

Alexandria Gazette Packet



25 CENTS

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MAY 12, 2022

National Rebuilding Day

Volunteers make crucial repairs for homeowners in need.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Volunteers from the Del Ray Business Association, Del Ray Citizens Association, and the Jen Walker Team joined forces April 30 to complete exterior upgrades for the local nonprofit Friends of Guest House facility as part of National Rebuilding Day.

Repairs included removing dead tree branches, painting railings, trim on the front porch and the fire escape, mulching the garden area, and landscaping the front and side yards.

“Keeping things safe and maintained has a really profound effect on our residents,” said Friends of Guest House Executive Director Kari Galloway. “Many of our residents – both at the residential house and the aftercare house in the West End - feel they don’t deserve to live in a nice neighborhood or home. When the community comes in to help like this, it has a huge impact and shows our residents that there are people who care about them. All of this adds to their self-worth.”

National Rebuilding Month is an annual month-long call to service during April, culminating with Na-



Volunteers from Westminster Presbyterian Church pose for a photo after performing repairs for an Alexandria homeowner April 30 as part of National Rebuilding Day.

“Keeping things safe and maintained has a really profound effect on our residents.”

— Friends of Guest House Executive Director Kari Galloway

tional Rebuilding Day on the last Saturday of the month. Across the country, volunteer teams make crucial safety repairs for homeowners in need.

In Alexandria, volunteers from Walsh, Colucci, Lubeley & Walsh completed critical repairs for an Alexandria homeowner who has lived in Alexandria her entire life



Volunteers from Walsh, Colucci, Lubeley and Walsh perform repairs on a set of steps for an Alexandria homeowner April 30 as part of National Rebuilding Day.

and in this residence since 2007.

Volunteers cleaned up debris that had built up in the backyard, replaced a door on a back shed, and replaced stairs that lead to a side door. By replacing the stairs, it enabled the homeowner to have an alternate exit from the home in the case of fire or another emergency.

“This team of volunteers, I love them, they’re so easy to get along

with and the communication is everything,” said the homeowner, who prefers to remain anonymous.

Across town, a team from Westminster Presbyterian Church worked on the home of a lifelong resident who has lived in her home for more than 40 years.

Recently widowed, the resident has not been able to complete the needed repairs, particularly to the

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Budget Fully Funds Schools

On May 4, the Alexandria City Council unanimously adopted a Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 General Fund Operating Budget of \$839,213,971, which represents an 8.9% increase from the FY 2022 budget.

The FY 2023 budget funds 100% of the Alexandria City Public Schools approved capital improvement program and the School Board’s proposed operating budget. The FY 2023 adopted budget includes no increase in the real estate tax rate, but the average residential tax bill is expected to increase \$445, or 6.5%, when compared to 2021 residential tax bills because of increases in property assessments.

The new fiscal year begins

July 1, 2022.

The approved budget maintains core services that support those who need help the most; and promotes equity through programs aimed at maximizing Alexandria’s affordability and accessibility, according to the city.

“As we continue to emerge from the pandemic, this budget finances our City’s recovery,” said Alexandria Mayor Justin Wilson. “It invests in our employees, our basic services, our infrastructure and our schools, while incorporating the lessons of the last two years.”

The budget includes personal property tax relief for all vehicles by adopting a tax ratio of 78.8% on the assessed value of vehicles, discounting a vehicle’s actual market value by 21.2% for Tax Year 2022 to reflect unprecedented val-

ue appreciation. It is rare for used vehicles to gain value. Council has taken additional action to further minimize the tax burden on lower-valued cars. The City receives a fixed amount from the state each year to be used to help offset personal property taxes on the first \$20,000 of the assessed value of “personal use” vehicles. Due to the rising car values and the fixed amount of state funds, City Council has shifted the allocation of Personal Property Tax Relief funds to lower-value cars. The threshold for vehicles that receive a 100% state car tax subsidy will be increased, from \$1,000 and less to \$5,000 and less. This action is estimated to eliminate the local tax burden on more than 30,000 cars.

An increase in the residential refuse collection fee by \$15.78 (from

\$484.22 to \$500.00), and in the commercial refuse collection fee by \$89 (from \$411 to \$500), will help fund the City’s food waste composting drop-off program and a proposed curbside food waste composting pilot program.

According to the city, priorities included increased funding for climate change; employee compensation; DASH service expansion; affordable housing; the City’s race and social equity initiative; early childhood and other support programs for young Alexandrians; and public safety supporting initiatives, including the Alexandria Co-Response Program and the Body Worn Camera program. The budget also includes 4850 Mark Center Drive, which will house the Department of Community and Human Services, the Alexandria

Health Department and a West End service center, making City services more accessible to residents.

The budget includes other funding to strengthen public safety including increased police patrol staffing, incentive pay for Advanced Life Support firefighter training, and support for Complete Streets and Vision Zero projects.

The \$2.73 billion 10-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for FY 2023–2032 includes continued support of ACPS facilities (\$497.8 million), including a new high school, renovation and retrofitting of the 1705 N. Beauregard St. office building, and renovation and expansion of two elementary schools.



Coming Soon in Del Ray!

214 E. DEL RAY AVE | OFFERED AT \$999,000 | OPEN SUNDAY MAY 15, 2-4

Park in the car in the driveway and walk to all that is Del Ray! The caregivers (sellers) have carefully curated improvements with attention to preserving the integrity of the 1930s era. Architectural features make this property stand out. The open main floor living space includes an updated kitchen with built-in banquette, separate dining / family room, living room and powder room. The upper level features three bedrooms and updated bath. Hardwood flooring is featured on the main levels. The lower level is amazing storage and laundry area.

The rocking chair front porch is charming and the wisteria-covered rear deck with fenced rear yard allow for privacy. There is an outbuilding that is conditioned office/ work space/ studio.

Located in the heart of Del Ray you can walk to the Farmers Market, phenomenal restaurants and all that is happening in this very special community.

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Taking on Beyer

Five Republican candidates seek nomination in convention to challenge incumbent congressman.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Usually Republicans have to recruit candidates to run against four-term U.S. Rep. Don Beyer (D-8). Not this year. Five Republicans are seeking the Republican nomination for the 8th Congressional District in a convention later this month. On the campaign trail, the G.O.P. candidates are calling for a prominent public health official to be jailed, undocumented immigrants to be deported, public education to be privatized and controversial issues to be banished from the classroom.

"These are make-a-statement candidates, playing to a small far-right base in that district," said Mark Rozell, dean of the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University. "The real race for Congress in this district is always the Democratic nomination, the outcome of which is tantamount to election in November."

Beyer will be facing challenger Victoria Virasingh in the June 21 primary. Instead of choosing their candidate in a primary, though, Republicans will select their nominee in a May 28 convention at the Waterford Events Center in Springfield. The field includes immigrants from the Soviet Union and South Korea as well as an unsuccessful congressional candidate from the last election cycle. Most of the candidates are self-funded.

"I doubt the GOP will put any money in this race," said Rozell. "Why waste it when there are real competitive races in Virginia this year?"

KARINA LIPSOM has raised the most money out of the candidates, more than \$60,000. Her top contributor is Brian Johnson, vice president of Veterans Guardian, a consulting firm that helps veterans file for disability benefits. Lipsman has a bachelor's degree from Towson University in 2009 and a graduate degree from Johns Hopkins University in 2012. She arrived in this country as a refugee from the Soviet Union, surviving on food stamps and living in low-income housing in Baltimore. She says she's running for Congress to bring change to the country and the district. During a recent candidates forum, she called for the detention of the longtime director of the National Institute of Allergy and In-



Left to right: Karina Lipsom, Kezia Tunnell, Heerak Christian Kim, Jeff Jordan and Monica Carpio.

fectious Diseases, Anthony Fauci.

"Fauci should be jailed. We all know that," said Lipsman, prompting applause during a recent meeting of the Alexandria City Republican Committee. "We should do our own research."

Fauci has become a hated figure among certain elements of the right wing. During a recent rally in North Carolina, U.S. Rep. Madison Cawthorn (R-N.C.) also called for Fauci to be jailed. Similarly, U.S. Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene (R-Ga.) introduced the Fire Fauci Act, which suggests the chief medical advisor to the president "failed to provide Americans with accurate information" about the pandemic. She also called for members of the Alexandria School Board to be "fired" in reaction to an alleged sexual assault involving students at the Minnie Howard campus of Alexandria City Public High School.

"We've seen it right there at Minnie Howard High School in October when the School Board and everyone associated decided to cover up an assault on a young lady, and it wasn't exposed until March of this year," said Lipsman. "Everyone on that board should be fired."

HEERAK CHRISTIAN KIM is a registered nurse who is a native of South Korea. He routinely calls himself the "MAGA America First candidate," and his website declares that he is the "Leonardo Da Vinci of our generation." He has a bachelor's degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1990, a graduate degree from UCLA in 1991 and a graduate degree from Georgetown University in 2020. He says he's running to improve

FUNDRAISING INFORMATION

KARINA LIPSOM
 ❖ total receipts: \$60,341
 ❖ total disbursements: \$16,992
 ❖ cash on hand: \$43,349

TOP CONTRIBUTORS
 ❖ \$5,800 from Brian Johnson, vice president of Veterans Guardian
 ❖ \$3,250 from Charlie Platt, cybersecurity consultant at Arete Incident Response
 ❖ \$2,900 from Graham Abell, student in Baltimore
 ❖ \$2,900 from Thomas Henry, owner of Henry Wealth Management
 ❖ \$2,900 from Neil Patel, director of Neil Patel Consulting

HEERAK CHRISTIAN KIM
 ❖ total receipts: \$12,800
 ❖ total disbursements: \$11,241
 ❖ cash on hand: \$1,623

TOP CONTRIBUTOR
 ❖ \$12,400 loan from the candidate

JEFF JORDAN
 ❖ total receipts: \$9,125
 ❖ total disbursements: \$9,125
 ❖ cash on hand: \$0

TOP CONTRIBUTOR
 ❖ \$9,125 loan from the candidate

MONICA CARPIO
 total receipts: \$8,438
 total disbursements: \$8,165
 cash on hand: \$273

TOP CONTRIBUTORS
 \$5,000 from the candidate
 \$1,288 from Joseph Messina, finance manager at Koons Ford
 \$1,000 from Jorge Carpio, retired

KEZIA TUNNELL
 total receipts: \$0
 total disbursements: \$0
 cash on hand: \$0

education, healthcare and governmental services. When asked about immigration at a recent candidates forum, Kim called for mil-

lions of undocumented immigrants to be forcibly removed from the country.

"I want to build that wall,

strengthen the borders and deport 13 million illegals who are already in America," said Kim. "Your grandchildren will pay for them if we do not deport them back to their country."

During a recent candidates forum, he said critical race theory and "LGBT grooming" are "forced upon the classroom." He said America is "plagued by fake news," adding that he trusts news sources like One America News, Newsmax and Fox News. If elected, he says, he would try to eliminate the H-1B visa program, which allows U.S. employers to temporarily employ foreign workers to specialty occupations. He routinely posts images of a Confederate flag on his social media accounts to make a point about free speech.

"Virginians have a right to fly their Confederate flag at their homes without being persecuted, without being fired from their job," said Kim. "They have the right to celebrate their cultural heritage."

JEFF JORDAN is seeking a second nomination to run in the 8th Congressional District. Two years ago, he was the Republican nominee to run against Beyer, and he received 24 percent of the vote. He served in the U.S. Army from 1998 to 2014, and he earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Montana in 1999 and a graduate degree from National Intelligence University in 2012. If elected, he says, he will work to defeat "the immoral and unjust ideology of socialism."

"Do not forgive student loan debt," said Jordan. "You will see a drastic decrease in the number of Humanities majors, and the cost of those majors."

Jordan says he's inspired by the writings of Ayn Rand, and that he's spent his life fighting against "the socialist left." He says progressives want to erase history and make people dependent on government, adding that the left "has a hard time defining what a woman is." If elected, he says, he would eliminate government programs that incentivize people who avoid work. When asked about education, Jordan said the federal government should play "no role."

"We need to move our education system to the private sector. We need to privatize it," said Jordan. "Make it a market-based system."

MONICA CARPIO is a stay-at-home parent, economist and politi-

SEE FIVE REPUBLICAN, PAGE 14

'A Nurse to Everybody'

Bishop Ireton health clinic dedicated to Debbie File.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Family and friends gathered May 7 for the dedication of the Bishop Ireton Health Clinic in memory of Debbie File, a nurse who served in several capacities in the Alexandria community.

"Debbie will be seen and remembered every day by students who are cared for here," said Head of School Kathleen McNutt. "We're very excited to celebrate her and celebrate the File family."

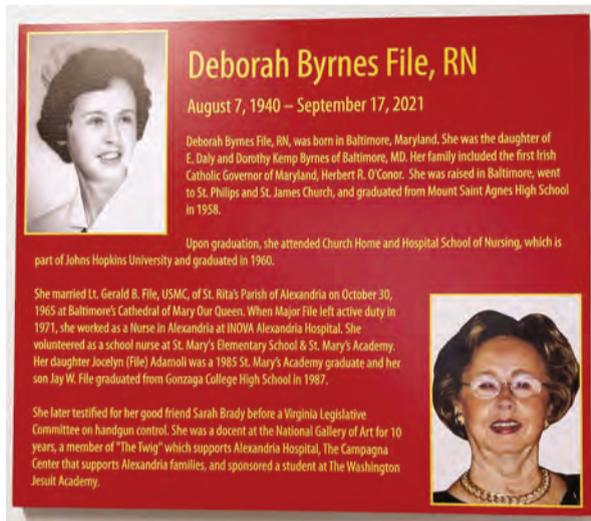
File died last September at Goodwin House following a brief illness.

"Debbie spent much of her life helping others," said her widower Jerry File. "Her heroes were Mother Teresa and Pope John Paul II. She was a strong practicing Catholic so the naming of the clinic in her honor is very fitting."

During her career, File practiced at the old Alexandria Hospital, the Circle Terrace Hospital and the Washington Hospital Center.

She worked in the Alexandria public school system at Parker-Gray Elementary School and as a volunteer nurse at St. Mary's Elementary School and St. Mary's Academy.

"In the Beverley Hills neighborhood where we lived, whenever a child was sick, Debbie got the first



A plaque hangs in the Bishop Ireton Health Clinic in memory of Debbie File, a dedicated nurse in the Alexandria community.

Bishop Ireton Head of School Kathleen McNutt, at right, joins the family of Debbie File at the May 7 dedication of the school's Health Clinic. Pictured are File's sister Cindy Golubin, widower Jerry File, grandson Charlie Adamoli, daughter Jocelyn Adamoli, son-in-law Joe Adamoli and sister-in-law Mary-Ellen File.



PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

"This is a special way to honor Mrs. File, who did tremendous work in the area of nursing."

Bishop Ireton Head of School Kathleen McNutt

call even before the doctor," said Jerry File. He added with a laugh, "In addition to wise counsel, she also provided you with ideas to maintain good health, even when you didn't ask."

File's daughter Jocelyn Adamoli was also in attendance.

"Mom was a nurse to every-

body," Adamoli said. "But she was more than a nurse, she was an angel on earth. This is a perfect way to honor her."

Added McNutt, "Our clinic is used non-stop for our students, so this is a special way to honor Mrs. File, who did tremendous work in the area of nursing."

City of Alexandria Recognizes First Annual National Fentanyl Awareness Day, May 10, On Heels of Recent Overdose Spike

Last week, the City issued a warning following twelve reported opioid overdoses in the city, six of which occurred in school-age youth who reported smoking little blue pills that they believed were Percocet.

With this as a backdrop, Alexandria took part in the first National Fentanyl Awareness Day on May 10 to raise awareness about fentanyl-laced illicit drugs. <https://www.fentanylawarenessday.org/>

Street drugs are often laced with fentanyl – an inexpensive and deadly substitute that is up to 100 times more potent than morphine – without the consumer's knowledge. Nationally, fentanyl-involved deaths are fastest growing among 14-to 23-year-olds.

Cutting fentanyl into other substances, including counterfeit prescription pills like Oxycodone, Percocet and Xanax and falsely marketing them has become common. The number of law enforce-

ment-seized counterfeit pills made with fentanyl has increased by 502% since 2019, according to a recently released NIDA study. According to the Drug Enforcement Agency, four out of ten pills with illicit fentanyl tested in their labs contain a potentially lethal dose.

According to preliminary data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, drug overdose deaths in the United States rose 29.4% in 2020 to 93,331 people, including 69,710 involving opioids.

The Virginia Department of Health reported in April that overdose deaths in the state rose 41.2% in 2020 to an estimated 2,297 people, with fentanyl-related overdoses accounting for 1,655 or 71% of all fatal overdoses. Total opioid overdoses increased almost 36% in Alexandria in 2020 to 84 people, including 14 fatal overdoses, the same as in 2019.

The Opioid Work Group and the

Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria encourage residents to quickly and widely spread potentially lifesaving information about fentanyl and to take action to prevent medication misuse and abuse by:

- ❖ Raising awareness about the importance of only taking medication prescribed by a doctor or purchased at a pharmacy.

- ❖ Sharing information about the dangers associated with illicit fentanyl hidden in fake pills and street drugs.

- ❖ Exploring resources available for parents and other caring adults to initiate conversations with youth on the consequences of substance use, healthy decision making, avoiding risky behaviors, responding to peer pressure, resources for treatment and recovery and more. <https://www.alexandriava.gov/SAPCA>

- ❖ Disposing of unused or expired medication via one of several

safe options for disposal, including permanent medication drop-off locations, requesting a free drug disposal kit by mail for at-home disposal, and learning about methods for disposing of medication at home.

- ❖ Accessing free locking medication boxes to secure necessary prescription and over-the-counter medication. <https://www.alexandriava.gov/youth-development/suicide-risks-and-prevention-resources-and-information#LockTalkVirginiaLockMedsLockGunsTalkSafety>

To help prevent overdoses, the City also makes available free Narcan and fentanyl test strips. Narcan is an easy-to-use nasal spray that can save the life of someone experiencing an opioid overdose, and fentanyl test strips detect the presence of the synthetic opioid. Narcan is available by calling the Alexandria Health Department at

703-746-4888, and without a prescription at most pharmacies. City of Alexandria residents can have free Narcan and/or fentanyl test strips mailed to them, by emailing opioids@alexandriava.gov.

The City's Department of Community and Human Services can help locate treatment options in Alexandria for anyone dealing with substance use and is available 24 hours a day at 703-746-3636 (Virginia Relay 711). To get help with stopping the use of heroin or other opioids, call the Opioid Treatment Program intake line at 703-746-3610.

Always call 911 immediately if you suspect someone is overdosing, so that Narcan can be administered.

Visit alexandriava.gov/SAPCA to learn more about ways to prevent substance misuse. Visit alexandriava.gov/Opioids for more information about Alexandria's efforts to fight the national opioid epidemic.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



PHOTOS BY GLENDA BOOTH

Inside the Virginia Florist, the shop sells flowers, soaps, jewelry, candles, cards and more.

Maps Tell Stories of the Past

BY GLENDA C. BOOTH
MOUNT VERNON GAZETTE

“People have been making maps of the Mount Vernon area for four centuries and maps convey more than pictures,” Kevin Green began as he shared images of his historic map collection with 60 history buffs at the May 3 meeting of the Mount Vernon Regional Historical Society at Sherwood Hall Regional Library. “I’m obsessed with maps,” he said.

Green has owned the Virginia Florist in the Belle View Shopping Center since 2000 and today has reproductions of around 12 historic maps of the local area for sale amid the hundreds of gifts and flowers that fill the shop.

Noting that men generally do not buy gifts as readily as women, Green quipped that he started selling maps “to get men to the store. It worked like a charm,” he told the group.

Significant U.S. History Is Everywhere Locally

The Mount Vernon area is the most historic part of the United States except perhaps Manhattan and Charleston, South Carolina, Green believes. To make his point, he explained that English explorer Captain John Smith sailed up the Potomac River, mapped the area and “chatted up the Indians.”

The country’s first president, General George Washington, and his wife Martha, lived on the Mount Vernon estate. The General led the American colonies to independence in the Revolutionary War and chose Washington as the nation’s capital city.

Among the many local, historic tidbits Green shared were these:

- ❖ Arcturus Cove on the Potomac near today’s Wellington Community was a seasonal

SEE MAPS TELL, PAGE 10

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Kevin Green, the Virginia Florist owner, and the 1862 Sneden map.



An 1862 map of Alexandria and Hunting Creek by New Yorker Robert Sneden, the busiest (and often mistaken) Union mapmaker of the Civil War. Shuter’s Hill is the site of today’s Masonic Memorial, west of the Alexandria train station.

2nd Annual

ALEXANDRIA OLD TOWN Springtime Art festival

May 14th - 15th

Sat./Sun. 10am - 5pm



Annie Simcoe

Outdoors at John Carlyle Square
100 John Carlyle St.
in Alexandria, VA

FREE ADMISSION



Mark your calendar for the fall show!
September 17th - 18th, 2022

'Don't Just Sit There'

Many of us viewed the Washington Post's folding of its weekday Express news digest as a reflection of its new ownership, but surely Washington City Paper's decision to cease publishing its print edition and transition to on-line only with a smaller staff sent shudders down the spine of every weekly in the Washington metropolitan area.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Connection Newspapers cannot just sit there waiting for the shoe to fall for the country's oldest newspaper in continuous publication. You have to do something — not just any something — the right something, that recognizes that print is still relevant and the public still needs it, maybe now more so than ever in a polity beset by algorithmically driven division which is causing some observers to worry about the polity sundering into civil strife or even civil war.

"A physical paper has a presence in the community in a way that a website just doesn't," insists former Loose Lips writer Will Sommer. Former City Paper

intern Reginold Royston laments, "With everything being so digital and competing for your attention through streams of data or media, you lose something that is tangible, static ... that cements the conversation ... you can get that by the immediacy of commenting and blogs, but our attention span moves way too quickly now. And we move through news way too quickly. ... [But] with something that sits around and demands your attention with something that's tangible, with these great images, photographs, that's what we've lost. We've lost the ability to have a common conversation in one space and there being an object of that conversation. Now ... everything is overwhelming us."

Former staffer Eddie Dean lamented, "Good night, sweet print. You were a blast while it lasted."

Former editor Jack Shafer, though, took a longer view; he has "been waiting for this to happen for a long time because so many of the other papers in the country have fallen. Mortality seems to have been built into these papers, and they have expired as both a cultural and as a business force."

He is "sure that people were really upset when horse and buggies departed," but sees City Paper's print edition's demise as "an inevitable end."

Print newspapers will meet "an inevitable end" only if they fail to rise to the challenge which technology and the changed business practices it has wrought pose. Of all the great technological advances in the 19th and 20th Centuries, Time-Life and several other sources ranked Johannes Gutenberg's printing press in the 15th Century as the most influential invention of the Millennium. Nothing better exemplifies the public role of the written word than the printed newspaper which brings a diverse society together in a common cultural, commercial, and social platform helmed by journalists who take seriously an ethical responsibility to report news and strive to keep opinion and perspective in editorials and op-eds where they belong. In trying to emulate on-line platforms, many of which blur news, analysis, and opinion, many newspapers have sacrificed objectivity, while online media turn objectivity into a bad business practice because advertising

revenue requires algorithmically driven bias-confirmation against which an on-line only news site which attempts to maintain objectivity cannot successfully compete.

Newspapers, especially those like local weeklies most vulnerable to the trend which has claimed City Paper's print product, owe both themselves and their loyal readers more than waiting like deer in the headlights for the next shoe to fall. Newspapers are still needed -- they are not obsolete, but their business model of relying on dwindling sources of advertising revenues, when advertisers can find cheaper, more effective on-line tools to target consumers, might be obsolete.

Newspapers may need to explore becoming charitable nonprofits, still deriving advertising revenue, but covering losses with tax-deductible contributions. Because doing so may require adjustments to tax and incorporation laws, newspapers need to start planning now for new ways to support their continuing existence for the reading public they serve.

Dino Drudi
Alexandria

Within the Framework of the Constitution

This letter from Chairman Jeff McKay to Gov. Glenn Yougkin concerning homes of Supreme Court Justices in Fairfax County is shared with our readers:

Dear Governor Youngkin,
Thank you for your letter and our conversations regarding the recent and anticipated demonstrations at the homes of Supreme Court Justices residing in Fairfax County.

As you may be aware, both pro-life and pro-choice gatherings have occurred at Justice Samuel Alito's home over the last several days. On each of these two occasions, the groups peacefully assembled for a matter of minutes and self-dispersed without incident.

Our Fairfax County Police Department remains committed to keeping the Justices, their families, the affected neighborhoods, and demonstrators safe. We will enforce laws that serve to protect persons and property. Our police officers are equally committed to protecting the First Amendment

guarantees afforded to those who gather to exercise their freedom of speech. These two endeavors are not mutually exclusive.

Your suggestion to establish a "perimeter" for the purpose of "limiting unauthorized vehicle and pedestrian access" to neighborhoods surrounding the homes of the Justices is paramount to a checkpoint that federal courts have held violates the Fourth Amendment. There are obvious First Amendment concerns as well.

Our well-trained, sophisticated Fairfax County Police Department stands ready as always to take necessary action, if needed, to protect public safety. They do this without consideration of politics or the opinions expressed by any group demonstrating in the County.

Chief Kevin Davis remains in contact with Virginia State Police Superintendent Gary Settle, Supreme Court Police Chief Paul Coleman and Fairfax County Commonwealth Attorney Steve Descano. I know we too will stay in

communication.

Thank you again for your letter. We are committed to working within the framework of the U.S. Constitution to ensure the safety of the Justices, their families, af-

fectured neighborhoods and those gathered to express a variety of viewpoints.

Jeffrey C. McKay
Chairman

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.

Send letters

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NEWS DEPARTMENT:
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher

Mary Kimm
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
@MaryKimm

Jeanne Theismann

jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
@TheismannMedia

Janet Barnett, John Bordner, Mark Mogle

Contributing Photographers
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Shirley Ruhe

Contributing Photographer and Writer
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Eden Brown, Bridgette Adu-Wadier

Contributing Writers
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Hope Nelson

Food Writer
hope@kitchenrecessionista.com
@kitchenrecess

Michael Pope

Senior Reporter
michaelpope@gmail.com
@michaelpope

ADVERTISING:

For advertising information
sales@connectionnewspapers.com
703-778-9431

Debbie Funk

Display Advertising/National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

David Griffin

Marketing Assistant
703-778-9431
dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

Classified & Employment Advertising

703-778-9431

Publisher

Jerry Vernon
703-549-0004
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Art/Design:

Laurence Foong
Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

Editor Emeritus:

Mary Anne Weber

CIRCULATION

Circulation Manager:

Ann Oliver
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

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Award Winning Newspaper



PHOTOS COURTESY OF VIVIANE PEDRUCO

Marymount University Interior Design student Viviane Pedruco maximized light to create an airy master bedroom for a Bethesda family.

When Accessibility And Style Collide

Award-winning Marymount University student combines universal design and bold colors to create the dream home for a Bethesda family.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
GAZETTE PACKET

When Juliette Blanche and Chris Willows relocated from Antibes, France to Bethesda, Maryland they wanted the interior of their new home to incorporate natural light, bold colors and universal design that would accommodate one of their three children who is wheelchair bound.

Blanche, who is French, and Willows tasked Marymount University Interior Design student Viviane Pedruco with making that vision a reality.

“The owners wanted a design for that combined natural elements [like] wood, plants, flowers with a Cote D’Azur aesthetic and pops of bright corals, oranges, yellows, blues, teals and greens,” said Pedruco, who was recently named a “Future100 Interior Design Graduate Winner,” an honor bestowed upon students who advocate for openness, equality and inclusion through their work. “The goal of the Blanche-Willows project was to deliver a comfortable space, with a relaxing atmosphere for the entire family, where coastal meets winter, garden meets cozy interiors, and



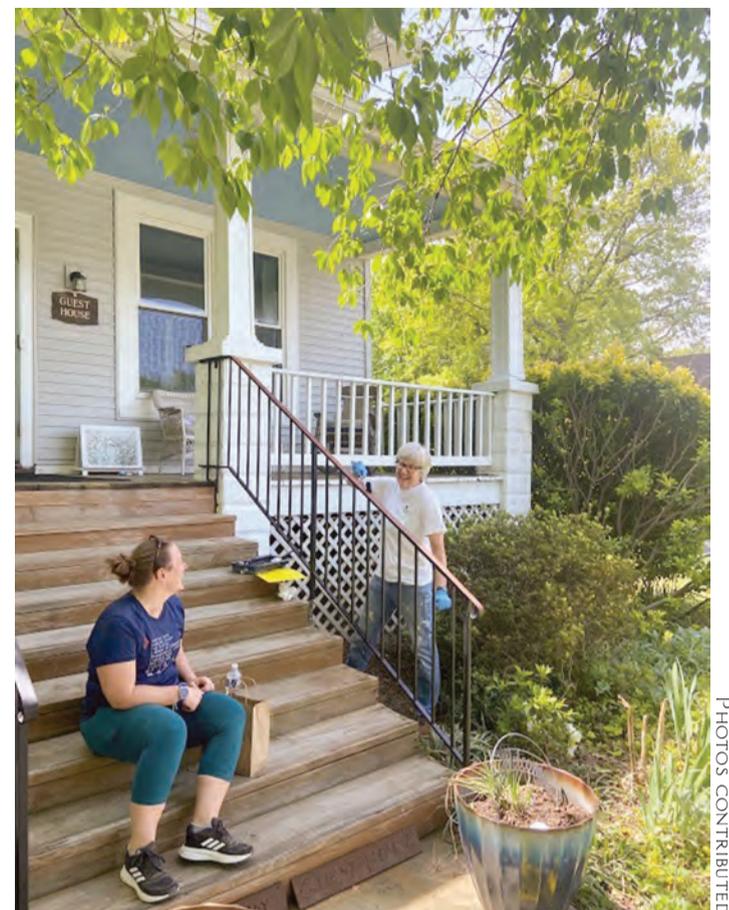
The bold colors and universal design in this dining room by Marymount University Interior Design student Viviane Pedruco meets the needs of a Bethesda family of five.

good quality meets unpretentiousness.”

Pedruco left her native country of Brazil where she worked as a helicopter pilot, to pursue a career that gave her an opportunity to explore her penchant for creativity. The Blanche-Willows project allowed her to meet the family’s needs with her design style.

“I had to incorporate clever systems to maximize storage and ac-

cessibility,” said Pedruco, who is from Rio de Janeiro. “I am passionate about color and I like to think that I have a sunny personality. I am also a mix of many cultures. I am the daughter of a Brazilian mother and a Portuguese father who was born in Macau, China and raised in Rio de Janeiro. I love my hometown, its colors, sounds, scents, contrasts, vibrancy and chaos.”



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

A group of Del Ray volunteers works at Friends of Guest House April 30 as part of National Rebuilding Day.

National Rebuilding Day

FROM PAGE 1

exterior.

With a deteriorating and unsecure fence, the group of volunteers built a new fence. An overgrown back lawn was weeded, trimmed, and landscaped with pink and purple flowers, the favorite colors of the homeowner.

“Nobody knows how much I appreciate what these people are doing for me,” said the homeowner.

Galloway praised the work and impact of the volunteers.

“When the community

comes in like this, it has a huge impact,” Galloway said. “There is an unintentional effect on the residents that having people who volunteer, of having people come in to make their house nicer and safer, is huge. These volunteers don’t have an agenda, they don’t want anything in return. They just care about the women because they care about the community. That has a huge impact on the women, who in turn think they, too, could one day give back.”

www.rebuildingtogetherdc.org



The Walsh, Colucci, Lubeley and Walsh team made repairs to the home of an Alexandria resident April 30 as part of National Rebuilding Day.

Over the Edge

Rappellers raise funds for New Hope Housing.



Lois Cook, vice president and wide receiver for the D.C. Divas, rappels down the Crystal City Hilton May 6 to support New Hope Housing.



Alexandria resident John Bordner celebrates after rappelling down the Crystal City Hilton May 6 for New Hope Housing.

By JEANNE THEISMANN
THE GAZETTE

Excitement was mixed with tinges of fear as more than 80 volunteers rappelled down the 14-story Crystal City Hilton as part of the Over the Edge fundraiser for New Hope Housing.

Held May 5 and 6, rappellers included Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chair Jeff McKay, who descended side by side with Arlington County Board member Matt de Ferranti.

McKay admitted he was hesitant but wanted to draw attention to the homeless situation throughout Northern Virginia.

"I was terrified when we started but as we went down it went a little bit easier," McKay said. "But even as scared as I was at the top of the building, it wasn't as scary as sleeping outside in the freezing cold, dead of winter like too many of our homeless people have to each night. So if I can raise awareness and overcome a fear of my own here today it is worth it. Most importantly I wanted to support New Hope and what they are doing."

Based in Alexandria, New Hope Housing is a nonprofit operating homeless shelters and housing programs across Northern Virginia. The event was an alternative to a traditional gala in the wake of the uncertainties of the pandemic.

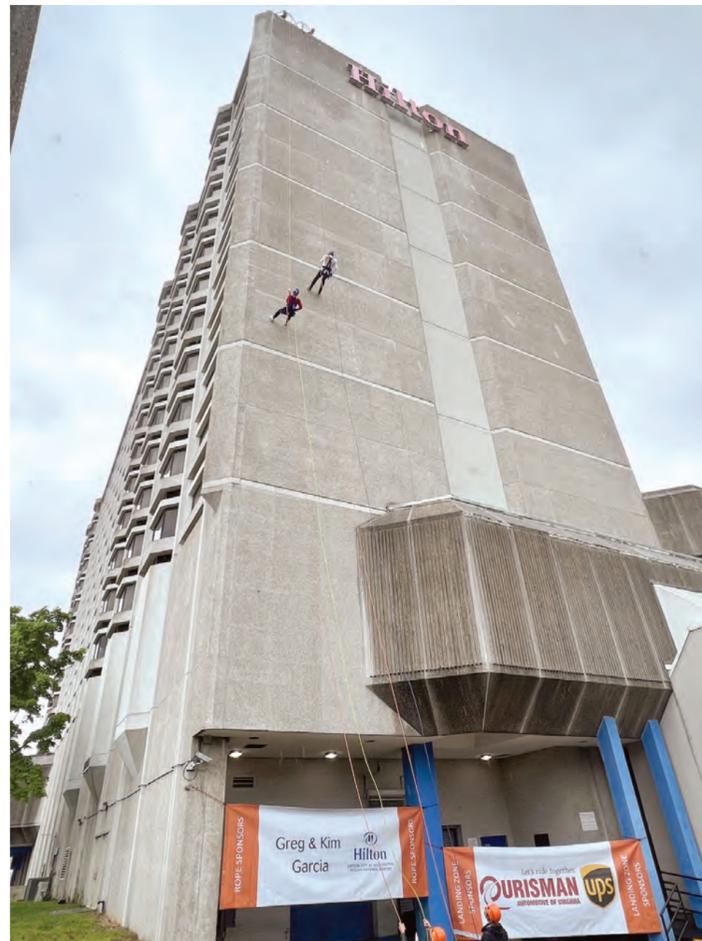
"This was a COVID-friendly way to raise funds that are desperately needed to support our mission," said Jan-Michael Sacharko, Director of Development for New Hope Housing. "Because of our partnerships with the Crystal City Hilton, Keller Williams Metro Center, sponsors and volunteers we were able to raise more than \$225,000."

Alexandria resident Christine Sennott of KW Metro Center was co-chair of the event and also descended 160-feet down the side of the hotel.

"I am petrified of heights," Sennott said. "But if I was going to ask agents and others to participate I had to put my money where my mouth is so I committed to doing this death-defying act."

Sennott said that the tag line for the event was "going over the edge for people who live on the edge."

"I tried to convince myself that my fear of heights was all in my mind," Sennott added. "That worked until I got up on the roof. The most terrifying part was step-



Alexandria resident John Bordner, on right, and Christy Keder of KW Metro Center rappel down the side of the Crystal City Hilton May 6 as part of the Over the Edge fundraiser for New Hope Housing.



Fairfax County Board of Supervisors chair Jeff McKay waves after descending 160-feet down the side of the Crystal City Hilton May 5 in support of New Hope Housing.

ping up on that ledge but struggling for a few moments to raise money for those who are struggling and suffering every day was something I could do to help them. It was still scary but the cause was worth it."

Added McKay, "It was an amazing experience and an opportunity to bring awareness to the urgent need to support the homeless population of Northern Virginia."

More than 40 members of the KW Metro Center team were on hand as volunteers coordinating the event, which attracted crowds despite the dreary skies.

"Even in the rain you couldn't chase the crowds away," Sennott said. "People were there cheering and supporting us and having a good time so along with the funds raised, our mission was accomplished."

"This was a COVID-friendly way to raise funds that are desperately needed to support our mission"

— Jan-Michael Sacharko,
Director of Development
for New Hope Housing

Crystal City Hilton General Manager Charles Hill and Rosemary Hughes with UPS Community Relations finish their 160-foot descent down the side of the Hilton May 5 as part of the Over the Edge fundraiser for New Hope Housing.

PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN
THE CONNECTION
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



The KW Metro Center team poses for a photo at the New Hope Housing welcome reception for the Over the Edge fundraiser May 5 at the Crystal City Hilton.



New Hope Housing Director of Development Jan-Michael Sacharko, at right, and Over the Edge co-chair Christine Sennott, third from left, pose with KW Metro Center volunteers at the May 6 Over the Edge rappelling fundraiser at the Crystal City Hilton.



Back to School

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Maps Tell Stories of the Past

FROM PAGE 5
Native American campsite.

❖ In 1810, a causeway crossed Hunting Creek from Alexandria to Fairfax County where U.S. 1 is today.

❖ The first crossing of Little Hunting Creek was built in 1936 near today's Gum Springs community.

❖ Collingwood Road is the oldest road in the area. Fort Hunt Road was once called "Neck Road."

❖ Across from today's Wayneswood in the low, "beachy area" along the Potomac shoreline, Clifton's Ferry was established in 1745, but no one ever used it because without roads, it was difficult to access. Washington created Posey's Ferry near today's Ferry Landing neighborhood.

❖ A mid-1800s map shows Dyke Marsh as "Hell Hole."

❖ Peter Jefferson, father of third U.S. president Thomas, made a map of Virginia.

Green shared a 1776 map that had few roads but showed what he called "Indian paths." Rivers and streams are prominent on many old maps. "Rivers were the roads of the day until the 1800s," he said.

French military commander Rochambeau, who collaborated with Washington and led French expeditionary forces in the Revolutionary War, drew maps of villages and his camps from Newport, Rhode Island, to Yorktown, Virginia, including areas near today's Telegraph Road and the former village of Old Colchester.

An 1862 map of Alexandria and environs by Robert Sneden "misplaced" Gunston Hall, home of George and Sarah Mason, siting it just south of Hunting Creek, 10 miles north of its actual location.

During the Civil War, the local

area was a "no man's land," Green said, because Fairfax County voted "to be associated with the Union" and did not secede. Union troops occupied Alexandria. An 1861 Union intelligence map shows Mount Vernon-area homes designed with a "U" for "Union sympathizer" or an "S" for "secessionist." Today's Belle View area and Fairchild Park near U.S. 1 were both sites of Union encampments.

An 1890 map, four feet by 15 inches by Peter Hains, shows plans for what was called "the national road" from Washington, D. C., to Mount Vernon Estate, a road that was never built, but superseded by a streetcar line in 1892 where 22 trains ran up and down its tracks daily. In 1932, the first segment of the Mount Vernon Parkway replaced the streetcar line.

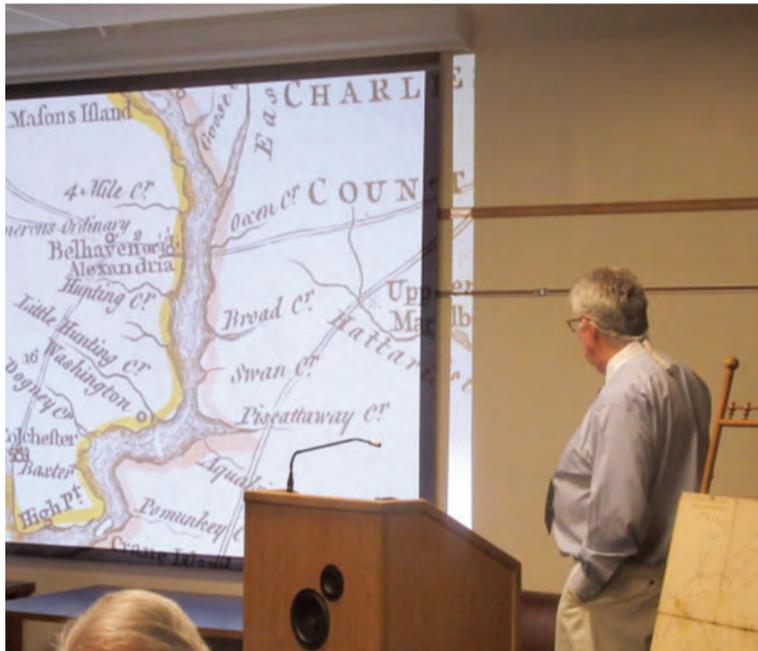
A Local Returned

Green grew up on Fort Hunt Road in the Hollin Hall subdivision, graduated from high school in Connecticut and got a bachelor's degree from Eisenhower College in Seneca Falls, New York, and a master's in business administration from William and Mary. Armed with a journalism major, he worked for a Seneca Falls newspaper and eventually became an editor for the American Institute of Architects, where he met his future wife, Kathy Deierlein from Columbia, South Carolina. Then working for Leo A. Daly, an architecture and interior design company, he traveled the world and was part of the team that designed the World War II Memorial and terminals B and C at National Airport.

In 1989, he returned to Mount Vernon and designed and built his house. There the couple raised their three, now-adult children -- Caitlin, William and Pledger -- all



Roxanna Diaz and Ledis Reyes, designers, and Green readying flowers in the shop.



Green discussed a 1753 map of Virginia by Joshua Fry and Peter Jefferson, Thomas Jefferson's father. It shows the Potomac River north of today's Prince William County to today's Theodore Roosevelt Island (Mason's Island) and Maryland creeks.

of whom graduated from West Potomac High School.

In 2000, he bought the florist shop, inspired by his grandfather who had the largest florist business in Seattle, Washington. Green likens the business to architecture because it requires designing and making what the client wants. He has up to five designers who make floral arrangements for customers like Washington's Watergate building, ten large law firms in the city and the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center. The night after Russia attacked Ukraine, he provided the symphony with blue and yellow flowers, Ukraine's national colors.

The mostly long-stemmed flowers come from all over the world, with roses arriving by airplane from Ecuador and Columbia, tulips from the Netherlands, orchids from Singapore and dahlias and orchids from Virginia. After getting fresh water, the flowers go into a cooler to await their sale.

Green estimates that he has 10,000 customers and grosses over \$1 million a year.

Trees Are Part of History Too

Green lamented the recent destruction of many mature trees by the ironically-named Evergreene Homes at the former Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church at the Fort Hunt Road and Belle View Boulevard intersection, trees "so big I could barely put my arms around them," he remarked. "When we lose trees, we lose the physical reminders of our history." Maps can help us remember and hopefully learn from some of that history.

To learn about John Smith's Virginia and the Chesapeake Bay maps, visit

<https://www.nps.gov/cajo/learn/smith-maps.htm>.



The 1890 map by Peter Hains (later Hains Point's namesake) that first proposed, here in solid and broken red lines, alternate routes for the National Road from Washington to Mount Vernon, 42 years later realized as the Mount Vernon Parkway. Hellhole Swamp is today called Dyke Marsh.



Early Dutch map based on Captain John Smith's 1608 chart of the Potomac River showing Native American villages.



John Savage's 1737 map of the Potomac River, showing Piscataway and Hunting Creeks, Alexandria, the sites of the Washington and Fairfax family homes ("Belvoir") and, above the Eastern Branch, the future location of the nation's capital. "Eastern Branch" refers to the Potomac River, today's Anacostia River.

PHOTOS BY
GLENDA BOOTH

Bike to Work Day Is May 20; City Pit Stops

City of Alexandria invites the community to participate in National Bike to Work Day, Friday, May 20. The free, annual event encourages the public to consider bicycle commuting as an affordable, efficient and environmentally friendly way of getting to work.

Alexandria residents will be among the thousands of area commuters who celebrate Bike to Work Day by cycling to pit stops on their way to work (or back home, if applicable) and participating in special events around the City and throughout the region.

Participants can register at biketoworkmetrodc.org for activities at four of nine Alexandria "pit stops," including:

- ❖ Conte's Bike Shop (1101 King St.) from 6:30 to 9 a.m. (City-sponsored pit stop)
- ❖ Pedego Bikes (210 N. Lee St.) from 6:30 to 9 a.m. (City-sponsored pit stop)
- ❖ Big Wheel Bikes (2 Prince St.) from 6:30 to 9:30 a.m. (City-sponsored pit stop)

sored pit stop)

- ❖ Wheel Nuts (302 Montgomery St.) from 6:30 to 9:30 a.m. (City-sponsored pit stop)

- ❖ Carlyle (300 John Carlyle St.) from 6 to 9 a.m.

- ❖ Del Ray (2704 Mt. Vernon Ave.) from 6 to 9 a.m.

- ❖ Fairlington Centre (1711 Centre Plaza) from 6:30 to 9 a.m.

- ❖ Mark Center North Parking Garage (across from 4825 Mark Center Drive) from 7 to 9 a.m.

- ❖ National Landing (3030 Potomac Ave.) from 3 to 6 p.m.

The City-sponsored pit stops will have grab-and-go refreshments and free swag. Bike to Work Day is free and open to all commuters; however, registration is required. The first 15,000 cyclists who register will receive a free t-shirt. Bike to Work Day is part of the City's observance of National Bike Month.

Visit alexandriava.gov/GOAlex for more information about Alexandria's Bike to Work Day events and National Bike Month.



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. Struct. Id.	Route #	Route Name	Crossing	Updated Date
NORTON	22454	58	EBL/ROUTE 58A	BEAR CREEK	4/28/2022
NORTON	22455	58	WBL/ROUTE 0058	BEAR CREEK	4/28/2022
ALLEGHANY	1199	710	STONEWALL LANE	DUNLAP CREEK	4/27/2022
BUCHANAN	4003	1020	GREAT OAKS RD	LEVISA FORK	4/26/2022
SCOTT	16808	670	HALES SPRING RD	VALLEY CREEK	4/26/2022
SCOTT	16698	623	SPEERS VALLEY RD	N FORK CLINCH RIVER	4/20/2022
HALIFAX	9317	716	DRYBURG RD	DIFFICULT CREEK	4/16/2022
SMYTH	17552	633	BEAVER CREEK RD	BEAVER CREEK	4/12/2022
BLAND	3045	602	SPUR BRANCH RD	SPUR BRANCH #1	4/8/2022
FRANKLIN	7951	739	GAP GATE RD/ROUTE739	GREEN CREEK	4/7/2022
BLAND	3111	625	CERES SCHOOL RD	N FORK HOLSTON RIVER #1	4/5/2022
RICHMOND	21310	7542	GROVE AVE	ROUTE 195 & CSX RR	4/1/2022

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 <https://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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Don't Overlook These 4 Longtime Favorites

BY HOPE NELSON
GAZETTE PACKET

The restaurant may have opened in 1978, but its menu is fresh today.

It's human nature: We're drawn to new and novel things. Concepts, people, hobbies and, yes, restaurants don't escape this "shiny new" viewpoint. But along with its fair share of upstarts, Alexandria is also home to many longtime stalwarts in the restaurant space that are just as good today as they were on the day they first opened. Here are four to jog your memory.

Ramparts, 1700 Fern St.

Politicians love it, neighbors love it, sports fans love it: Ramparts is indeed many things to many people. And why not? With American fare, intimate dining-room seating and a bar sporting multiple large televisions, it's got a setting (and a meal) for everyone. Burgers, salads, ribs and steak – from lighter meals to the heartiest, the menu runs the gamut. Peruse the extensive beer list for a libation to accompany your feast and settle in.

Los Tios, 2615 Mount Vernon Ave. and 241 S. Van Dorn St.

As the weather warms up, the patio at Del Ray's Los Tios location looks better and better. There's hardly a night that goes by when there's not a crowd hanging out enjoying the spring or summer air, sipping larger-than-life margaritas and noshing on chips and salsa. And several years ago, Los Tios expanded its business to the West End, opening its doors at a plum spot off Van Dorn Street. At either location, enjoy an array of enchiladas, burritos, fajitas and more – no matter the season.

Landini Brothers, 115 King St.

Landini Brothers just screams Old Town Alexandria. The Italian outpost has been a stalwart of the city for decades, sitting as it does on the first block of King Street. The interior, at once elegant and cozy, gets diners in the mindset for the menu, which offers up an array

of penne, linguine and tortellini, as well as chicken, beef and seafood. Toast the day with a glass of wine from Landini's extensive wine list – and don't skimp on dessert.

Hard Times Café, 1404 King St.

Speaking of comfort food, there is no better place to look for such fare than Hard Times Café. The chili joint, which has been serving up heaping helpings on King Street since 1980, is warm and inviting, beckoning diners on the coldest winter day and the hottest weeks of August. Whether you like your chili straight-up in a bowl, atop spaghetti, soaking into tater tots or on a hot dog, your needs will be met at Hard Times (and then some). Post up to one of the downstairs booths, or venture upstairs to a table – either direction will offer an inviting spot to kick back with friends and family.

Hope Nelson is the author of "Classic Restaurants of Alexandria" and owns the Kitchen Recessionista blog, located at www.kitchenrecessionista.com. Email her any time at hope@kitchenrecessionista.com.



Landini Brothers: This Italian outpost has been a stalwart of the city for decades, sitting as it does on the first block of King Street.

CALENDAR

NOW THRU MAY 28 (SATURDAYS)

Washington Whiskey Tasting. 2-5 p.m. At George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy, Mount Vernon. At this outdoor event, sample George Washington's whiskey and other distilled spirits made at Washington's Distillery. Enjoy a rare opportunity to taste Mount Vernon's one-of-a-kind distilled spirits. Sample 3 distilled spirits, made using 18th-century distilling methods and techniques. Hear from Mount Vernon's Historic Trades team about the history of distilling spirits, and tour George Washington's Distillery. This event is held at George Washington's Distillery & Gristmill which is located 2.7 miles from the main estate entrance

NOW THRU MAY 28

The "Drips, Lines, Splatters, and Splash: A Celebration of the Washington Color School" exhibit channels art spotlighting this movement. Juror Barbara Januszkiewicz selected artwork exhibiting remarkable use of color, movement, line, and sense of space, both representational and abstract. View at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. Open Thursdays 12-6 p.m., Fridays 12-9 p.m., Saturdays & Sundays 12-6 p.m. Details at DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits

NOW THRU MAY 29

Canvas Meets Curve. At the Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. Sabiha Iqbal and Paul Cunningham have been painting, critiquing, and exhibiting with a group of local artists since they met at



The Bookmaking and Binding Workshop will take place May 16-18 at the Del Ray Artisans Gallery in Alexandria.

the Corcoran School of Art and Design seven years ago. The Athenaeum show is the first joint exhibition for the two artists. While the formal aspects of their work appear very different, they have always been struck by the ways in which their bodies of work echo each other. At times their color palettes converge serendipitously, while the abstract figurations in Sabiha's canvases play off the bends and curves of Paul's three-dimensional pieces. Visit www.nvfaa.org.

NOW THRU JUNE 5

"SeeWorthy" Exhibit. At Torpedo Factory Art

Center, 105 North Union Street, Studio #9, Alexandria. View ship construction through the eyes of maritime archaeologists in SeeWorthy, a new exhibit from Alexandria Archaeology highlighting the technology used to digitally reconstruct historic vessels. Recent development along the waterfront has led to significant discoveries by archaeologists, including the remains of four historic ships. These remnants have been laser scanned to create models showing what they would have looked like in the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

NOW THRU JUNE 12

MVUC Greenhouse Plant Sale. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Weekends only. At Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria. The Annual Spring Plant Sale at the MVUC Greenhouse opens April 2 and 3, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., weekends only. They have a variety of vegetables and flowers for sale again this year. Lots of regular and heirloom tomatoes and not-too-hot peppers (more than 20 different varieties) as well as some of your favorite perennials, annuals, and herbs. Visit the lovely, old greenhouse and buy some new plants for your spring garden.

NOW THRU JUNE 17

Vietnam Memorial Traveling Exhibit. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund's traveling exhibit Panel 44: 8 Days in March will be on display at the National Museum of the United States Army through June 17, 2022, as a part of the 40th anniversary commemoration of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. The centerpiece of the exhibit is the Memorial's original Panel 44, produced in 1982 but not placed in the Memorial because of a crack in the upper-right edge. It is inscribed with the names of 337 American service members who died

between March 9-16, 1968. Two hundred fifteen of the inscribed names were Army Soldiers, ranging in age from 18 to 46. All those remembered by the panel represent 44 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Visit <https://www.thenmusa.org/visit/#get-tickets>,

NOW THRU JULY 9

Retrospective Art Deco Exhibition. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. At George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive in Alexandria. The first retrospective on the work of Art Deco designer Edgard Sforzina will open April 30th at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial during the Art Deco Society of Washington's 39th annual Washington Modernism Show. Discount tickets are available at www.washingtonmodernismshow.com.

THURSDAY/MAY 12

Outdoor Lute Concert. 6:30-7:30 p.m. At The Rectory on Princess Street, 711 Princess St., Alexandria. The splendor of luteist Ronn McFarlane returns to the Secret Garden, joined by Carolyn Surrick for an imaginative program of early music for the combination of lute and viola da gamba, the Renaissance precursor to the modern cello, including iconic works by Dowland, Telemann and Bach. Visit the website: <https://www.classicalmovements.com/secretgardenconcerts/>

FRIDAY/MAY 13

The Thirteen Presents. 7:30 p.m. At Episcopal High School Chapel, Alexandria. Presenting Molly Netter, Soprano, and Emily Marvosh, Mezzo Soprano. The Outer Edge of Youth is a new choral opera from composer-writer-director Scott Ordway commissioned by The Thirteen.

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Announcements

Notice is hereby given to members of the American Society of Clinical Oncology, Inc. and the Association for Clinical Oncology that their Annual Business Meetings will be held in Chicago, IL, in room S103 of the McCormick Place Convention Center, 2301 S. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (MLK) Drive, Chicago, IL, on Monday, June 6, 2022 at 12:00PM U.S. Central Time. Members with questions can email ascogovernance@asco.org. This notice is issued at the direction of the Boards of Directors of the American Society of Clinical Oncology and the Association for Clinical Oncology.

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An Uncomfortable Month



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

In an odd juxtaposition of events/months, I find myself adrift, sort of, with no medical appointments whatsoever on the previous or future horizon; compared to the previous month when I had a medical something-or-other practically every other day. And I can't help fearing that this calm is ahead of some storm. I mean, I have cancer. Shouldn't I be doing something (other than taking my daily thyroid cancer pill), going somewhere, being tested, being scanned, having my blood drawn and/or having a telephone or video appointment with one of my doctors? I'm not exactly unsettled by this lack of activity, but I can't help thinking, to quote Shakespeare: "something is rotten in the state of Denmark."

Not that I have any symptoms that are new or have persisted for three weeks (the advisory timeframe I was given for such cause/concern). But how do I go about my daily business (life) without any substantial cancer-related activity/inquiry, other than my daily lenvima? Cancer is a very serious situation, maybe more serious than a heart attack (as the old expression says), yet here I am unsupervised – sort of, and untethered (to quote one of my late father's Sid Caesar references) as if I don't have a care in the world. Not having any cancer-centric activity or preoccupation; it's almost as if I'm on holiday from my disease, and I'm not expected back for another few weeks. Moreover, given the rarity of this emotional interval I can't help wondering: "What's wrong with this picture?" I have an incurable from of thyroid cancer, shouldn't there be more hands on me?

The juxtaposition is that instead of worrying/planning for all the cancer activity ahead, I'm worrying/not-having-to-plan since I have no cancer activity ahead. Somehow, it feels wrong, or at least something is missing somewhere. I'm used to having lots of cancer stuff on my schedule. That's my normal. It's abnormal – now when I don't have to schedule anything. Not that I'm paranoid (which to quote Major Frank Burns from M*A*S*H: "I wouldn't be if everybody wasn't looking at me"), but this silence is not golden.

I can't imagine any medical professional on my quasi team is assuming anything about my health/status (after all, we know what assuming does). And cancer is hardly best left unattended. As my oncologist said years ago in response to my question about what happens if I stop the medication: "I know what happens. The cancer grows." Is it really the process that I take a pill every morning and then call the doctor in the morning, three months hence? Granted, I have been on this thyroid cancer track going on two years since I was re-diagnosed and I do know the drill, but as I felt in the early days of being a non-small cell lung cancer "diagnossee," am I closer to the beginning or the end?

I don't feel neglected, exactly. I feel like I'm not doing something I – or someone else, should be doing. Cancer is rarely better left to its own devices. My dilemma is, I just don't know if the devices I'm left with and/or which are being left on my behalf, are enough to meet the challenges ahead because cancer never takes any days off, so I shouldn't be taking any days (certainly not months) off either, right?

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

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NEWS

Five Republican Candidates Seek Nomination in Convention

FROM PAGE 3

KEZIA TUNNELL is a co-founder of Tunnell Enterprises, which she says specializes in "large commercial builds and remodels." She says the deficit is "astronomical and unsustainable," adding that she would support "smaller packaging of bills so that we can better evaluate where your money is being spent."

When asked about immigration, Tunnell said she visited the southern border and saw cartels working with border control agents to bring undocumented immigrants into the country.

"Illegal immigration affects our immigrant communities, and it affects the safety of our communities," said Tunnell. "We have to say no human trafficking and to the drug problems that are coming across our borders every day."

If elected, she says, she would support school choice and a reduction in federal regulation of schools, including decisions about curriculum. She says she supports increasing the budget for national defense and increasing sanctions to curb threats to national security. She also says she supports American energy independence, which she says would provide jobs, lower energy costs and national defense.

"I grew up in the 90s, and they told us that we were running out of natural resources. I actually believed that until I became an adult," said Tunnell. "But that is not the case, and that is not truth. They continue to renew, and we must use those so we can get costs down immediately."

If elected, she says, she would reduce the budget for the United States Agency for International Development because she believes the U.S. spends too much money helping other countries. She says she would like to see that money moved to the Department of Defense. She says America needs "strict border control," and that she can help achieve this goal because she speaks Spanish. When asked about education, she said some of the money diverted from USAID could be used to purchase metal detectors for public schools.

"Controversial issues should not be taught in public schools," said Carpio. "The government should try to promote old-fashioned subjects in schools like math, reading, science, music and literature."

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.

SATURDAY/MAY 14

The Big Plant Sale. 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Meet and support your Extension Master Gardeners as they join many other vendors at the Green Spring Gardens Big Plant Sale. We have beautiful and unusual plants, including many Virginia natives, to fill your spring gardening needs. Extension Master Gardeners will be on hand to help with plant selection, answer your questions and offer gardening advice. In addition there will be artists, food vendors and bake sales. This event is hosted by Friends of Greens Spring Gardens (FROGS) and proceeds help support the gardens. Call FROGS at 703-642-5173 or email info@friendsofgreenspring.org.

NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH

Join the City of Alexandria and other cities around the country in celebrating National Historic Preservation Month in May. The Office of Historic Alexandria will host a series of free public events throughout the month to highlight Alexandria's historic preservation initiatives, including tours, viewing the city's oldest structure, learning about hands-on archaeological practices, and more.

To celebrate the Murray-Dick-Fawcett House's 250th anniversary, Historic Alexandria is offering the public a unique opportunity to talk with former City Architect Al Cox about the house on Saturday mornings. The talks

will be on Saturdays at 10 a.m. at 517 Prince Street.

May 14: Replacing Your Historic Roof: what was it originally and what should it be today?

May 21: Historic Window Restoration

May 28: Identifying & Replicating Historic Moldings & Trim

Alexandria Archaeology offers the public two opportunities to learn more about the ship timbers unearthed at the Robinson Terminal Site.

May 13: The Torpedo Factory Art Center hosts a "Late Shift Event" from 7 to 10 p.m. The Alexandria Archaeology Museum will highlight its new exhibit, "SeeWorthy," featuring 3-D models of the ships

May 15: Alexandria Archaeology will host a public day at Lake Ben Brenman, with staff on hand to answer questions about the ship timber preservation process

The Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum celebrates its National Historic Landmarks Designation with a plaque dedication Friday May 20 at 10 a.m. Visit alexandriava.gov/Historic for more information.

VRE TO CONTINUE TO ALLOW BICYCLES ON ALL TRAINS

The Virginia Railway Express Operations Board has made permanent a policy implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic to allow full-size bicycles on every VRE railcar each weekday. VRE's bicycle policy has several requirements to protect the safety of passengers and crew. Cyclists must tether their bike to a railcar's south end bench seats with a bungee cord and may not ride the bicycle on platforms or trains. Learn more at www.vre.org.

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Rosemont | \$840,000

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Julian Burke 703.867.4219
JulianBurke.com



OPEN SAT 5/14, 12-2 PM

Warwick Village | \$729,900

2 bed, 2 bath Warwick Village Townhouse. Completely renovated throughout. Lower level family room redone and waterproofed in 2021. Upstairs boasts 2 large bedrooms. Gorgeous front garden and quiet backyard with deck. Walk to "The Avenue." 220 Tennessee Ave
Jen Walker 703.675.1566
JenWalker.com



OPEN SAT 5/14 & SUN 5/15, 2-4 PM

Hollin Hall | \$799,900

Beautifully renovated 4-bedroom, 2-bath home on quiet cul de sac w/1-car garage! Showstopper gourmet kitchen with high end finishes, newly renovated bathroom, sunroom addition, multilevel decking and more! This home is a gem, don't miss it! 7916 New Orleans Dr
Margot Lynn 703.973.3722
TheLynnTeamRE.com



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Belle View | \$230,000

First level 1 bed, 1 bath w/important updates including HVAC, quartz countertops, appliances, windows, freshly painted. Laundry & storage are in this building. Bike paths, GW parkway, shopping & Belle Haven marina just minutes out the front door! 6714 W. Wakefield Ave, #A2
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Beverly Hills | \$1,479,000

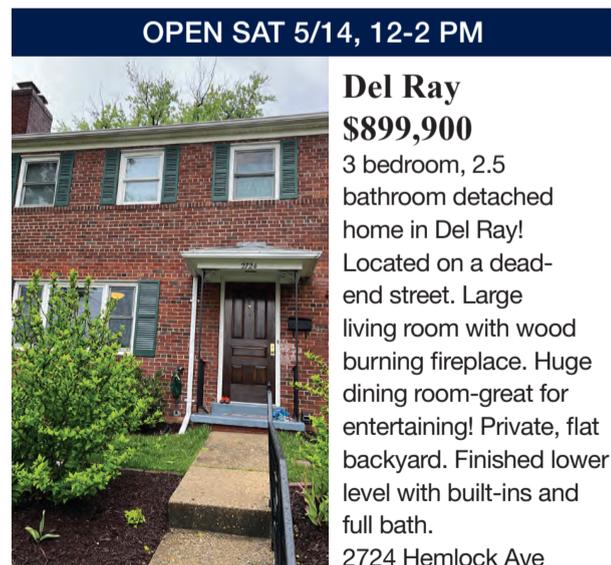
Light and airy 4 BR, 3.5 BA expanded and remodeled treasure with contemporary/craftsman style flair! Large 100% usable flat lot, deck, patio, screened porch, walk-out lower level, 3 fireplaces, custom built-ins, gorgeous remodeled primary suite. 903 Eldon Dr
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Lauren Bishop 202.361.5079
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