eyes of their mother, grandfather and relatives. Her elders were determined that she and her siblings would stay on the right track. With the support of her family, Joyce excelled in high school and in college.

THE OTHER ALEXANDRIA

She received her Masters in Education from American University and a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from West Virginia State College. She graduated with honors from Parker-Gray High School in 1950. After earning her degrees, she continued her studies at several universities and colleges to enhance her knowledge in her chosen career. She travelled to Japan, China and other countries to observe their educational system. With the support of her husband, Raymond, she worked most of her life as a special needs teacher and a special education administrator. She became a community leader through her memberships with the United Way (formerly known as Community Chest), Alexandria Branch of the NAACP and a Girl Scout leader and camper for Troop 235. In those organizations, she led and initiated the Annie B. Rose Educational Scholarship that awarded \$1,000 to graduating seniors at T.C. Williams.

She used her membership in the Women of the Y to help the youth. She was selected to serve on a task force that conducted a study on the Juvenile Justice System in Alexandria. The task force made recommendations on how to improve the Juvenile Justice System. As a charter member of the Alexandria Mount Vernon Chapter of Jack and Jill, Inc., she was successful in helping African American children in their academic and cultural growth.

Though she worked full time, and did community services, she was also a mother of five children.

Her husband was a career military man, who spent 20 years on active duty and 4 years in the reserves. While stationed at different places with her husband, she gave birth to five children in five different places.



Her first child was born in Virginia, second child was born in France, the third child was born in Illinois, the fourth one was born in New Mexico and the last one was born in Texas.

Prior to becoming a widow, she was a volunteer with Fort Ward Descendants' Committee. That group worked with the City of Alexandria to interpret the history of Fort Ward. The group put up historical signs that revealed the African American contributions to Fort Ward and the Seminary area.

Mrs. Sanchez is currently working on a brief historical sketch of the families she grew up with in the Fort Ward and Seminary area, so their stories and history will be available for future generations.

Mrs. Joyce Casey Sanchez had an exciting career and life. She spent her entire adult life giving the youth the same opportunities that she had growing up in the Seminary area.

She is still making a difference.

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>.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 6

free speech in our Bill of Rights.

In both a lifetime and a decades-long working career, individuals will experience and even cause hundreds of "microaggressions." Rather than insulating students from them, education should be preparing them for lives filled with microaggressions. The very fact that they are "micro" means they are, and should be treated as, de minimis, instead of being exaggerated to where they become debilitating. Long enough to be in Latin is the legal dictum, "De minimis non curat lex", establishing the due process principle to ignore such trifles. The school board is obligated by its members' oath of of-

lice to honor these Constitutional principles -- not to override them with the politically correct sentiment du jour.

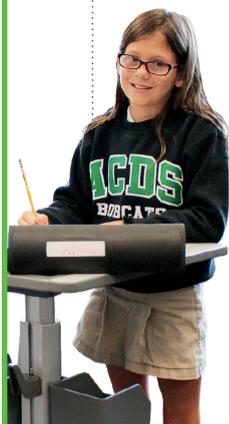
Dino Drudi
Alexandria

Taking a Bite Out of Alexandria's Historic District

To the editor:
The Southwest Quadrant of the Old and Historic District is under serious assault. Asland Capital Management intends to build

three 7-story buildings filling the blocks along Alfred Street from Wolfe Street to Gibbon Street and in most of the block at Wilkes and Columbus Streets. That's just the beginning: our city is planning to extend those behemoths along Patrick Street all the way past Franklin Street. The plan is to demolish all of the current garden apartments and green space and build sidewalk to sidewalk. This means the loss of the entire tree canopy of largely oak trees, most of which are 30 to 60 feet tall, and eliminating almost all green space, gathering spaces and dog park. It is unbelievable that these massive buildings that mimic low-cost of-

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Campagna Center president and CEO Tammy Mann is honored as the Business Leader of the Year at the Oct. 1 Chamber of Commerce 2020 Best in Business Awards.



Elizabeth Chisman Moon and Page Moon of Focus Data Solutions were honored as Medium Business of the Year at the Oct. 1 Chamber of Commerce Best in Business Awards.

PHOTOS BY JASON DIXON PHOTOGRAPHY

Best in Business

INOVA Alexandria tops 2020 honorees.



Dr. Rina Bansal and INOVA Alexandria Hospital were honored as Overall Business of the Year at the Oct. 1 2020 Best in Business Awards.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Campagna Center president and CEO Tammy Mann was honored by the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce as the Business Leader of the Year at the Oct. 1, 2020 Best in Business Awards. The hybrid ceremony celebrated INOVA Alexandria Hospital as the Overall Business of the Year.

“While our Best in Business Awards may look a little different this year, our goal remains the same: to honor and celebrate the businesses that make Alexandria the best place to work and live,” said Chamber president and CEO Joe Haggerty.

The ceremony was attended virtually by supporters and guests with honorees gathering in person with social distancing protocols in place.

The 2020 Best in Business honorees include: Business Leader of the Year - Tammy Mann of The Campagna Center; Rising Star - Del Ray Psych & Wellness; Nonprofit/Association - Volunteer Alexandria; Small Business of the Year - Mekanik; Medium Business of the Year - Focus Data Solutions; Large Business of the Year - Bonaventure; Overall Business of the Year - INOVA Alexandria Hospital. www.thechamberalx.com

CALENDAR

STARTING OCT. 3

Art on the Avenue. The 25th Annual Art on the Avenue festival will move to a virtual format for 2020, launching on Saturday, October 3 and running through the holidays. Over 150 artists will be featured, offering handmade items in a wide range of mediums, including wheel-thrown vases and bowls, tiles, sculpture, tote bags and purses, drawings and pastels, knitted and crocheted hats and gloves, woven scarves and shawls, gourmet food, fused and blown glass, jewelry, paintings, photography, and much more. Traditionally held each fall on Mount Vernon Avenue, Art on the Avenue is a multicultural arts festival that strives to reflect the vibrant mix of the Del Ray community through the artists and their work, and draws an estimated 75,000 visitors each year. Visit www.artontheavenue.org.

NOW THRU NOV 1

Art by Mail II. The “Art by Mail II” The exhibit features the artwork of Del Ray Artisans members. You’ll find one-of-a-kind, small format, original paintings in watercolor, oil, and acrylic; mixed media art and artful cards; plus, small 3D works. Enjoy browsing the collection. Artwork will be mailed directly from the artist within 10 days of purchase. Purchases are mailed directly to you. Enjoy the exhibit at www.DelRayArtisans.org/artbymail.

OCT. 1-31

Autumn’s Palette. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. At Gallery Underground, 2120 Crystal Drive, Arlington. Gallery Underground presents Autumn’s Palette: Art for the Season, an all-member show featuring themes and colors of fall including painting, ceramics, mixed media, glass, wood and metal work. Visit the website: <https://www.galleryunderground.org>

OCT. 2-31

Mini World Exhibit. At Del Ray Artisans gallery in the Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. The “Living in a Mini World” exhibit at Del Ray Artisans gallery features art smaller than a magazine. Paintings, 3d works, lots of different jewelry. Visit <http://www.delrayartisans.org/event/mini-world/> Gallery hours are Thursday & Friday 12-6 p.m., Saturday 12-4 p.m. The gallery is free, open to the public, and accessible.

THURSDAY/OCT. 15

The Business of Acting. 7 p.m. At Signature Theatre, Arlington. After selling out the first two sessions, Signature brings back the popular Business of Acting masterclass. Signature’s Resident Casting Director Kelly D’Amboise and Casting and Executive Coordinator Jorge Acevedo teach you the business end

of how to become a professional actor. Covering everything from headshots to auditioning, branding, becoming an Actors’ Equity member, and rehearsal and performance etiquette, this class is made for those looking to break into the field. Visit www.sigtheatre.org.

SATURDAY/OCT 17

25th Annual Art Safari. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Online. Presented by the Torpedo Factory Art Center. Professional artists lead a series of creative hands-on projects via Facebook Live (facebook.com/torpedofactory). Children can learn to create their own works of art like pinch pots with clay, origami butterflies, marbled paper, and more. The online sessions will feature live sessions, pre-recorded demonstrations, as well as downloadable content to create at home. Projects are tailored for kids aged 5–12 to do together with their families. Everyone should dress to get a little messy. Visit <http://torpedofactory.org/artsafari>

MONDAY/OCT. 19

Nature Drawing Class. 4-5:30 p.m. At Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd., Alexandria. What better way to learn about nature drawing than on the nature trails at Huntley Meadows Park? Join local naturalist and artist Margaret Wohler on woodland and wetland trails to learn about and draw the plants and animals that live at Huntley Meadows. This series of classes will focus on basic drawing skills, color theory, perspective, shading, gesture, contour and realistic rendering. The emphasis is on experience over product. All supplies are included. This program for adults begins on Monday, Oct. 19, 2020, and runs for five weeks. The cost is \$82 per person. Call 703-768-2525.

SUNDAY/OCT. 25

Nature Trivet Workshop. 2-4 p.m. At River Farm, 7931 East Boulevard Drive, Alexandria. The colors in your garden may have faded, but its beauty can live on. Preserve a piece of your garden (or River Farm’s) by creating a pair of ceramic trivets with impressions of flowers, leaves, stems, or seed pods. Heather Lezla of Persimmon Street Ceramics will demonstrate the process of hand-cut tile making from start to finish. Texturize and personalize your trivets with impressions of natural materials. Finally, choose from a selection of fall-inspired food safe glazes for finishing. Heather will finish the process of firing and glazing your pieces in her home studio. Pieces will be returned to AHS two weeks later for pick up (or can be wrapped and shipped for a \$10 fee). Your pair of 5 1/2 inch trivets will be ready for use as hot pads or deco-

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 9

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 8

rative tiles. Cost: AHS members \$80; non-members \$90. Visit the website: <https://connect.ahsgardening.org/river-farm-events/2020/nature-trivet-workshop---non-member>.

SUNDAY/OCT. 25

Death (& Mystery) at the City Hotel -- American Graffiti: A Mystery in History Guided Investigation. 7-8:30 p.m. Via Zoom. If you found something old and mysterious in your attic, how would you begin to unravel its tale? Join staff as they study the puzzle of Civil War era graffiti on the attic walls of Gadsby's Tavern Museum. The night begins with the telling of the tragic stories of two Civil War soldiers who died in the building. Against this backdrop, participants will go (virtually) behind-the-scenes to follow the evidence in search of the story behind the perplexing prose artfully inscribed upon the attic walls. This program is sponsored by Gadsby's Tavern Museum, part of the Office of Historic Alexandria. Tickets are \$8. Guests will receive an email with the Zoom meeting link, Meeting ID, and password by noon the day prior to the event.

NOV. 6-28

"Women's Right to Vote: 100 Years Since the 19th Amendment" exhibit (November 6-28) features artwork by Del Ray Artisans, local high school students and 2020 graduates; and celebrates the achievements of women over the past 100 years. The movement towards equality in America con-

tinues today. Lift your voice and vote. Opening Day Appointments: Friday, November 6, 12-8 p.m. View exhibit at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. Details: www.DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits

THE BIRCHMERE

The Birchmere in Alexandria is reopening with limited capacity. During the public health emergency, there will be a \$25 food and beverage minimum and a \$5 Covid fee. There will be no bar service and no gathering in the stage or bar areas. Customers will be escorted to their seats, and those without reserved seats will be seated by staff to ensure social distancing.

Schedule of Shows:

Friday, Oct. 16 -- Double Vision -- The Foreigner Experience

Saturday, Oct. 17 -- Huggy Lowdown with Chris Paul & Friends

Mon/Tue. Oct. 19-20: Samantha Fish (10/19 is Sold Out! Second Night Added!)

Thursday, Oct. 22-23: Drew Lynch (Two Nights!)

Saturday, Oct. 24: Free Flowing Musical Experience

Sunday, Oct. 25: Tom Paxton & John McCutcheon

Mon/Tue. Oct. 26-27: The Allman Betts Band

Wednesday/Oct. 28 -- The Wild Feathers

Fri/Sat. Oct. 30-31: Marty Stuart -Solo- (Two Nights!)

The venue is located at 3701 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. All shows at 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall. Visit the Birchmere's website: <http://www.birchmere.com/>

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 7

office buildings and would tower over their surroundings, mostly 2-story townhomes, are being considered in the historic district. Asland Capital hopes to build these massive structures as the solution to Alexandria's need for affordable housing. The claim is that they have to build three market rate units for every affordable unit to make a profit. However, HUD reimburses them for the difference between market rate and the rate affordable residents pay so there's no loss to Asland. They also believe they should be exempt from the height, open space and setback limits promised in the South Patrick Street Affordable Housing Strategy and the Small Area Plan for the Southwest Quadrant for the historic district.

The Strategy and the Small Area Plan require "the residential character of the neighborhood be maintained and protected and all new residential and commercial projects should provide open space and recreation opportunities."

The Asland design has made no attempt to abide by this requirement or to fit into the rhythm and scale of its surroundings. Its height, mass and architecture look like office buildings and their design of impervious blocks will increase stormwater runoff. Demolishing the trees and reducing the setbacks, where in some cases buildings are 6 feet from the property line, will change the environment and visually degrade the neighborhood. The need for affordable housing is real, but it can be provided without destroying the neighborhood and the environment.

So far, the Board of Architectural Review (BAR) made a decision to approve the demolition and clearing of the sites but surrounding homeowners and the Alexandria Civic Association have appealed that decision to the City Council. The Council has agreed to hold a public hearing to consider the appeal on Saturday, Oct. 17, at 9:30 a.m. Additionally, BAR will hold a hearing to review the latest Asland concept on Oct. 21, at 7 p.m. Both meetings will be in Zoom format.

Kay and Chris Morell
Alexandria

Let Us Know Your View

Connection Newspapers welcomes views on any public issue. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers; we will only print your name and town name. Letters are routinely edited for length, libel, grammar, good taste, civility and factual errors.

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PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Evelyn deLottinville, shown here holding one of her grandchildren, died Sept. 28 at the age of 64

Evelyn deLottinville

FROM PAGE 3

at St. Bernadette's Catholic Church in Springfield. Memorial contributions may be made to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society at www.lls.org.

"On behalf of Evelyn's many friends at the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce, we will miss her generosity of spirit, her

willingness to help friends and business owners who sought her opinion, and her limitless kindness and patience," said Chamber of Commerce president and CEO Joe Haggerty. "She was viewed by all as everybody's friend. We will miss her dearly."

Mary Moran Dies at 65

FROM PAGE 3

ment and love for the connections she gained through genealogy.

She loved digging in deep into the occupation and travels of the lives she uncovered. Every time she made a new discovery there was this childlike excitement – like she had discovered an old friend."

Moran had descendants in the Mayflower colonists, patriots of the American Revolution and Union Army Civil War Veterans and was a member of many Historical Societies.

"Amidst everything, mom still kept up her nonstop efforts to make plans," said Patrick Moran. "She was constantly thinking of ways to make things better, find avenues to explore. She was extremely healthy and had every belief she would live to 120. She had so many things to do -- when that was taken from her it was heartbreaking."

Moran was married twice, including a second marriage to former Virginia Congressman Jim Moran. She was a mother of three and shared the last seven years with her partner Michael Hallett.

"Mom had a strong faith," Patrick

Moran said. "Her house was always full of Proverbs that served to remind her – and now us – of that faith, which gave her enormous peace even as the cancer started to win and left her with a short amount of time."

Moran is survived by her children, Patrick Moran of Alexandria, Dorothy Moran of Leonardtown, Md., Michael Howard of Corpus Christi, Texas; her grandchildren, Mariella Moran of Alexandria, Keira Howard, of Corpus Christi, and Kortlynn Jo Howard, of Corpus Christi; her sister, Laurie Kuwazaki, of Wasilla, Ark.; and her partner, Michael Hallett. She was preceded in death by her parents. A memorial service was held Oct. 9 at Brinsfield Funeral Home in Leonardtown with interment at Charles Memorial Gardens. Donations in Moran's memory can be made to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation Oyster Project at www.cbf.org.

"My mother was a true force of nature and unbelievable fighter," Patrick Moran added. "Her strength, her desire to always learn, her strong moral compass – she put so much effort into making magical memories for her family. I am so proud to call her 'Mom.'"



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

ACPS has been handing out hundreds of books to students to encourage time off screens and on to pages instead.

Getting Books Into the Hands of Students During the Pandemic

At Patrick Henry K-8 School this month, principal Ingrid Bynam joined Middle School Literacy Coach Kelly Miller, Elementary School Interventionist Michelle Hogan and Assistant Principal Andaiye Cammon for a drive-by handout to middle school students.

Books to support the curriculum as well as pleasure reading were handed over to students and families.

Feedback has been so positive that Ms. Miller now plans to set up virtual book clubs for students to participate in.

"We just really felt it was important for students to have books at home to read during the pandemic and to get physical books into the hands of students," said Ms. Miller who has even delivered a couple of books to students at home. "It's important to get away from screens for a while and curl up with a good book."

She added, "We've had a great response. I've had many emails from students saying they can't put the books down which is wonderful to hear."

Books were selected to ensure the diversity of the student population was reflected in the titles.

"We wanted our students to recognize

themselves in the characters they were reading about," explained Ms. Bynum.

Thanks to a \$1,500 grant from First Book, each student was able to select up to three books for pleasure reading. The 30 young adult titles included, "How Not to Disappear" by Clare Furniss, "Two Roads from Here" by Teddy Steinkellner and "See All the Stars" by Kit Frick.

Librarians from James K. Polk Elementary School and Ferdinand T. Day Elementary School also had a selection of books to offer younger family members.

Sixth grade Francis C. Hammond Middle School Student Genesis Pineda Alvarez swung by with her family and picked out "I Have Lost My Way" by Jacqueline Woodson.

She said, "Reading helps people to stay calm and it's nice to get off technology for a while." "We are trying to make e-books more accessible but there's nothing like having a real book in your hands that you can make a physical connection with," she said.

All ACPS students in PreK-5 are invited to dress up as their favorite book character next Monday and come along to Patrick Henry Elementary School where even more free books will be available for collection between 9 a.m. and 12 p.m.



On Monday, T.C. Williams High School library, media and instructional specialist, helped to coordinate the giveaway.



On Monday, T.C. Williams High School library staff greeted students in the rain as they distributed 900 new books to ninth-twelfth graders.

Performing Arts School Students to Perform In Broadway On Demand and Outdoor Cabaret

Metropolitan School of the Arts (MSA) in Alexandria, Va. is hosting two free, October performing arts virtual events, Fri., Oct. 23 and Sat., Oct. 24. On Fri., Oct. 23 at 3:30 PM, MSA Academy students will perform a live, outdoor cabaret at the Lee District RECenter Amphitheatre in Alexandria, Va. that can be viewed by the public virtually on the MSA Facebook page the following week.

MSA Academy students will also present their pre-recorded One-Act Play, "4 A.M. — Stay-At-Home Edition," by Jonathon Dorf on Sat., Oct. 24 at 8 p.m., streamed on Broadway On Demand at <https://www.broadwayondemand.com/not-live/XgRAvIQxoJcU-4am-the-stay-at-home-edition-metropolitan-school-of-the-arts?channel=live-productions>.

Go to metropolitanarts.org/support on how to donate to these free performances.

"As performers, we want to perform, so we will continue to bring the arts safely to our community when and how we can through this time of COVID restrictions," said Melissa Dobbs, founder of Metropolitan School of the Arts. "The arts are essential to providing us much needed respite, entertainment, joy and humor," said Dobbs.

The One-Act Play "4 AM – Stay-at-Home Edition" is directed by



Metropolitan School the Arts students in Alexandria, train for virtual shows. The Academy began hybrid school in the fall, socially distanced, donning masks.

Metropolitan School of the Arts Hosts October Virtual Performing Arts Events, Oct. 23 and Oct. 24 with No Cost.

MSA's Studio Acting Department and MetroiMprov Artistic Director, Kirsten Noetzel.

The MSA Outdoor Cabaret is a 70-minute, fast-paced show supported by a band consisting of: MSA Academy Postgraduate Program Director, Tom Pedersen; pia-

nist and conductor, John Henderson from Bethesda, Md.; drummer, Danny Vilanueva of College Park, Md.; and guitarist, Larry France, Jr. of South Riding, Va.

MSA will also be part of the Alexandria Arts Alliance in partnership with ACT for Alexandria, an

online fundraiser for the arts.

The event will be streamed on Sat evening, Oct. 24.

Proceeds will benefit arts organizations and artists based in Alexandria. The event will include video vignettes from artists and arts organizations from around the

city and special appearances from local celebrities, supporters and politicians.

Go to <http://www.alexandriaartsalliance.org/act-4-artsalx.html> to support MSA.

As a non-profit school, MSA relies on general donations and corporate fundraising to maintain and keep its Academy and studio operating with exceptional instructors, programs and a quality education. Since COVID has limited social performances, MSA has experienced a significant revenue loss.

The Academy at Metropolitan School of the Arts is a college preparatory performing arts school for emerging young artists, grades 7 to 12 and high school graduates seeking performing arts gap year programs, who are dedicated to a rigorous academic experience in a pre-professional performing arts conservatory environment.

Their cross-curricular approach to arts training fills each young artist's toolbox with the dance, music and acting skills necessary to be a triple threat in the arts world. Metropolitan School of the Arts approach to education is designed to develop independent, self-motivated and skilled learners. The school offers a post-high school graduate program as well, for those students who desire an extra year to prepare for admittance into a performing arts university.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/OCT. 15

Alexandria Mobility Plan Townhall. 6-8 p.m. Virtual Online. The Alexandria Mobility Plan (AMP), a strategic update to the City's 2008 Transportation Master Plan, will guide decision-making and outline priority strategies to ensure that transportation in the City continues to serve the needs of residents, businesses, and visitors as the region grows and new technology adds to the ways we get around. Register for the townhall meeting at alexandriava.gov/MobilityPlan. Visit the website: <https://www.alexandriava.gov/MobilityPlan>

THURSDAY/OCT. 15

Fall Garden Tour and Tea. 1-3 p.m. At Green Springs Gardens, Alexandria. 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.

OCT. 16, 23, 30 AND 31

Death Comes to Carlyle House. 6-8 p.m., on the hour. Cost is \$10 a person. At Carlyle House in Alexandria. In September 1780, John Carlyle passed away and the family would have gone into mourning. Join us for an evening tour of the house to learn about death and mourning in the 18th century. Tours will be led through the house at 6 p.m., 7 p.m., and 8 p.m. Reservations are required as space is limited.

FRIDAY/OCT. 16

Garden Talk: Composting Made Simple. 1:30-2:30 p.m. At Green Springs Gardens, Alexandria. (16-Adult) Instead of dragging your kitchen, garden and yard waste out to the curb week after week, learn how to use it to make your own valuable compost to use

throughout your yard and garden. Extension Master Gardeners show what you need to do to have your own compost pile. \$10 per person. Register online at www.fairfax-county.gov/parks/parktakes (code 844.7562) or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173.

SATURDAY/OCT. 17

Tell Me Your Name. 11 a.m. At Carlyle House in Alexandria. Cost is \$10. Join Carlyle House Historic Park staff for a tour focusing on the experiences of the enslaved community at Carlyle House and his plantations. The guided tour will explore the historical context of slavery in 18th century Alexandria and the importance of ongoing research efforts to connect with descendants. Reservations are required as space is limited.

SATURDAY/OCT. 17

Garden Tour: Green Spring Up and Down. 10-11:30 a.m. At Green Springs Gardens, Alexandria. (Adults) Extension Master Gardener docents lead a special grand tour of Green Spring. View some upper demonstration gardens, then

take the garden path less travelled to explore the naturalistic lower garden areas: the Virginia Native Plant Garden, woodland stream valley and ponds. Complete the tour with refreshments at the pond gazebo. Tour involves a steep slope with loose gravel. \$15 per person. Register online at www.fairfax-county.gov/parks/parktakes (code 8A0.3FB8) or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173

SUNDAY/OCT. 18

Tea Program: Fifty Years in Women's Lives. 1-3 p.m. At Green Springs Gardens, Alexandria. (Adult) Consider how the past 50 years have transformed women's lives. Discover things that women could not do before 1970 and reflect on an astonishingly fast-paced liberation that continues today. Hear about the remarkable woman whose donation 50 years ago made Green Spring Gardens possible. \$36 (program & tea); \$15 (program only).

SUNDAY/OCT. 18

Kokedama Workshop. 2-4 p.m. At River Farm, 7931 East Boulevard Drive, Alexandria. Kokedama,

the art of growing plants in a moss-covered ball of soil, is quickly becoming one of the hottest natural decorating trends in the country. However, it has been practiced for centuries in Japan. Learn how to make these botanical works of art with Amy Eggers, local floral designer and plant stylist from FLORA

Roots & Stems. Members of American Horticultural Society \$60; non-members \$70. Visit the website: <https://connect.ahsgardening.org/river-farm-events/2020/kokedama-workshop---non-members>

TUESDAY/OCT. 20

Early Jamestown Women. 1-2:30 p.m. Zoom online network -- Mount Vernon Genealogical Society monthly meeting. Curator Kate Egner Gruber will speak about women's lives and roles in early Virginia. Email registration by October 16 to contact-us@mvgenealogy.org.

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 14

Home Library Design

Designers offer ideas for spaces with style and comfort.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
GAZETTE PACKET

Once thought of as space for academics to smoke cigars and sip whiskey, the era of covid-19 has transformed home libraries into now cozy places of refuge. Those who've grown tired of Netflix and election coverage might find solace in curling up with a book. From a reading nook with a small chaise to a grand room with a fireplace and soaring ceilings, five local designers offer inspiration for creating a home library.

**Tracy Morris,
Tracy Morris Design**

Whether ornate or minimalist, design ideas for accommodating one's personal taste abound, says Tracy Morris, Tracy Morris Design in McLean. "When it comes to home libraries, the customization options are endless," she said. "Some of my favorite things to include in libraries are art light sconces that illuminate the books, a built-in bar, closed storage, a built-in reading nook or even a secret bookcase door."

A literary retreat need not lack elegance, says Morris. "When it comes to creating a space that feels relaxing, while still put together, it's always best to keep it simple," she said. "Use soft pillows and throws, textured fabrics on upholstery, and be sure to include a soft rug."

Even for those with a vast collection of tomes, Morris believes in leaving a few open spaces on the shelves to display accessories, like picture frames or bookends. "Completely filled shelves can be overwhelming," she said. "Balancing it with other accessories will make it look stylish, yet relaxed. I like to break up the shelves by including some books turned horizontally with a decorative object resting on top." One of Morris' most memorable home libraries was at once stately and serene. "We opted for a completely wood-filled space with rich leathers," she said. "Since the space was filled with darker wood tones, we used large windows for added brightness. We also had the mullions of the windows faux painted to match the wood for a seamless look."

Doubling as a home office, the space includes a fireplace focal point. "We used swivel chairs that can pivot towards the fireplace in the room or towards the desk, plus putting an ottoman in between provides a soft place to kick up your feet," she said.



PHOTO BY GREG POWERS

A fireplace, leather chairs and large windows combine to make this wood-filled home library by Tracy Morris both stately and comfortable.



PHOTO BY ANGELA NEWTON ROY

Large windows add additional lighting to this wood paneled library and home office by Rebecca Penno.

**Lindsay Boudreaux,
Shotgun Double**

Stained wood, painted wood, metal, glass and leather are some of the materials of which book cases can be made, says designer Lindsay Boudreaux of Shotgun Double in Alexandria, Va. The number and types of books can determine the construction and design. "One home office we designed required an entire room, floor to ceiling, of open shelving to house the client's book collection," she said.

While design can create aesthetic appeal, proper lighting offers functionality. "It is so important to have many types of light, like ambient light from windows and overhead fixtures, task lighting at the desk, and reading chairs, and control of that light with everything on dimmers as much as possible," said Boudreaux.

Boudreaux believes that dimma-

ble LED lights work best in home libraries. "They more closely mimic soft daylight and help to create a soothing atmosphere for work or relaxation," she said. "Add a few plants and a great piece of artwork, and you've got a welcoming room that you will enjoy showing up to work in."

**Rebecca Penno,
Penno Interiors in McLean,**

Determining homeowners reading style and the way the room's overall purpose, is the way that Rebecca Penno, Penno Interiors in McLean, Va. approaches each home library design. "Some home libraries function as a work space, others as more of a den," she said. "This is always a struggle with homeowners when styling their built-ins. "Many homeowners have a true book collection that they do not want to let go of. Other home-



PHOTO BY SPENCE PHOTOGRAPHICS

A starburst chandelier adds light to this basement space by Barri Branker of Beyond the Box Interiors.



PHOTO BY PAUL BURKE

A desk and floor-to ceiling bookcases allow this space by Keira St. Claire to function as both a library and home office.

owners have books with no attachment. If possible, we always eliminate all paperback books."

An expansive library with multiple functions, says Penno included a desk, fireplace and television. She designed the room to serve as library, home office and a space to relax. "In order for the homeowner to be able to use all three of these focal points, we used comfortable lounge chairs on a swivel base to provide flexibility," she said. "The starting point was the oak paneling. It provided a masculine backdrop with the deep wood tones and strong grain. From there, we layered patterns of all brown tones paired with brass accents."

Keira St. Claire of Anthony Wilder Design/Build

Setting the desired tone and atmosphere is required for creating a relaxing space without compris-

ing elegance, says Keira St. Claire of Anthony Wilder Design/Build in Potomac, Md. "Comfort and style can and should go hand in hand and is very personal to each of us," she said. "What makes you feel relaxed? When you're thinking of your happiest places, where are you? The beach? The mountains? A European city? The spa? Think of ways to incorporate elements from those places into your decor."

Accessories not only determine the way a room looks, but also the way it feels. "Fill your library with the things that make you happy," said St. Claire. "A balance of collectables, photographs and books or magazines, a record collection, or wall-to-wall books. Surround yourself with whatever you love. This will ensure that this space is calming and inspiring and makes you feel good to be in."

Designing a peaceful oasis for reading can be done simply. "A good way to create a cozy, relaxing atmosphere without skimping on style is layering lots of varying textures and patterns," said St. Claire. "For instance, lots of pillows in your chair, blankets to wrap yourself in with a warm cup of tea, or a sun-filled room with fresh flowers and an iced lemonade." While a room with a fireplace, soaring ceiling and pedigreed antiques is unaffordable for many, a tasteful and well-designed room is not. "If you don't have the budget or don't want to invest in something as permanent as built-ins ... there are many stylish bookshelves available in any style you can imagine."

Barri Branker of Beyond the Box Interiors

A diminutive basement space can offer solace and beauty, says designer Barri Branker of Beyond the Box Interiors in Alexandria referring to an unconventional home library she created recently.

"The room is tiny and would not be one that would be used regularly, we opted against built-in shelving and sourced beautiful open airy wrought iron bookshelves," she said. "We provided drama and texture with the stunning sculptural wall lights." Dark and cramped might come to mind when one thinks of room in a basement, Branker says that this home library is quite the opposite. "The space receives light with a modern starburst chandelier adding functional reading light and cheery brightness," she said. "The art and accessories create a boutique hotel feel. Rather than trying to shove a typical seating arrangement in the room, we used a large tete-a-tete chaise."

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Obituary



"KENT MARSHALL WELLS"

Kent Wells, 66, of Alexandria, Virginia passed away in his home on Friday, October 9, after a 13-year battle with Multiple Myeloma.

Kent was born on June 10, 1954, in Garden City, Kansas, and attended primary and secondary schools in Garden City and Falls Church, Virginia. He graduated from the University of Kansas in 1976 and the George Washington University School of Law in 1979.

Kent was married in 1981 to Deborah "Debbie" Owen, and they raised their family in Alexandria. Kent was Vice President of Federal Relations of AT&T in Washington, D.C.

His interest in communications began during high school when he worked at the radio station in his home town of Garden City, Kansas.

After his Multiple Myeloma diagnosis in 2007, he and Debbie co-founded the Multiple Myeloma Charity Classic, an annual golf and tennis event that has raised over \$1.5 million for the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation.

Kent was preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Kay Wells, and his infant son, Emerson. He is survived by his wife Debbie Owen Wells, two sons - Trevor Wells and wife Allyson Wells, of Long Beach, California, two granddaughters Elena and Madelyn Wells. Bryan Wells and wife Laura Schlapp of Alexandria, Virginia - and his brother Kim Wells and wife Bonnie of Lawrence, Kansas.

A private family memorial service is planned for a Tuesday, October 13, in Alexandria, Virginia with burial in Alexandria on Wednesday, October 14.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the charity Kent and Debbie co-founded - the Multiple Myeloma Charity Classic - at the link <https://myelomacharityclassic.org/donation/>

Obituary



Alexander Castellanos

Age 36

Alexander Walton Castellanos, 36, died unexpectedly October 1st, 2020 at his home in Chicago, Illinois. He was born January 23, 1984 in Washington, DC, the son of Susan W. and Alejandro Castellanos.

Alexander graduated from Gonzaga College High School in 2002, graduated with a business degree from the College of Charleston, trained in investment banking analysis at the Swiss Finance Institute, and earned an MBA from Notre Dame's Mendoza School of Business. He served on the Board of the Arts Institute of Chicago and was a volunteer tutor at Chicago's Mercy Home for Boys and Girls. He helped found Purple Strategies, a bi-partisan consulting firm in Alexandria, Virginia. He served as Vice-President of User Experience Research at IPSOS Global Market Research & Public Opinion, where his clients included Google and Facebook.

In addition to his parents, Alexander is survived by his sister, Catherine del Valle Castellanos, his puppy, Archer, and many wonderful friends.

A virtual service of remembrance will be held Friday, Oct. 9th, 2020 at 12 noon. Those who wish to remember Alexander in a special way may make gifts in his memory to MercyHome.org or the Art Institute of Chicago.

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An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them.
-Werner Heisenberg

"And Awaay We Go!"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As Jackie Gleason would say as he segued from his monologue into the sketch comedy that followed on his Saturday night entertainment hour on CBS. So too does my entertainment - or lack thereof, continue. Six weeks or so after my treatment for thyroid cancer (three pills a day) began, per doctor's orders, we have put a halt to the proceedings. Due to increasing values in my bi-weekly lab work (monitored exactly for this purpose), specifically my kidney and liver functions, I am standing down and standing by. We will retest this coming Thursday and then wait for further instructions (smaller dose, intermittent dose, no dose?). In addition, some of the side effects that I am experiencing (fatigue, shortness of breath, a little depression/a little malaise) also encouraged my oncologist to pause the treatment. Hopefully, it's the pause that refreshes as Bud Collins the long time tennis commentator for NBC once said to describe female tennis star, Amanda Paz.

The lab work is the first line of defense and indicator, along with side effects as to what might be going on inside. A scan would be useful as well but due to the radiation exposure, the doctors try to keep its use to an absolute minimum. And since I'm not scheduled to be scanned for another month (every two months), my status is best determined by how I feel and what the lab work shows. In the interim, I will ride the roller coaster of emotions and fear and try to enjoy the reduction in the side effects (which I can do. I'm good that way). I just have to hope that the values in my next lab work go back down or I may very well go off the rails and onto some other ride that might not be so manageable.

All that remains is 'all that remains.' Nothing in my life/cancer routine is likely to change much. Again, what I have I've been told is that what I have incurable: stage IV papillary thyroid cancer, the kind that doesn't respond to radio iodine therapy, so every minute of every day will be spent hoping, praying, wondering and waiting to see if the end is near or thankfully not near at all, like a mirage, almost. Just another day in my cancer conundrum. As Tom Branson said on an episode during the final season of Downtown Abbey about something completely unrelated: "What a palaver!" But that's really what being a cancer patient is all about: Confusion, lack of clarity, few guarantees and changes in your attitude along with your latitude if Jimmy Buffet were writing this column. If my wife were, it would be about going with the flow. However, since I'm writing it, it's about changes, constant change; sometimes more of the same, something completely different. and being prepared, always, to go up and down and all around and everything in between. It's highs, it's lows and its all-overs, too. It may not sound like a great way to make a living, but I can assure you, it sure beats the alternative.

As my mother used to say: "enjoy poor health," especially since isn't seem likely I'll be changing horses anytime soon. But I can do it, I'm a Red Sox fan. I've lived with disappointment and determination my whole life - and thankfully, I've lived to see some World Championships, too. The goal is to try and keep moving forward and remain positive. Like my old friend Ray use to say: "my attitude is my blood type: B+." What's another blip on the cancer radar? I've been on it so long now, Feb., 2009 that it would be abnormal not to appear. And since the experts have been telling me that it's unlikely I won't be off the grid until it's too there's either a new grid or a new drug, I am happy to take a break in the short term if it helps in the long term. Because the goal is to finish, not to falter.

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

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NEWS



Senator Mark Warner, left, and Republican Daniel Gade debate at the studio of WTVR in Richmond.

Hiding at the Top of the Ticket

FROM PAGE 1

ical point that a government that is powerful enough to make you do little things is also powerful enough to take your liberty in other ways," said Gade. "Maybe I mangled the point. I'm not a career politician."

The moderators of that debate also got Warner to admit to making a mistake in being slow to criticize the name of the Washington football team, which continued to use a racial slur as the team's nickname until the Black Lives Matter movement forced a national conversation about white privilege. During the debate, which was held on the campus of one of Virginia's HBCUs, Warner said he took the wrong position by being one of the few Democrats who failed to demand the team ditch its racist former name.

"I probably should have weighed in earlier," said Warner during the televised debate. "But you learn and you grow, and I think you look at people's history and record."

The role of government has been a central defining theme of the campaign, perhaps best illustrated by a debate over something that happened in 2016.

That's when a woman was killed by a beach umbrella in Virginia Beach. Warner reacted by urging the Consumer Product Safety Commission to step in and potentially help save lives. Gade said that was the wrong response.

"That's maybe a local government responsibility or state government maybe," said Gade shortly after securing the Republican nomination over the summer. "But the idea that this overarching, over powerful federal government would reach into our lives in a way that would tell us how deeply we should drill our beach umbrellas into the

sand; that's absurd."

Warner says it's probably a bad idea to let local or state government regulate beach umbrellas.

"Generally speaking, businesses like to have state rules preempted so they can have a single standard," said Warner when asked about Gade's comments. "If Mr. Gade is suggesting that we ought to have 50 different sets of rules or maybe 50,000 different sets of rules because every locality ought to be able to make those rules, that would be an area I just respectfully disagree."

Perhaps the biggest point of distinction between the candidates has been over the Affordable Care Act. A Republican-led lawsuit challenging the law is on the calendar for the Supreme Court this fall, and candidates for office are using the issue as an appeal to voters on both sides. During the first televised debate hosted by the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce, Warner says Gade's opposition to the ACA would undermine protections for preexisting conditions. Daniel Gade responded that was offensive.

"There were 25 states when the ACA was passed that already protected people with preexisting conditions," said Gade, who lost a leg as a combat vet in Iraq. "And the idea that I would take away protections for people with preexisting conditions is offensive and it's false and it's defamatory."

Warner says Gade can't have it both ways.

"If my opponent wants to change his position and say he supported my decision along with John McCain to keep the ACA, he can make that change," said Warner. "But you can't go out and criticize me for the ACA and then cherry pick which parts of the ACA you want to preserve."

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FROM PAGE 11

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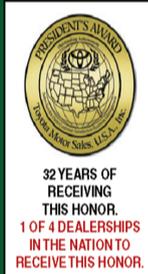
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