

Alexandria Gazette Packet



25 CENTS

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SEPTEMBER 16, 2021

PAGE 14

'Respond. Resolve. Results.'

**City remembers
20th anniversary
of 9/11 attacks.**

By JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandrians from across the city gathered in Waterfront Park on the 20th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in New York, Arlington, and Shanksville, Pa., and to pay homage to the first responders and nearly 3,000 victims of that day.

Rep. Don Beyer (D-8) and Mayor Justin Wilson were joined by Alexandria Sheriff Dana Lawhorne, Fire Chief Corey Smedley and Acting Chief of Police Don Hayes as more than 500 people gathered for the ceremony to remember and honor both the victims and those who responded and gave their lives in the search and rescue effort to save others.

"September 11 was an incredibly sad day," said Alexandria resident Melissa Riddy. "But the ceremony today was a beautiful reflection of what our community did and has done and it was wonderful to see everyone come together to celebrate and remember at the same time."

Alexandria lost 16 victims in the attacks and firefighters and first responders from the city were among the first to answer the emergency call at the Pentagon following the crash of American Airlines flight 77 into the building at 9:37 a.m. Victims included



An honor guard of first responders participates in the Waterfront Park wreath-laying ceremony commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Sep. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in New York, Arlington and Shanksville, Pa.



Rep. Don Beyer (D-8) speaks at the Waterfront Park remembrance ceremony commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

64 passengers aboard the plane and another 125 in the building.

A wreath-laying and the traditional Return to Quarters bell ringing were part of the ceremony honoring the 2,977 victims of the attacks that saw passenger planes turned into missiles and silenced the skies across the country.

More than 2,700 people died at the World SEE CITY REMEMBERS, ON PAGE 8



Acting Chief of Police Don Hayes, Sheriff Dana Lawhorne and Alexandria Fire Chief Corey Smedley attend the Waterfront Park remembrance ceremony commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.



Members of the Alexandria Fire Department listen to remarks at the Waterfront Park ceremony commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

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Transforming Potomac Yard

Virginia Tech breaks ground for Innovation Campus in Alexandria.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Potomac Yard was once one of the largest rail yards in the country, employing hundreds of engineers, clerks, brakemen, car inspectors and switch operators. In the 1990s, it was redeveloped into a strip mall with a massive surface parking lot. Now it's about to begin its next chapter as an "innovation district," a dense urban space with millions of square feet of office, retail, hotel and residential space anchored by a Virginia Tech graduate campus.

"It will transform the economy of the region," said Virginia Tech President Timothy Sands, who was in Alexandria this week for the groundbreaking of the new campus. "I have no doubt about that."

The Innovation Campus will be constructed on land that was, until recently, a movie theater and parking lot. By the time the campus is ready to open for the fall semester 2024, it will be a place where 750 master's students and 200 doctoral students research the computer science and computer engineering of the future. The first academic building will be 11 stories high, followed by two more smaller buildings where students and professors will mingle with the titans of the tech industry who are located in the surrounding blocks.

"Historically, the U.S. has enjoyed a preeminent global position with respect to technology development. But the competitive landscape has changed dramatically," said Letitia Long, rector of the board of visitors at Virginia Tech. "Our greatest opportunities and biggest global competitions and threats in the 21st century will be technology driven. They already are."

THE STRIP MALL at Potomac Yard was originally intended as a placeholder, a temporary solution to a 1990s-era debate over density. When developers were eyeing the shuttered rail yard for redevelopment the existing zoning would have allowed for 18 million square feet. But opposition from neighborhood groups prompted the City Council to restrict the site to 9 million square feet of development, a compromise forged in an effort to fight off a proposal to locate a football stadium there.

"I think we screwed it up. Badly," said former Councilman Lonnie Rich, the lone vote against the zon-



Gov. Ralph Northam, second from left, and Alexandria Mayor Justin Wilson, fourth from left, are joined by local dignitaries and development officials at the Sept. 14 groundbreaking for the Virginia Tech Innovation Campus at Potomac Yard.



Gov. Ralph Northam speaks at the Sept. 14 groundbreaking ceremony for the Virginia Tech Innovation Campus at Potomac Yard.



A rendering of the first Virginia Tech Innovation Campus building.

ing change in 1992 that led to the construction of the strip mall.

The zoning envelope led to an oversized surface parking lot that dominates the site today, a suburban footprint in a rapidly urbanizing city. Despite the convoluted process that led to its creation, the strip mall was wildly successful — far beyond anyone's expectations. These days, Potomac Yard Shopping Center is so popular that the first question many people ask about the Potomac Yard redevelopment is what will become of the Target.

"I would say there is a strong probability that the redeveloped site will include a Target," said City Manager Mark Jinks, noting that the lease of the current Target location ends in 2028. "They do extremely well."

THE INNOVATION CAMPUS was part of an economic incentive



Former Congressman Jim Moran, right, with ACPS Superintendent Gregroy Hutchings and Cathy Puskar at the Sept. 14 groundbreaking for the Virginia Tech Innovation Campus.

package that helped Northern Virginia land the Amazon HQ2 in 2018. The idea is that the graduate campus in Alexandria would supply a pipeline of highly educated high tech workers who would provide the brainpower at the Amazon headquarters a few miles to the north in Arlington. The graduate campus was originally to be located on a plot of land known as the Oakville Triangle, but the project was later moved to Potomac Yard to give the graduate school room to expand.

"I told everyone who would lis-

ten — the media and everyone else — that we have buried the lede," said Alexandria Mayor Justin Wilson. "The most exciting part of that announcement was the Innovation Campus coming to the city of Alexandria."

EVEN THOUGH the first academic building won't be ready until 2024, the graduate school is already open for business. It's currently operating at a satellite location in Falls Church, where several dozen graduate students are already hard at work creating the technology of the future. One of those students spoke at the official groundbreaking ceremony this week, underscoring one of the principle objectives of the project: diversifying a field that's traditionally been dominated by white men.

"My goal is to create a movement in the software industry that's focused on accessibility and inclusion," said Tara Laughlin, a Boeing graduate scholar. "Empathy is the backbone of successful software, and creating things with all kinds of people in mind is the direction that I hope this field will go."

OBITUARY

'An Officer and a Gentleman'

Ben Kellom, Democratic party stalwart, dies at 90.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Ben Kellom knew how to get things done. With 29 years of active-duty military service, he was an effective leader who also knew how to bring out the best in people. Those leadership skills made him a stalwart of the Alexandria Democratic party and respected leader in the community. On Sept. 10, Kellom died following a battle with pancreatic cancer. He was 90 years old.

"Ben really enjoyed working with people," said Susan Kellom, his wife of 47 years. "He also liked to spice things up, to draw people out and make a conversation interesting. He was a great conversationalist and an excellent, excellent listener."

Bernard Keenan Kellom Jr. was born June 27, 1931, in Bangor, Maine, to Bernard Keenan Kellom Sr. and Bernadette Mathieu. He was raised in Penacook, N.H., where he graduated from high school.

In 1949, he enlisted in the United States Army, serving 29 years of active duty including a deployment to Vietnam. He rose through the ranks and retired as a lieutenant colonel.

"Ben loved serving in the army," said Ron Rigby, a longtime friend and Democratic colleague. "He was highly respected and well loved. He was also funny, charming and had strong opinions. But he stated them effectively and was always a man of great character."

Kellom attended the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College and Missouri's Saint Benedict's College where he studied social science.

He met his wife Susan in 1971 while serving in Seoul.

"We were both on active duty at the time," said Susan Kellom, who was a U.S. Army military police officer.

Stateside, Kellom served as a signal corps officer in Fort Gordon, Ga., while Susan Kellom went to recruiting duty in Louisville, Ky.

"I spent my weekends flying between Louisville and Augusta," said Susan Kellom. "Thankfully Delta Airlines had a great military fare and I got to know the airport personnel well."

The couple were married in 1974 and Susan Kellom eventually transferred to Fort Gordon before the two were transferred to Louisiana's Fort Polk. In 1978, Kellom was transferred to the military personnel center in Arlington.

"We lived in Burke when we first came to the area since we could not afford Old Town," Susan Kellom said. "But when Ben retired and took a job in defense contracting, we were finally able to make the move to Alexandria in 1983 and we have been here ever since."

Kellom was a member of the Commission on Aging and had a goal that never came to fruition.

"Ben was determined to have the city get rid of the cobblestone sidewalks," said Susan Kellom with a laugh. "But that never happened."

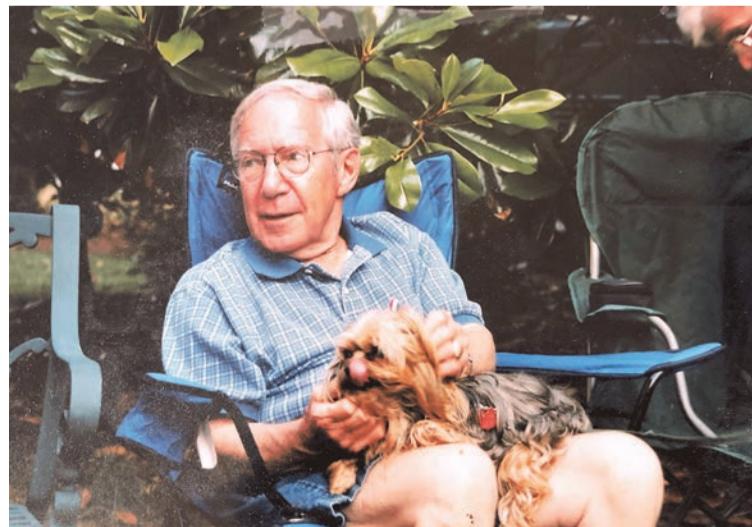
In addition to his wife Susan, survivors include children Janet McMahon, Theresa Ann Kellom, and Bernard C. Kellom, all from a first marriage to Irene Griege that ended in divorce. He was predeceased by an infant daughter, Theresa Kellom, and son, Michael J. Kellom.

A celebration of life will be held Saturday, Sept. 18, at the Kellom home, 719 S. Fairfax St., from 3-6 p.m. Burial at Arlington National Cemetery will take place at a later date.

"Ben met and accepted people easily and made long-term friends quickly," Rigby said. "He was short of stature but tall of character. In the military you become an officer by an act of Congress. But just by being himself, Ben was a true officer and a gentleman. We will miss him."

"Just by being himself, Ben was a true officer and a gentleman."

— Friend and Democratic colleague,
Ron Rigby



Ben Kellom died Sept. 10 at the age of 90.



Longtime resident Ben Kellom died Sept. 10 at the age of 90.

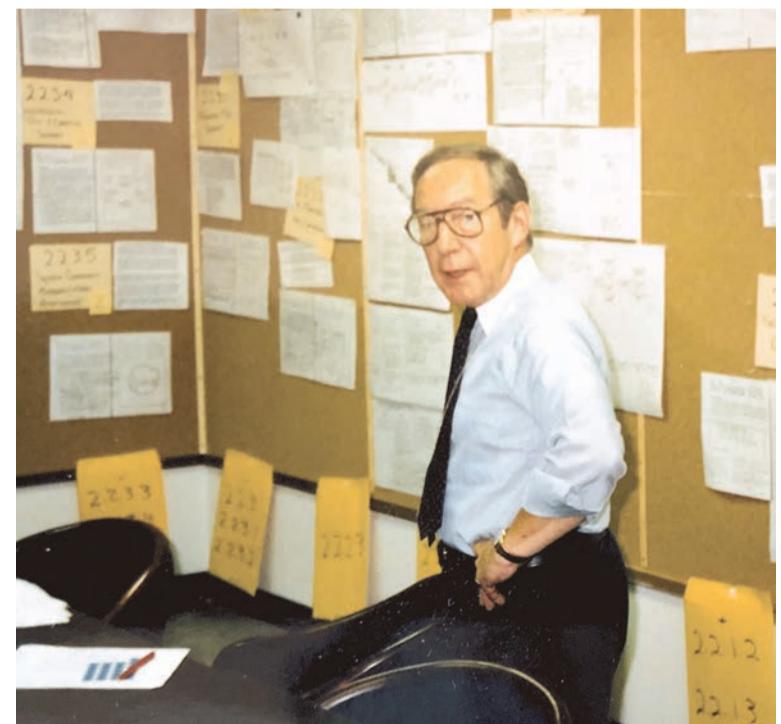


Ben Kellom served 29 years in the United States Army retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



Susan and Ben Kellom, second and third from right, in an undated family photo.



Ben Kellom worked in defense contracting following a 29-year career in the Army. He died Sept. 10 at the age of 90.



Register Now for the Fall 'Virtual' Senior Academy Sessions begin Wednesday, Sept. 22

By MARYANNE BEATTY
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS
SENIOR SERVICES OF ALEXANDRIA

This fall's Senior Academy is going virtual via Zoom again, and registration is open for city residents 60+ or those who work in the City of Alexandria. This 4-week free course will meet every Wednesday morning starting Sept. 22 from 10 to 11:30 am and continue Sept. 29, Oct. 6 and Oct. 13.

Each Wednesday morning session will feature speakers including a welcome from Mayor Justin Wilson, presentation by the City Manager's Office as well as other departments including Transportation, Planning, Office of Housing, Alexandria Health Department and the Division of Aging and Adult Services. Attendees will also hear from our first responders, Police, Fire and Sheriff. The last session will include presentations from the Alexandria Library, Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Activities and

the Office of Historic Alexandria.

Participants will have an opportunity to ask questions and receive a lot of great information on city programs and services for older adults. It will also provide ways that you can become more engaged in the community and make your voice heard.

To register go to www.seniorservicesalex.org or contact Lindsay Hemphill at admin@seniorservicesalex.org or MaryAnne Beatty at communications@seniorservicesalex.org.

On Friday, Sept. 17 at 10 am via Zoom, Senior Services of Alexandria (SSA) is holding a volunteer training for its Senior Ambassador Program. This is a flexible volunteer opportunity to provide information to your respective faith communities or housing and condo associations about all the programs and services available to older adults residing in the City of Alexandria. If you would like to know more about SSA's Senior Ambassador program or attend the virtual training contact MaryAnne Beatty at communications@seniorservicesalex.org.



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OPINION

School Board Needs Willie Bailey

Alexandria needs Willie Bailey on our school board. As a lifelong resident of our city who was educated in our public schools, he will bring the knowledge, expertise and perspective needed to succeed. School Board members should have a keen understanding of student, parent and teacher

needs in the education process. Willie raised two children as a single parent and is

a proud grandfather. He's effectively worked with and for our students, teachers and school staff for decades. He also served in the U.S. Army for 21 years before returning home to work in the community and has served over 30 years as a firefighter.

Willie's family worked tirelessly to move from public housing to a middle-class neighborhood. He learned first-hand how life outside the classroom can impact academics.

He works across the aisle. He is a super-organizer. He listens, discusses, decides and acts. He is the kind of person we need to help our school board come together and move Alexandria forward in supporting our students.

We have lived in District A for 47 years and Hazel, having taught

BULLETIN BOARD

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

STARTING SEPT. 18

Sex Education Program for LGBTQ+ Youth. Safe Space NOVA is launching its new educational program focused on healthy relationships and sexual health for queer youth. The "You + Me = We: Queer Sex Ed" program will use a hybrid virtual and in-person setting over the course of four sessions that will give participants the chance to learn and ask questions about body autonomy, consent, safer sex practices, communication and boundary-setting, and more. The goal of the program, facilitated by Doorways Prevention Specialist Scotney Young and Of Colors Healing, Jerry St. Louis, is to educate and empower LGBTQ+ youth to help them develop the skills needed to practice safe dating, build healthy relationships, and avoid unhealthy relationships and abuse. The program will begin on September 18 and will run through mid-October. Schedule:

September 18 - Orientation and introductions (in-person)
10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

at Alexandria City High School for almost 30 years, worked with dozens of school board members. She understands what makes an effective member. In her estimation, Willie will be the best of the best.

I (Ron) got to know and appreciate Willie like thousands of Alexandria students, parents and teachers at his nonprofit, Firefighters and Friends to the Rescue, where he provides backpacks, school supplies, haircuts and clothes at the beginning of each school year and also gives coats and toys to our city's children during the holidays.

If you live in District A please join us, Hazel and Ron Rigby, in voting for Willie Bailey on Nov. 2 or earlier.

Ron & Hazel Rigby
Alexandria

For Political Diversity, Don't Dilute Your Vote

Moderate and conservative voters are aware of the accumulated negative impacts of one-party 'progressive' rule in Alexandria. For us, there is an opportunity this year to vote strategically to elect some non-Democrats to City Council. Rules allow casting up to six votes for the six Alexandria City Council seats and there will be nine candidates on the ballot. Please consider the following. By concentrating your votes on a smaller number

of candidates, it mathematically increases the odds that your preferred candidate(s) will be one of the top six vote-getters who win a seat on City Council. Do your homework, pick your favorite candidate(s), vote for them and no more.

It is possible that the winners will be decided by a handful of votes, so don't dilute your support for your favorites by using all six votes in support of some other candidates you don't really want. As an example, I'll cast only one vote in the City Council race and it will be for Darryl Nirenberg. I want his voice and common sense helping to lead our city and address the quality-of-life issues that are currently being ignored. The Democrats will surely maintain the majority on City Council, but let's have some political diversity.

Linda App
Alexandria

Move Policing Under Elected Sheriff?

It isn't enough for those of us, however organized and vocal in our opposition to city hall's recent direction, to just show up and yell "No!" We also need to present ideas and solutions to counter what we consider city hall's misguided initiatives. One such suggestion, implemented in more rural parts of

Virginia, is to merge the police department under the elected sheriff, rather than keeping it under the city manager.

We owe vice president Marcus Downey of the International Union of Police Associations, a North American AFL-CIO union which represents law enforcement and support personnel, a debt of gratitude for calling to the public's attention city hall's under-the-radar strategy of appeasing a radicalized segment of its base by quietly defunding our police department. Unions often play an important role in calling issues like this to the public's attention when the ones who should, the police department's top brass, cannot because the elected city council determines how much the police department receives and the city manager tasks the police chief with implementing whatever cuts come down. For the police chief to too aggressively and publicly oppose the cuts could be considered insubordinate since he reports to the city manager, whereas the elected sheriff, who typically has a law-enforcement background, reports directly to the voters. The elected sheriff's electoral mandate empowers him to speak directly and unqualifiedly to the public about the resources public safety officers need to protect the public and to openly organize opposition to city hall choking off those resources.

Dino Drudi
Alexandria

September 25 - Session 1 (virtual)
10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
October 2 - Session 2 (in-person)
10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
October 9 - Session 3 (virtual)
10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
October 16 - Certificate and party
(in-person) optional attendance
10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

For more information or to register for the "You + Me = We: Queer Sex Ed" program, visit: <http://safespacenova.org/programs/>

SATURDAY/SEPT. 25

NPS Trash Cleanup. 9-11 a.m. At Belle Haven Park, Alexandria. Join the Friends of Dyke Marsh and the National Park Service on National Public Lands Day to clean up trash along the Potomac River shoreline. Free. Meet at the registration table near the Belle Haven Park south parking lot to pick up supplies. NPS will provide gloves, tools, trash bags, and hand sanitizer. Please wear sturdy shoes, long pants and sleeves, and sun protection. Bring water.

APOTHECARY MUSEUM RECRUITING VOLUNTEERS

The Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum is recruiting volunteers to lead guided tours. Training begins Saturday, Sept. 25 with an in-per-

son workshop, continues with virtual evening classes, and wraps-up with a second in-person workshop on November 6. Participants will end the series ready to complete their tour certification. Volunteers with both weekend and weekday availability are needed, particularly Sundays and Mondays. A minimum of one shift per month (approx-

mately four hours) is required once training is complete. Current City Covid protocols require volunteers to submit proof of vaccination and wear a mask during on-site shifts. The Apothecary Museum is located at 105-107 South Fairfax Street in Old Town Alexandria. To apply, submit an application online at

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 11

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.

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NEWS

ACPS Athletic Hall Of Fame Class of 2021 honorees to be inducted Sept. 18.

Former Police Chief Earl Cook will be among the Legendary sports stars of Alexandria honored Sept. 18 as ACPS holds its Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony at 2 p.m. in the Alexandria City High School Gerry Bertier Gymnasium.

Along with the event on Saturday, inductees will be introduced during halftime of the ACHS football game Friday evening.

The 2021 ACPS Athletic Hall of Fame members include: Troy Bailey, Baseball, T.C. Williams High School, Class of 1984; Earl Cook, Football, T.C. Williams High School, Class of 1973; Louis Harris, Football, Basketball & Baseball, Parker-Gray High School, Class of 1963; Jason Ingram, Basketball, T.C. Williams High School, Class of 2001; Veda Nicely McCoy, Track and Field, T.C. Williams High School, Class of 1984; Corrin Reid, Basketball, T.C. Williams High School, Class of 1997; Dianne Richardson Lewis, Basketball, T.C. Williams High School, Class of 1977; Mike Tomasello, Track Coach, T.C. Williams High School, 1967-71, 1974-80; 1956 Boys Basketball Team, George Washington High School; and the 1990-91 Girls Virginia State Champion Indoor Track team.

- JEANNE THEISMANN



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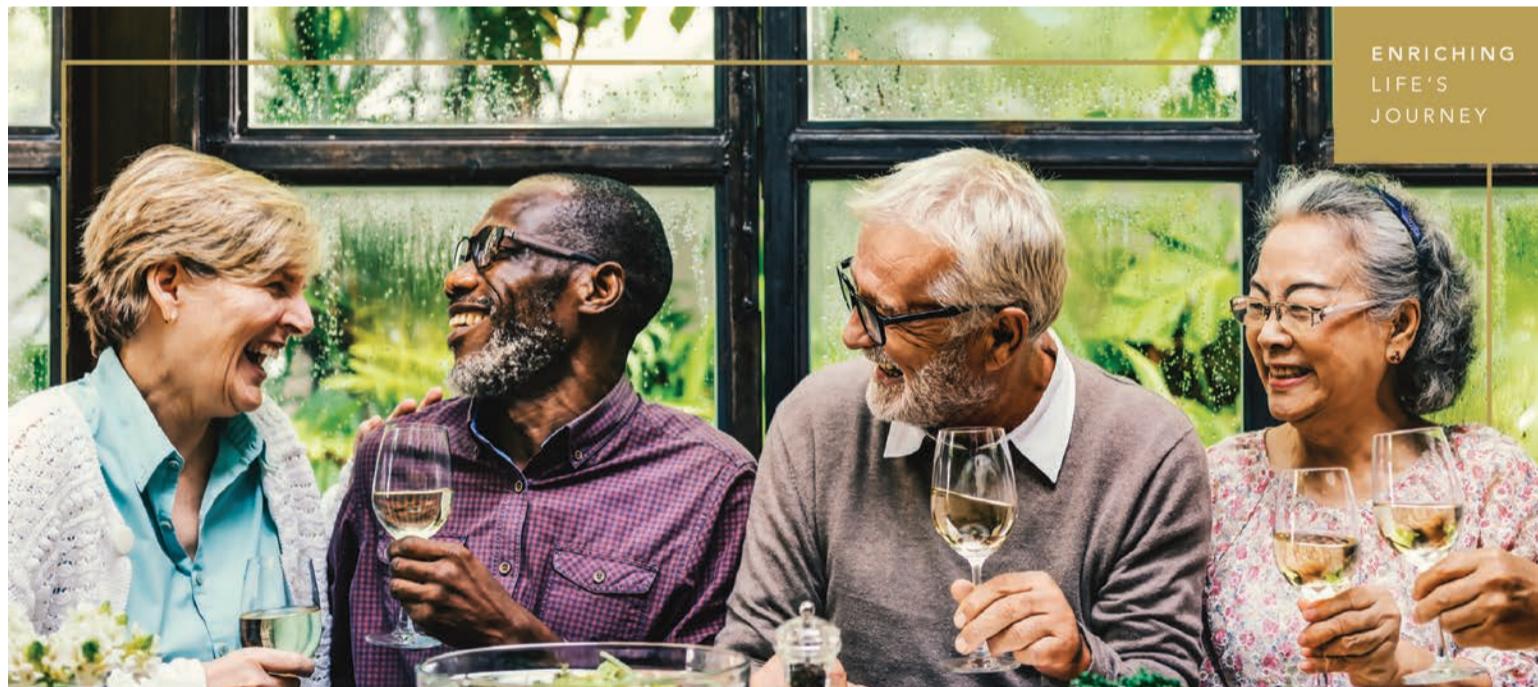
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A lot of space for working from home. First floor office or bedroom suite with private outside entrance--great for working from home. Located only 7 miles from The Capitol and minutes from Reagan National Airport and Crystal City/Amazon HQ2 and the Metro, 305 Charles Alexander Court, known as "Mount Ida" stands on a hill in the tradition of a neoclassical mansion and possesses distant views of the Potomac River and the hills of Washington, D.C. Architectural changes over the years have incorporated the classical tradition including plaster over masonry interior walls, antique chandeliers, arched doorways, Beaux Arts paneling and moldings, plaster friezes and a spectacular entryway, all the while including such modern amenities as a gourmet, eat-in kitchen with semi-precious granite counter tops, top of the line appliances, renovated bathrooms and a gas generator. These features combined with ample off-street parking and elegant, spacious rooms provide an ideal setting for entertaining while maintaining the warmth and comfort of a home that is perfect for daily living. The property sits in the neighborhood with the Alexandria Country Day School and is only three blocks from the St. Stephens and St. Agnes lower school. Great for entertaining during the pandemic while following social distancing guidelines. (MLS # VAAX250358) **\$2,450,000**

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City Remembers 20th Anniversary of 9/11 Attacks

FROM PAGE 1

Trade Center, including the passengers of American Airlines Flight 11 and United Airlines Flight 175. Another 44 died when United Flight 93 crashed outside Shanksville, Pa.

"I had just completed my paperwork to join the United States Air Force the day before the attacks," said AFD Capt. Sokthean Van. "After completing five years of service, I returned to this area to be near my family and friends and become a firefighter. I wanted something challenging and this is the perfect fit for me."

Added AFD Lt. Durant Cephers, "I was a sophomore in high school when the attacks took place. My father was in fire service so I was inspired by him and becoming a firefighter was a natural next step when I was ready for a career."

Resident Patrick Andriuk was among those in attendance at the ceremony.

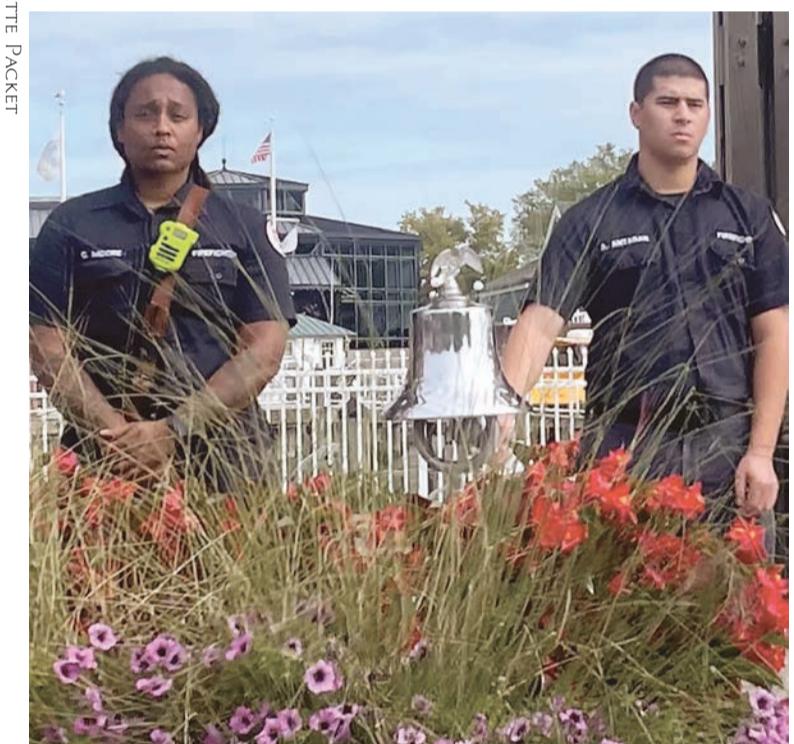
"Everything today was beautifully presented," Andriuk said. "But what stands out are the words of Police Chief Hayes – 'respond, resolve, results.' His words really resonated and made you think back to that powerful day."



Crowds stand as a bagpiper plays Amazing Grace during the Waterfront Park ceremony remembering the victims of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.



AFD Lt. Durant Cephers and Capt. Solthean Van at the Waterfront Park 20th anniversary remembrance ceremony of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.



A Return to Quarters bell ringing ceremony honors the first responder victims of the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.



"The ceremony today was a beautiful reflection of what our community did and has done and it was wonderful to see everyone come together to celebrate and remember at the same time."

— Alexandria resident
Melissa Riddy

AFD Capt. Nathan Krause offers the invocation at the Waterfront Park remembrance ceremony for the victims of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.



A somber Nina Tisara attends the Waterfront Park ceremony commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

ENTERTAINMENT

NOW THRU SEPT. 25

"Stigma" Art Exhibit. At Del Ray Artisans Gallery in the Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. The STIGMA exhibit at Del Ray Artisans Gallery features art that shines a light on stigma — how it feels, how it affects lives, and how it can be overcome. Stigma affects many different people in many different ways. These art works include viewpoints on mental health disorders, HIV, homelessness, disabilities, sexual orientation, bullying, race and ethnicity, and more. Open Thursdays 12-6 p.m., Fridays 12-9 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays 12-6 p.m. Visit <https://DelRayArtisans.org/> exhibits

SEPT. 16-18

By the Seashore. At Leonidas K. Plenty Amphitheater at Lee District Park, 6601 Telegraph Road, Alexandria. This sensory-filled production specifically designed for children ages 0-3 uses an imaginative mix of puppetry, movement, and sound to take children on a magical journey to the beach. Dates: Thursday, September 16 at 10:30 a.m. Friday, September 17 at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, September 18 at 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Visit the website: <https://www.artsonthehorizon.org/by-the-seashore-2021.html>

THURSDAY/SEPT. 16

Poetry & Reception. 5-7:30 p.m. At Woodlawn & Pope-Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Highway, Alexandria. Gather at Woodlawn & Pope-Leighey to immerse yourselves in the imagined emotions, words, and voices of enslaved ancestors of the former Woodlawn plantation as told through poetry, spoken word, music, and artistic expression. This event will include special readings from the Voices of Woodlawn poets, artwork by Diane Wilbon Parks, music by Cliff Bernier, and written poetry displayed throughout the Woodlawn mansion. Refreshments will be provided. Please register to attend this free event.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 16

Virtual: Love French films and cocktails? 7-8:30 p.m. Virtual event via Zoom. The Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee invites you to join the online movie discussion to review "Le Chant du Loup" (The Wolf's Call), a 2019 French action thriller about a submarine's sonar officer who must use his brilliant sense of hearing to track down a French ballistic missile submarine and prevent a nuclear war. After the demo of the fun evening cocktail, they will lead a discussion about the story, its characters, and the military context with insights from our members and exchanges with the audience. The movie is available on Netflix and you must watch the movie before participating in the online discussion.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 16

The Taste of Old Town North. 4-8 p.m. At Montgomery Park, 901 North Royal Street, Alexandria. The Taste of Old Town North is free, kid-friendly, and offers the chance to sample a variety of delicious food from local restaurants including Cafe 44, Grateful Kitchen and St. Elmo's Old Town North. Visitors to the Taste can also shop at the local



Dinner with George Washington will take place Saturday, Sept. 18 at Landini Brothers Restaurant in Alexandria. Pictured is Brian Hilton as General George Washington.

Dinner with George Washington

Saturday/Sept. 18, 7:30-10 p.m. At Landini Brothers Restaurant, 115 King Street, Alexandria. Spend one-on-one time with General Washington at the George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee's fundraising dinner with historical interpreter Brian Hilton. General Washington will visit each table during this intimate event and will answer questions about the country's founding, the Revolutionary War, slavery, equality, or any other question you have about his life and times. Space is limited. Cost is \$135. Visit <https://shop.alexandriava.gov/EventPurchase.aspx?>

farmers' market, try their hand at Art in the Park with KidCreate, watch a karate demonstration from Seichou Karate, and picnic in the park. Live music will be provided by two local bands - Sally and the Mander, starting at 5 p.m. and Three Man Soul Machine, starting at 6 p.m. The rain date for the Taste of Old Town North is Thursday, September 30, 2021 beginning at 3:30 p.m. Visit www.oldtown-north.org or call 703-836-8066.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 17

Garden Talk: Landscaping with Shrubs. 1:30-2:30 p.m. At Green Spring Gardens, Alexandria. (Adults) Is it time to replace those overgrown and tired-looking shrubs? Fall is the best time to plant new ones. Extension Master Gardeners introduce you to easy-care shrubs that add shape and structure, fragrance, berries, and seasonal color to your landscape. \$12 per person. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173. Code HVL.ZX2O.

SEPT. 17-18

Movie Night on King Street. Friday, September 17 - Featured Movie "Cocktails," starring Tom Cruise; Saturday, September 18 - Featured Movie "Casablanca" starring Humphrey Bogart. 7:30 p.m. At the parking lot at the 910 King Street, Alexandria. Presented by Jack Taylor Toyota. What fun it is to be outdoors and under the stars. Gather together with the drinks and food available on-site to make this night even more special. Bring your own chairs or blanket. Dogs are not allowed.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 18

Discovering Alexandria Architecture Tour. 10 a.m. At Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax Street, Alexandria. Alexandria has grown from a small town in the 18th century to a bus-



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OCT

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Saturday, Oct 2, 2021 • 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, Oct 3, 2021 • 3:00 p.m.

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Public Notice

Updated weight limits on Virginia bridges and culverts

In accord with state and federal law, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has imposed new or changed existing weight restrictions and installed new signage indicating the updated weight restrictions on the following bridges and culverts (structures) in Virginia within the last 30 days.

| Jurisdiction | Fed Structure ID | Route # | Route Name | Crossing | Posted Date |
|--------------|------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| AMELIA | 1247 | 615 | NAMOZINE RD | DEEP CREEK | 8/27/2021 |
| PATRICK | 13246 | 103 | DRY POND RD/ROUTE 103 | BACK CREEK | 8/26/2021 |
| PATRICK | 13245 | 103 | DRY POND HY/ROUTE 103 | SANDY CREEK | 8/24/2021 |
| MONTGOMERY | 12292 | 663 | WALTON ROAD/ROUTE 663 | CRAB CREEK | 8/19/2021 |
| LYNCHBURG | 20519 | 9 | NINTH ST | KANAWHA | 8/19/2021 |
| PITTSYLVANIA | 13623 | 686 | MARKHAM RD | GEOGES CREEK | 8/18/2021 |
| WYTHE | 19710 | 649 | ATKINS MILL RD | SPILLER BRANCH | 8/17/2021 |
| GRAYSON | 8910 | 732 | LAUREL CREEK RD | LAUREL CREEK | 8/16/2021 |
| SCOTT | 16635 | 611 | LOWER GRASSY CREEK | GRASSY CREEK | 8/15/2021 |
| AMHERST | 1451 | 631 | STONEWALL CREEK RD | STONEHOUSE CREEK | 8/10/2021 |
| BLAND | 3048 | 604 | WALKERS CREEK RD | BIG WALKER CREEK #3 | 8/9/2021 |
| WYTHE | 19714 | 653 | GREASY CREEK RD | STUFFLE RUN | 8/5/2021 |
| LEE | 10768 | 421 | ROUTE 421 | STONE CREEK | 8/3/2021 |

The list above is not a comprehensive list of all structures with weight restrictions in the Commonwealth, but shows only structures that have new or changed weight restrictions within the last 30 days. The list contains only basic structure identification and location information and the date the new or changed weight restriction and signage became effective.

For a full listing of all bridge and culvert weight restrictions with detailed information about specific structures, including location data and actual weight limits, visit www.virginiadot.org and navigate to Info Center/Trucking Resources. This page references a posted structures report and a GIS map tool that contain detailed information about restricted structures in Virginia. To receive email notifications regarding new or updated weight restrictions for structures statewide, complete the sign-up form on the web page.

Notices regarding bridges and culverts with new or updated weight restrictions are published monthly by VDOT. For additional information or questions, please contact, haulingpermits@vdot.virginia.gov.

The Virginia Department of Transportation is committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any of its programs or activities on the basis of race, color, or national origin, as protected by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need further information on VDOT's Title VI Program or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, please contact the Virginia Department of Transportation's Title VI Program Specialist at 804-786-2730.

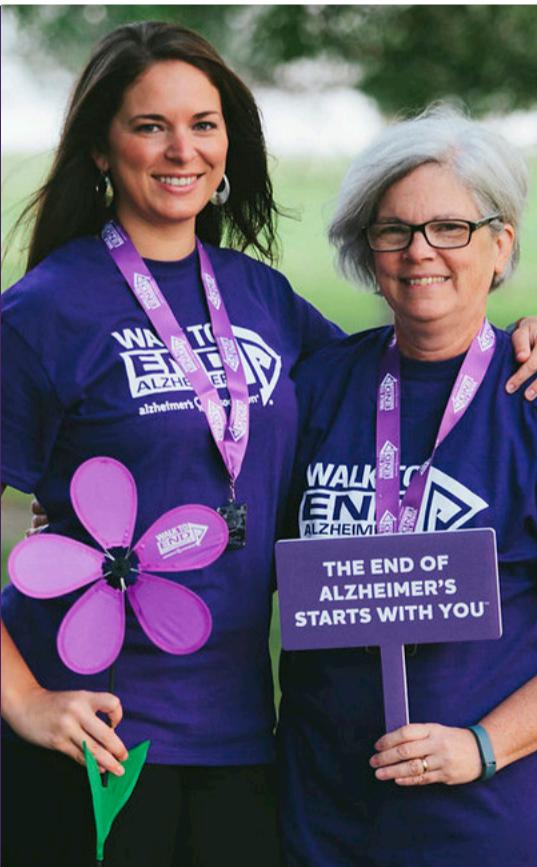
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ALZ.ORG/WALK



Additional Walks available. Find one near you at alz.org/walk

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NEWS

Architecture in Alexandria, And Mount Vernon

all is the perfect time to explore Alexandria's architectural gems spanning several centuries and styles, from Georgian to Victorian to Mid-Century Modern. Step into Old Town and embark on our Self-Guided Architecture Stroll popping by cobblestoned Captain's Row and architectural wonders like Spite House, Carlyle House and more. <https://www.visitalexandriava.com/things-to-do/architecture/>

Discovering Alexandria Architecture Tour

Sept. 18, Oct. 9 and Nov. 13, 2021, at 10 a.m. Admission: \$20 per person Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St., Alexandria, VA 22314 703-549-2997 novaparks.com/parks/carlisle-house-historic-park

Alexandria has grown from a small town in the 18th century to a bustling small city in the 21st century. Join Carlyle House for a tour of Alexandria looking at the various architecture styles that adorn the city streets and make it one of the best places to live and work. Reservations are required as space is limited. Please wear comfortable shoes for this one-and-a-half hour guided tour. Tour is held rain or shine unless there is severe weather.

79th Historic Homes Tour, 'Garden Glimpses'

Sept. 25, 2021, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission: \$30 in advance; \$35 day of tour

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 9
a.m. to 2:45 p.m. at Old Town Pool (1609 Cameron St.). Tickets are required for all dog handlers to attend. Tickets may be reserved online for your preferred location and time frame. Dog handlers must be at least 16 years old and cannot enter the pool with their dogs. Dogs must be sociable. In order to gain entry, each dog must either wear a current vaccination tag or have a current rabies certificate or veterinarian letter. Space is limited to 50 people and 100 dogs in the pool area at one time. Visit alexandriava.gov/Aquatics to register.

SEPT. 18-19

Colonial Market & Fair at Mount Vernon. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. At George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy., Mount Vernon. Take in the sights and sounds of the marketplace on Mount Vernon's 12-acre field. Chat with colonial artisans selling traditional handcrafted food and wares, hear live music from the colonial era and watch as expert

Old Town Alexandria, Va.

703-683-5544

thewig.org/homes-tour

The TWIG's 79th Historic Homes Tour, "Garden Glimpses," will include 14 addresses located in the southeast quadrant of Old Town, the majority of which are new to the tour. The tour will include gardens and backyard areas, with docents narrating information about the property. Tour maps can be picked up the morning of the event at the Alexandria Visitor Center, TWIG Thrift Shop, Boxwood and Old Presbyterian Meeting House.

Hollin Hills House + Garden Tour

Sept. 25, 2021, from 12 to 6 p.m. Admission: Regular: \$50 per person; VIP: \$80 per person Registration at Hollin Meadows Elementary School, 2310 Nordock Place, Alexandria, VA 22306 hollinhillsmodern.com

This self-guided walking tour will showcase stunning examples of mid-century modern architecture, landscaping and interior design.

New this year, participate in special activities throughout the day such as morning yoga, a furniture showcase and more. All ticket holders are required to check in at registration to receive a wristband and program that includes a listing and map of all the homes and gardens open during the tour. The tour will take place rain or shine. Sponsors and VIP ticket holders can register beginning at 10 a.m. and access the tour early at 11 a.m.

artisans demonstrate period crafting techniques. Plus, see General Washington in the General's Tent. Visit mountvernon.org

SEPT. 18-19

Old Town Cocktail Week. Guests can celebrate the world of cocktail innovation enjoying special libations at Old Town Alexandria restaurants, bars, and as well as themed events at boutiques, historic sights, and other places. The week will conclude with a Meet the Makers Tasting Event at Market Square.

ALEXANDRIA OLD TOWN ART FESTIVAL

19th Annual Alexandria Old Town Art Festival Saturday, Sept. 18, 2021, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 19, 2021, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Where: 300 John Carlyle St. in Alexandria. Visit <http://www.artfestival.com/festivals/19th-annual-alexandria-old-town-art-festival>

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11

www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 6
AlexandriaVa.gov/Apothecary

VOLUNTEER WITH AFSS.

Alexandria Families for Safe Streets. Help spread the pedestrian street safety message by volunteering for 2-hour shifts to staff an Alexandria Families for Safe Streets (AFSS) table at one of the following Farmers' Markets: Dates available: 9/18, 10/9, 10/30, 11/6, Nov TBD. Del Ray Farmers' Market: 9/18, 10/30 Old Town Farmers' Market: 10/9, 11/6 Visit the website: <https://www.alxffss.org/>

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

ACPS- Help Provide Meals to Children Alexandria City Public School (ACPS) will provide two days worth of breakfast and lunch meals with a snack pack free for any enrolled ACPS student on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Friday distribution will include a meal(s) for Saturday. Volunteers will meet at various schools to assist with packing boxes and loading buses with boxed meals. Then, volunteers will ride the bus along to distribute the meals while on site at a few ACPS mobile pop-up locations. Click on each location to sign up: Francis C. Hammond Middle School, TC Williams High School, or Jefferson Houston School. www.volunteeralexandria.org

Alexandria Dept. of Community and Human Services- Volunteer Guardian Looking for individuals who can assure the well-being of an incapacitated Alexandrian living in an Assisted Living Facility or Nursing Facility.

Volunteer Guardians are appointed by the Court to make decisions for older Alexandria residents who have lost the capacity to understand the consequences of their decisions. The volunteer will visit the resident monthly and follow the person's wishes as much as possible. www.volunteeralexandria.org Alexandria Families for Safer Streets - Executive Assistant to AFSS Board of Directors

The agency is seeking an executive assistant to help coordinate a diverse group of tasks necessary to keep us on track and moving forward. Someone with office manager skills would be the ideal candidate. www.volunteeralexandria.org

ALIVE! Volunteers are needed to assist with multiple programs relating to their Food Program, ALIVE! House, and Alexandria Eviction Prevention Partnership Program will distribute food at Mobile Pop-ups and Truck to Trunk events, etc. <https://www.volunteeralexandria.org/ALIVE>

Alzheimer's Association - Walk to End Alzheimer's

Saturday, Sept. 25 (National Harbor) & Saturday, Oct. 9, 2021 The National Mall, Washington, DC. Volunteers are needed on the day of the events to help with set up, sign placement, information services, promise flower distribution, cheerleaders, and route monitors. <https://www.volunteeralexandria.org/>

Assistance League of Northern Virginia is an all-volunteer non-profit organization that feeds, clothes and provides reading assistance and books to children in need. Assistance League's programs touch the

lives of hundreds of children in Fairfax and Prince William Counties and the City of Alexandria. There are many volunteer opportunities for community members to contribute to helping those in need. To learn more, email info@alnv.org, or visit www.alnv.org.

Join Friends' Board. Those who care about mental health, the Alexandria community, and collaborating with fellow residents to make sure the City's most vulnerable residents have a chance to thrive, then consider joining the Board of Friends of the Alexandria Mental Health Center. The Friends Board is an all-volunteer group of residents that oversees the administration of one of Alexandria's top mental health charities. Friends has no paid staff, so Board members, working on average 10 hours per month, share the day-to-day work needed to accomplish its goals. Interested candidates should email FriendsofAMHC@gmail.com.

STEM Professionals Needed. Help assist K-12 STEM teachers as part of the American Association for the Advancement of Science's STEM Volunteer Program, stemvolunteers.org, during the 2018-19 school year.

In the 2017-18 school year, there are 85 volunteers in 6 Northern Virginia school districts. Contact Don Rea at 571-551-2488, or donaldrea@aol.com.

Volunteer Drivers Needed. Drivers needed by the American Cancer Society to take cancer patients to treatment in Northern Virginia. To volunteer, call 1-800-227-2345 or go to cancer.org/drive.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10
[dria-old-town-art-festival](#)

SUNDAY/SEPT. 19.

Alpha Course. At Historic Pohick Church, 9301 Richmond Highway, Lorton, on U.S. Route 1 between Telegraph Road and Pohick Road. Alpha Course is an 11-week course that is a dynamic and interactive course about basic Christianity. The course is open to the community. Participants can explore difficult questions about faith and the meaning of life. They will meet starting September 19, on Sundays in between 8 and 10 a.m. services. The Alpha Course will meet at 9:15 a.m. in the Vestry Meeting House. Call 703-339-6572.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 21

Famine Immigration. 1 p.m. Via Zoom. Tyler Anbinder will discuss using genealogical research to tell the story of Irish immigration to New York City during the Great Famine. Anbinder is professor of History at George Washington University and the author of *City of Dreams: The 400-Year Epic History of Immigrant New York*. He also served as a consultant to Martin Scorsese's "The Gangs of New York." Visit the website: <http://www.mvgenealogy.org>. Register to this free zoom event at <http://www.mvgenealogy.org/cpage.php?pt=111> OR by emailing contact-us@mvgenealogy.org.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 25

Classic Car Show. 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. At the Alexandria History Museum at The Lyceum, 201 South Washington Street in Old Town Alexandria. Classic car show featuring a variety of Packards and other "orphan" vehicles. This show will bring together cars that are no longer manufactured – hence the term "orphans." The show is free and is co-sponsored by Packards Virginia and the Alexandria History Museum at The Lyceum. Visit packardsva.org or call 703-424-5871.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 25

Hollin Hills House + Garden Tour. 12 to 6 p.m. Admission: Regular: \$50 per person; VIP: \$80 per person. Registration at Hollin Meadows Elementary School, 2310 Nordock Place, Alexandria. This self-guided walking tour will showcase stunning examples of mid-century modern architecture, landscaping and interior design. New this year, participate in special activities throughout the day such as morning yoga, a furniture showcase and more. All ticket holders are must check in at registration to receive a wristband and program that includes a listing and map of all the homes and gardens open during the tour. The tour will take place rain or shine. Sponsors and VIP ticket holders can register beginning at 10 a.m. and access the tour early at 11 a.m. Visit hollinhillsmodern.com

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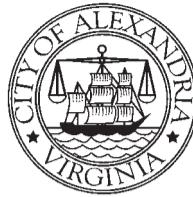
The annual Newcomers and Community Guides for each of our 8 communities with inside facts on what makes each community special, their secret places, the real power players, how to get involved and more.

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Legals**Legals**

Public Hearing will be held by the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, held at City Hall, 301 King Street, Council Chamber and on Zoom webinar on Saturday, September 18, 2021 at 9:30 a.m., or as soon as may be heard on the hereinafter described items.

AN ORDINANCE to authorize the owner of the property located at 2800 Hope Way to construct and maintain an encroachment for a portion of a staircase on North Beauregard Street (Implementation Ordinance for Encroachment No. 2021-00001 associated with 2800 Hope Way - The Spire & Episcopal Church of the Resurrection approved by City Council on May 15, 2021).

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain the Master Plan of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, by adopting and incorporating therein the amendment heretofore approved by city council to the Landmark/Van Dorn chapter of such master plan as Master Plan City of Alexandria Page 8 Printed on 9/13/2021 City Council Legislative Meeting Docket - Final September 14, 2021 Amendment No. 2020-00009 and no other amendments, and to repeal all provisions of the said master plan as may be inconsistent with such amendment (Implementation Ordinance for Master Plan Amendment No. 2020-00009 associated with 5701, 5701B, 5801, 5815, 5901 Duke Street - Landmark Neighborhood CDD approved by City Council on July 6, 2021).

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Sheet No. 047.02 of the "Official Zoning Map, Alexandria, Virginia," adopted by Section 1-300 (OFFICIAL ZONING MAP AND DISTRICT BOUNDARIES), of the City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance, by rezoning the properties at 5701, 5701 B, a portion of 5815, and 5901 Duke Street from CR/Commercial Regional to CDD #29/Coordinated Development District #29 and 5801 and a portion of 5815 Duke Street from CRMU-M/Commercial Residential Mixed Use (Medium) to CDD #29/Coordinated Development District #29 in accordance with the said zoning map amendment heretofore approved by city council as Rezoning No. 2021-00003 (Implementation Ordinance for Rezoning No. 2021-00003 associated with 5701, 5701B, 5801, 5815, 5901 Duke Street - Landmark Neighborhood CDD approved by City Council on July 6, 2021).

A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE for the Support of the City Government for FY 2022.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Section 5-602 (COORDINATED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS CREATED, CONSISTENCY WITH MASTER PLAN, REQUIRED APPROVALS) of Article V (MIXED USE ZONES) of the City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance, in accordance with the text amendment heretofore approved by city council as Text Amendment No. 2021-00002 (Implementation Ordinance for Text Amendment No. 2021-00002 associated with 5701, 5701B, 5801, 5815, 5901 Duke Street - Landmark Neighborhood CDD approved by City Council on July 6, 2021).

AN ORDINANCE to Create the Landmark Community Development Authority ("CDA")

AN ORDINANCE to amend Chapter 2 (TAXATION) of Title 3 (FINANCE, TAXATION AND PROCUREMENT) of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended by adding new Article Z (LOCAL DISPOSABLE PLASTIC BAG TAX).

AN ORDINANCE to amend Section 3-3-2 (APPLICATION) of Article A (GENERAL PROVISIONS) of Chapter 3 (Purchases and Contractual Services) of Title 3 (FINANCE, TAXATION AND PROCUREMENT) of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended and consideration of a resolution for adoption of Guidelines for the use of the Virginia Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act of 2002 ("PPEA").

PUBLIC HEARING and Consideration of an Amendment to Five-Year License Agreement dated December 1, 2019, between the City of Alexandria, Virginia and Crown Castle Fiber, LLC., to Permit Crown Castle to Install an 150 foot Build of Four Conduits and Fiber Optic Cables in the City of Alexandria's Public Rights-of-Ways.

PUBLIC HEARING and Consideration of A Second Amendment to a Five-Year License Agreement dated December 1, 2018, between the City of Alexandria Virginia and Zayo Group, LLC. to Permit Zayo to Install Two Conduit and Fiber Optic Builds (a northern build of approximately 3,201 linear feet and a southern build of approximately 2,978 linear feet) to 701 East Glebe Road in the City of Alexandria's Public Rights-of-Ways.

THE PUBLIC IS ADVISED THAT AMENDMENTS OR ADDITIONS MAY BE MADE TO PROPOSED ORDINANCES WITHOUT FURTHER PUBLICATION. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT PERSONS INTERESTED IN ANY OF THESE ORDINANCES OBTAIN FREE FULL-TEXT COPIES FROM THE CITY CLERK AT CITY HALL(LIMITED COPIES AVAILABLE). If the mayor finds and declares that weather or other conditions are such that it is hazardous for members to attend the meeting, this meeting will be continued to the following Saturday, SEPTEMBER 25, 2021. GLORIA SITTON, CMC, CITY CLERK

NEWS



Save the River Farm has been said more than once over the last year.

PHOTOS BY MIKE SALMON/THE CONNECTION

County Goes to Bat for River Farm in Mount Vernon

Move is for preservation but never say never.

BY MIKE SALMON
GAZETTE PACKET

On Tuesday, Sept. 14, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors took another step to try to save the River Farm, and approved the Zoning Ordinance Amendment for Historic Overlay Districts by a vote 9-0-1, with Supervisor Herrity abstaining. This tightens up zoning restrictions, part of a continuing effort to save the land at River Farm. The zoning effort began last April when the Board of Supervisors looked to establish the land as the Wellington at River Farm Historic Overlay District ("WHOD").

The amendment states that any locality may adopt an ordinance setting forth the historic landmarks within the locality as established by the Virginia Board of Historic Resources, and any other buildings or structures within the locality having an important historic, architectural, archaeological or cultural interest, any historic areas within the locality.

Supervisor Dan Storck (D-Mount Vernon) is happy with the decision, but notes that preservation is not etched in stone. "The County Board has consistently been very supportive of protecting this natural resource and committed to ensuring it remains available to future generations. I am pleased with the decision to add this additional protection to the Wellington at River Farm Historic Overlay Dis-



The view of the Potomac River from the farm.

trict.

I also think the vast majority of Mount Vernon residents are very pleased with the decision, although I am not sure they understand that this protection still does not necessarily preserve the property. While this step is helpful, until the [American Horticultural Society] Board comes to a consensus on a plan that preserves, protects and keeps River Farm open to the public, we will need to be vigilant of any actions the AHS Board takes," Storck said.

The American Horticultural Society owns River Farm, and in May the AHS Board said they would begin formal negotiations with NOVA Parks and the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust for those organizations to buy River Farm and keep it open to the public.

But Alan Rowsome, executive director of Northern Virginia Con-

servation Trust, recently said that the AHS has not engaged in any meaningful negotiations, and has kept the property listed for sale. "It appears that a developer has submitted a letter of intent to purchase River Farm – along with several adjacent properties – to build a large-scale commercial business there," Rowsome said. "Accepting such an offer would be a betrayal of the original intent of Enid Annenberg Haupt's financial gift that AHS used to purchase River Farm in 1973 and would cast aside their commitment to work with local government, parks organizations, and conservation groups to ensure the future of this unique community asset."

But with prime homes in the area selling for top prices and little land left for new development, the pressure to develop the property is likely to continue.

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Legals

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Foxtrot Retail DC LLC trading as Foxtrot, 701 King St Alexandria VA 22314-3014. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine & Beer On Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Mike Lavitola, Officer/ The Veritas Law Firm. NOTE:

Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

Announcements

Mock Jurors Needed

National Company seeking Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudoun, Prince William, and Stafford County residents to serve as paid Jurors to evaluate a real legal case on Sept 23rd. Call ASAP 1-888-362-8760

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22315: Includes Furniture, Antiques, household items, pool table, garden furniture, garage shelving etc and free items. The Moving Sale takes place the same day that Kingstowne is having their community yard sale.



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Obituary



Evelyn Blakeney

On Sunday morning September 5, 2021, Evelyn Blakeney, a long-time resident of Alexandria, Virginia (Gum Springs) in Fairfax County, VA, passed after enduring an extended illness. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a private family viewing will be held at Everly-Wheatley Funeral Home, 1500 West Braddock Road, Alexandria, VA on Saturday morning September 11, 2021 at 9:00 am. The funeral service will be held via Zoom on Saturday September 25, 2021 at 1:00 pm. <https://www.everly-wheatley.com/tributes/Evelyn-Blakeney>

Obituary



Gail Teuten Noyes passed away peacefully on Monday, June 14, 2021 at The Goodwin House in Alexandria, Virginia. Beloved wife of the late Charles Hall Noyes, she is survived by her three devoted children, Jennifer (Bruce) McCulloch, Kathryn (Michael) Walsh and Stephen Noyes. She was the loving grandmother to four grandsons, Connor, the late Brendan, Will and Declan McCulloch. She was predeceased by her two brothers, Thomas (Diane) Teuten and Craig (Eileen) Teuten and is survived by her sister Pam (Dale) Fessler. Gail was born in Jamaica, New York on December 6, 1938 to Thomas and Grace Teuten. They resided in Rockville Centre, NY. Gail graduated with a B.A. from Simmons College in Boston, MA in 1960 and became an elementary school teacher in the Freeport, NY school system. After marrying Chuck, they primarily

lived in Ridgefield, CT and Basking Ridge, NJ where Gail was a substitute teacher and then a realtor at William Pitt and Coldwell Banker. She was active in church and many other volunteer organizations. Gail enjoyed traveling, golf, tennis and skiing. Upon retirement Gail moved to the Pine Hills in Plymouth, MA. In 2018 Gail moved to Alexandria, VA to be close to her grandsons. She enjoyed watching their athletic games, volunteering at Alexandria Hospital and most of all being with family and friends. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the ALS Association www.donate.als.org, Basking Ridge Presbyterian Church www.brpc.org and Westminster Presbyterian Church in Alexandria, VA www.wpc-alex.org

A memorial service will take place at the Basking Ridge Presbyterian Church on October 2, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.

Obituary



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On My Late Father's Birthday No Less

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

To say I'm looking forward to my next round of scans (CT and bone) on Sept. 23 would be "Geminological." I am, and I'm not. I am not looking forward to the scans because the results, likely emailed to me within day or two - or three if late, will indicate whether my life hangs in the balance or, whether what happened to me in the Houston airport on July 20th was in fact a healing miracle - for which I'm quite eager to find out, or merely the act of a kind-hearted, well-intended soul spreading the gospel that Jesus saves.

As I mentioned in one of the "arc" columns recounting the second degree burns I accidentally inflicted on the soles of both my feet on Crystal Beach (actually it was the pavement I walked across from Crystal Beach to our accommodations) near Galveston, Tx. There, on the way home, I met a woman in the airport named Solange who offered to change my life through the power of healing prayer as practiced/perform at the Dwelling Place Church located in Houston where she is a congregant and devotee. Even though the gate in the airport where I was sitting was extremely crowded, she navigated her way through all the commotion and managed to end up near where I was sitting. It's almost as if she sought us out, somehow. Anyway,

She made her way over to the row of chairs at the departure gate where I was sitting, stretched across two chairs in a meager attempt to lessen the pain in my feet. My wife, Dina, looked at Solange as she sort of looked around for somewhere to sit and apologized for my taking up multiple seats, explaining briefly that I was in pain due to the burns on my feet. Without hesitation, Solange immediately offered up some healing prayers if I were amenable. Looking over at Dina, while sort of snickering, we said "Sure, thank you." And after motioning for a nearby male friend/fellow church member to join her, the two of them soon began praying on my behalf, not in unison, but similar.

I can't remember if she - or they touched my feet but soon enough they were invoking God, Jesus Christ, God's children, relieve my suffering and one or two other healing-type prayers. When they finished, after 10 seconds or so, we thanked them again. Then thinking to myself, I got greedy. I said aloud to Solange something like "Actually, the burns on my feet aren't my most serious problem: I have cancer." To which she instinctively offered up another round of prayers, with our blessing of course, for good health and future well-being. When she finished she walked away and re-joined her friends. In taking it all in, I felt quite fortunate for the experience and extremely grateful she reached out to someone she didn't even know.

It's been nearly eight weeks since our meeting at the airport. Given the excruciating pain I experienced for weeks upon my return home to Maryland, I can't say with too much conviction that my feet healed any quicker than the "weeks, not months" advisory we got from the Urgent Care doctor I visited back home later that evening. But that was then. This is now.

I have quarterly scans ahead which given the "terminal" nature of my papillary thyroid cancer, I could really use a miracle. So as naive as it may sound, I'm kind of looking forward to these upcoming scans. Certainly it would be a great story/unbelievable turn of events if my oncologist emailed me a "What happened? The tumors are gone." Although, for this kind of totally unexpected result, I imagine he'd probably call. I'm not holding my breath though, but with the combined efforts of Solange, modern medicine, and perhaps my late father pulling a few strings for me on his birthday, maybe, just maybe, I'll have a Paul Harvey-type "rest of the story" to share with you. If not, I'll continue to manage as I always have since I first was diagnosed in late Feb., 2009: I'll remain positive about the negative.

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



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Helping Children Develop Healthy Friendships

Positive relationships with peers offer happiness and security.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
GAZETTE PACKET

After a call from the guidance counselor at her son's school, Amy Lucas, a Chantilly, Va. mother of four, learned that her sixth-grade son sat alone in the school cafeteria and was often afraid to eat in front of other students.

"He's overweight and was being teased mercilessly because of it," said Lucas. "We started seeing a therapist because he was so depressed and had very few, if any friends."

From playdates for elementary school students to trips to the mall for middle and high school students, friendships can be a source of happiness, security and comfort. Some children have difficulty acquiring companions and need help developing the social skills necessary to overcome this challenge.

"Making friends and maintaining healthy relationships is a critical part of a child's social and emotional development," says Marta Cohen, an Alexandria-based therapist who specializes in teens with anxiety disorders. "Not only do they help build self-esteem, and self-confidence, they also help a child establish their identity. This is especially true for children in middle school and high school. Knowing that a group of your peers has your back a critical part of their growth."

Recognizing unhealthy relationships is just as important as nurturing those that are positive, says Cohen. "For example, if your child's so-called friend teases or belittles your child, especially at school or in other public settings, you can guarantee yourself that the relationship is toxic. The same is true for a friend who encourages your child to break rules at school or be disrespectful to teachers or other adults."

"Help your child identify the way that they feel after spending time with that friend, continued Cohen. "One thing that you don't want to do is forbid your child to see their toxic friend or criticize that friend. Doing so could cause your child to rebel. Try not to nag. Instead have a conversation about the



FILE PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE
Children playing with friends on an Arlington playground in June 2020.

"Making friends and maintaining healthy relationships is a critical part of a child's social and emotional development."

— Marta Cohen

consequences of the undesirable behaviors."

Developing and maintaining healthy friendships requires skills that not all children possess, says Laura Maxwell of Bethesda, a former school guidance counselor.

"Modeling healthy friendships by allowing your child to see you interact with your friends is one of the most effective ways to teach a child how to develop those skills," she said. "You can even discuss the characteristics that make your friendship a positive one. It's also important to make sure your child is treating others well and isn't bullying or teasing other children."

Put your children in environments where they are likely to meet children with whom they are compatible, says Maxwell. "If your daughter loves to dance, for example, try enrolling her in a ballet class and she'll meet other children who share her interests," she said. "Encourage your child to make a wide variety of friends, which will also help strengthen their social skills."

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