

Alexandria Gazette Packet

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SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

40 Over 40 Connection, Gazette Packet photographer among inaugural honorees.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Janet Barnett, a photographer for the Connection Newspapers including the Alexandria Gazette Packet, was among the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce's inaugural 40 Over 40 honorees celebrated Aug. 21 at Freeman in the Canal Center Plaza.

In addition to her work as a newspaper photographer, Barnett was recognized for her many years of service to the City of Alexandria, as a past executive director of Senior Services of Alexandria, and her current work

SEE 40 OVER 40, PAGE 6

Janet Barnett, Connection and Alexandria Gazette Packet newspaper photographer, was among the inaugural 40 Over 40 honorees by the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce Aug. 21 at Freeman in the Canal Center Plaza.



Chamber of Commerce CEO Joe Haggerty, right, presents the 40 Over 40 award to honoree Chris Harris.



Honoree Lianne Wang with her family.



Honoree Joe Collum.



Honoree Marilyn Patterson takes a selfie with attendees.



Honoree Brooke Sydnor Curren.



Honorees Martha Carucci and Mary Wadland.



Honoree Mindy Lyle, right, with her sister Jackie Lyle.

Congratulations

Janet Barnett



For having been chosen as one of the Forty Over Forty Class by the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce.



I am delighted that Janet has been recognized for her many contributions to the City through the years. Janet is a dedicated, thoughtful, caring person and our City is fortunate to have her.

Sincerely,
Del Pepper



PHOTO BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

WELCOME TO THE WEST END -- C.C. Clark, center, prepares to cut the ribbon for the sales office of Goodwin House Seminary Road senior living community Aug. 27 in the West End. Looking on are John Weaver, Goodwin Living Development Corporation board chair, Rob Liebreich, president and CEO of Goodwin Living, Stephanie Landrum, president and CEO of AEDP, and Joe Haggerty, president and CEO of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce. The new community will be a \$340 million, state-of-the-art community to help address the local affordable housing situation for older adults and add more than 250 permanent jobs to the local economy. www.GoodwinHouse-SeminaryRoad.org

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Taste of Old Town North Has Neighborhood Food, Shops, Music

The Taste of Old Town North is back, celebrating the neighborhood's restaurants, performers, artisans and more. This year's Taste is on Thursday, Sept. 18, 4-8 p.m., in Montgomery Park, 901 North Royal Street, Alexandria, VA.

The Taste of Old Town North is free, family- and pet-friendly, with an artisans' market, gourmet restaurant tastings, and other activities including music from two local bands.

In addition, the City of Alexandria's Office of the Arts' Mobile Art Lab will be at the event, offering supplies and support staff for kids of all ages to make art.

Participating restaurants include

Jula's on the Potomac, Hank's Oyster Bar, MacMillan Spirit and Ale House, Hank's Pasta Bar, Hotel AKA Alexandria's a.lounge+bar, and St. Elmo's Old Town North Coffee Pub.

"The Taste of Old Town North [is] a lively event that brings the community together to celebrate all that the Old Town North neighborhood has to offer," said Sarah Almy, executive director, Old Town North Alliance.

Several local non-profit organizations will be onsite: League of Women Voters, Alive!, Housing Alexandria, Alexandria Film Festival, Alexandria Seaport Foundation, North Old Town Independent Citizens Association (NOTICE), and

Volunteer Alexandria.

"This year, we are especially excited to share our updated plans for more than 10 acres of new public open space and the first phase of vertical development as we work to transform the former power plant site," said Michelle Beaman Chang, Vice President of Development for HRP Group and local project lead.

On street parking is available in the Old Town North neighborhood or public parking located at 625 North Washington Street.

The rain date is Sept. 25, 4-8 p.m.

For more information visit www.oldtownnorth.org.

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OBITUARY

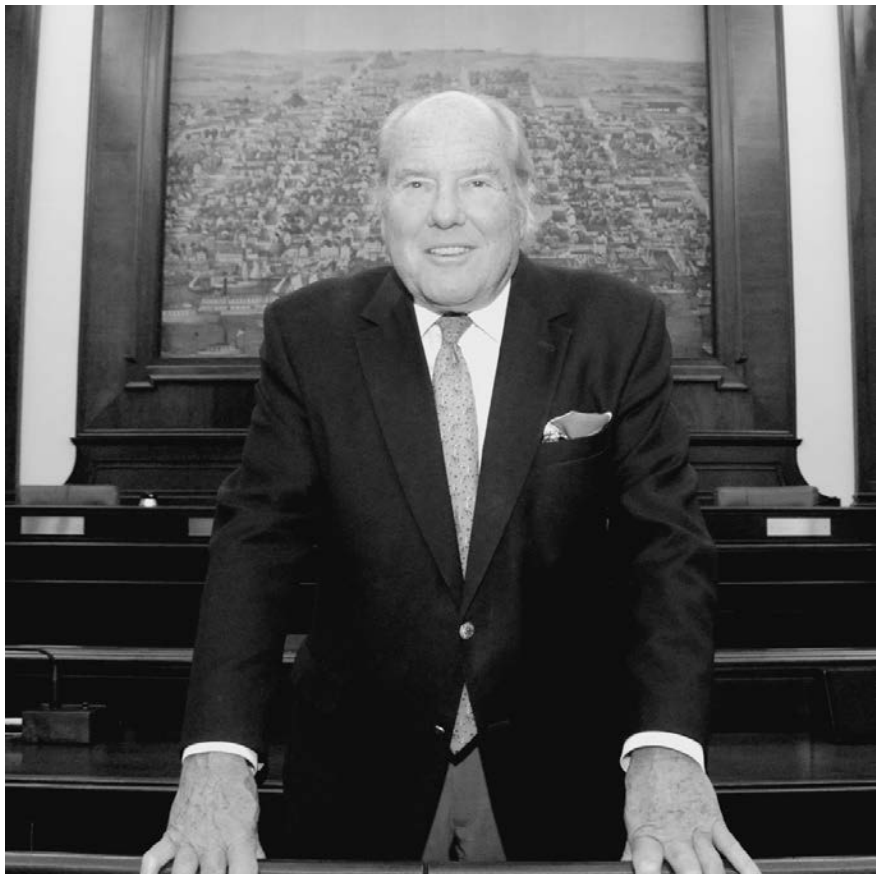


PHOTO BY NINA TISARA

Tom Hulfish, a lifelong Alexandrian and longtime chair of the Board of Architectural Review, died Aug. 20 at the age of 91.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Tom Hulfish, center, with jockey and trainer Neil Morris for his horse Formidable Heart.

Thomas A. Hulfish III

Longtime BAR chair dies at 91.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Thomas Andrew Hulfish III, a proud sixth-generation Alexandrian and longtime chair of the Board of Architectural Review, died Aug. 20, 2025, after a brief illness. He was 91.

Hulfish was the son of Thomas A. Hulfish Jr. and Marianne “Polly” Minnergerode Maigne. Born in Washington DC on Nov. 11, 1933, He was raised in Old Town in the family home at the corner of Duke and South Lee Street. It is the same house where his great great-grandfather lived in the late 19th century. His ancestry traced back to a Scottish sea captain in 1780.

Hulfish attended Alexandria City public schools including the Washington Street Elementary School and George Washington High School before joining the Navy. He served four years in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War era including a deployment to Guantanamo, Cuba. He trained as a medic at Naval Bethesda Hospital and served in that capacity on

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the U.S.S. Bennington, an aircraft carrier on which he traveled the globe, crossing both the Equator and the International Dateline.

Upon his return to Alexandria, Hulfish married Sandra Elizabeth Sisson and together they raised three children.

Through his mother, Hulfish inherited a passion for historic

“Tom cared so much about the city, its history and its people.”

— Former city architect Al Cox

preservation, leading to his commitment to serving the City of Alexandria as BAR chair for more than two decades. Polly Hulfish was known for her restoration of more than 50 homes in the historic

district from the late 1950s through the 1970s and was the second woman to serve as a member of the BAR.

Hulfish’s father, as a member of City Council, proposed and passed the Charleston Ordinance making Alexandria the third “Old and Historic District” in the United States and established the Board of Archi-

tectural Review.

Hulfish worked in the health care industry, owning an ambulance company, but pivoted to real estate and was one of the founding agents in the newly formed McEneaney Associates. McEneaney is where he found his professional home concentrating in commercial real estate and where he remained

SEE THOMAS A. HULFISH, PAGE 8



PHOTO COURTESY SEAN BURKE

Tom Hulfish, center, is flanked by friends Sean and Amy Burke after Hulfish’s horse Formidable Heart won the Montpelier Fall Races in 2016.



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/GAZETTE PACKET

Tom Hulfish, an avid kayaker, on the Potomac River in 2022.

ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE PACKET ♦ SEPTEMBER 4-17, 2025 ♦ 3

APD Promotes New Officers

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

The Alexandria Police department held a promotion ceremony, with APD Chief Tarrick McGuire swearing in new captains and lieutenants Aug. 1 at the Lyceum.

“Policing continues to be the most visible public facing form of government and among the most courageous guardians of our community,” McGuire said. “Leadership is not about authority, it is about responsibility.”

Newly promoted to captain were officers Tara Delio-May and Greg Simon. Promoted to lieutenant were officers Cynthia Hurley, Ryan Waple and Zygmund Slevinski.

“Great policing results from great leadership and great leadership comes from great character, integrity and willingness to serve,” McGuire said in addressing those being promoted. “You are being called to lead the Alexandria Police Department into its future. Lead with courage, serve with compassion and always remember that it takes each and every one of you to make this the safest city in the nation.”



APD Chief Tarrick McGuire, center, stands with his command staff and newly promoted officers Aug. 1 at the Lyceum.



Capt. Michael May stands with his wife and newly promoted Capt. Tara Delio-May Aug. 1 at the Lyceum.



Assistant APD Chief Tina Laguna, center, stands with newly promoted Lt. Cynthia Hurley, left, and newly promoted Capt. Tara Delio-May Aug. 1 at the Lyceum.



APD lieutenants Cynthia Hurley, Ryan Waple and Zygmund Slevinski pose for a photo at the APD promotion ceremony Aug. 1 at the Lyceum.



“Leadership is not about authority, it is about responsibility.”

— APD Chief
Tarrick McGuire

Newly promoted APD Lt. Ryan Waple helps his daughter pin on his badge as his wife and son look on following the APD promotion ceremony Aug. 1 at the Lyceum.

Fatal Accident on the Beltway in City of Alexandria

Victim Not Wearing Seatbelt, Police Say

Virginia State Police is investigating a fatal single vehicle crash that occurred Sunday, Aug. 31, 2025, at 5:15 a.m. on Interstate 495 westbound at the 177-mile marker in the City of Alexandria.

A 2017 Cadillac XTS was heading westbound on Interstate 495 when it

went off of the left side of the road and struck a guardrail and an exit sign. The Cadillac then went airborne and landed in a ditch. The driver of the vehicle, Tyneeka L. Strickland, 34, of Capitol Heights, Md., died at the scene. Strickland was not wearing a seatbelt.

The crash remains under investigation.

News

ALX Jazz Fest Pop Up

The ALX Jazz Fest Pop Up Series returns on Sunday, Sept. 7 at the Market @ Southern Towers, 4901 Seminary Rd. Admission is free.

Enjoy live jazz and spoken word featuring Prophecy Poet and jazz trumpeter Alex Parchment. Experience a hands-on art project with the Mobile Art Lab from 12-2 p.m. with performances from 2-4 p.m. alongside the market's fresh produce, baked goods and artisan vendors. More details about the Market @ Southern Towers and their weekly offerings can be found on the City's Farmers Market page. www.alexandriava.gov/FarmersMarket

Full details of the ALX Jazz Fest and future Pop Ups can be found on the ALX Jazz Fest page. www.alexandriava.gov/arts/alexandria-jazz-fest

Tons of Trucks

The City of Alexandria's "Tons of Trucks" event returns on Saturday, Sept. 20, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Chinquapin Park, 3210 King St. This event is free to attend and will occur rain or shine. Enjoy a "sensory-friendly hour" for the first 60 minutes of the event, from 10 to 11 a.m.

Attendees of all ages are invited to explore and get behind the wheel of their favorite City vehicles including police cars, snow plows, fire trucks and DASH buses. Meet staff who help build, maintain and serve the community, and learn about the tools they use. Other activities include an art project with the City's Mobile Art Lab, giveaways, music, photo opportunities, family activities, and food truck vendors.

Visitors are invited to take free DASH Bus transportation or use Capital Bikeshare to get to the event. Visit GO Alex's Trip Planning Page for more information on alternative transit options.

Driving to the event? Parking is available at Alexandria City High School (3330 King St.), the First Baptist Church (2932 King St.), and Oakland Baptist Church (3408 King St.).

Visit the Tons of Trucks website for more information

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. Or email to calendar@connectionnewspapers.com

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

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>

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.

ALIVE! offers numerous programs that aid low-income families in Alexandria that rely on volunteers: monthly food distributions, furniture, houseware and emergency food deliveries, and community food drives. Individuals, families and groups are encouraged to participate. Students can earn community service hours by participating. Visit www.alive-inc.org/volunteer.htm or contact the Volunteer Coordinator at volunteers@alive-inc.org.

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.

RSVP, a volunteer network for seniors seeking service opportunities in and around Fairfax County, Arlington County and the City of Alexandria, offers a wide array of opportunities for volunteers 55 and older. RSVP volunteers enjoy flexible schedules, free accident and liability insurance while serving, optional mileage and meal reimbursement and are invited to volunteer group projects and social gatherings. To sign up for an upcoming orientation, email Carly Hubicki at chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org or call RSVP at 703-403-5360. To learn more about RSVP, visit www.rsvpnova.org.

Mentors Wanted. Two creative programs that help transform the lives of Alexandria's preteens are seeking volunteer mentors. SOHO, which stands for "Space of Her Own," and "Space of His Own," serves vulnerable fifth graders in Alexandria. The programs pair men and women with youth in need of positive adult role models, to help support and guide youth in making healthy choices and succeeding in school and in life. Visit www.

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THE CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

Home Food Service



Honorees Marion Brunken, Emily Coccia and Donna Anderson.

40 Over 40

FROM PAGE 1

for Synergy Home Care and Every-Wheatley Funeral Home.

"The Chamber ALX is excited to celebrate wisdom and experience in this Who's Who of the community," said the press release announcing the recognition of Alexandrians who work to make a difference in their careers and community.

In addition to Barnett, the 2025 honorees include: Donna Anderson - HomeGrown Restaurant Group; Timothy L. Anderson, MBA - United States Senate Federal Credit Union; Tobias Arff - The Alexandrian Hotel & Morrison House; Gary Edward Barton, Jr. - Sikich; Marion Brunken - Volunteer Alexandria, Inc.; Martha Carucci - National Breast Center Foundation; Martia Clark, LMT, LC, PCC - Mynd Body Connect; Emily Coccia - Ms. Moxie's Moon Shop; Joseph F. Colum - Burke & Herbert Bank; Gaynelle Bowden Diaz - Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority (ARHA); Rachel A. Dixon - Alexandria Commission on Persons

with Disabilities; Frank Fannon IV - Alexandria Aces Collegiate Summer Baseball Team; Jennifer Ferrara - John Marshall Bank; Brian Gavin - Volunteers of America; Mary Catherine Gibbs - Wire Gill, LLP; Pamela Olivia Gilchrist - Virginia Tech Innovation Campus; David Hagan - Friedman, Grimes, Meinken & Leischner PLLC; Christopher Harris - DPR Construction; Stephen Hartell - Amazon; Lindsay Hutter - Goodwin Living; Tom Kaiden - Visit Alexandria; Nicole Lamoureux - National Association of Free and Charitable Clinics; Mindy Lyle - Connections Marketing Associates, LLC & Alexandria City Public Schools; Gregory T. Marks - Marks-Woods Construction; Emily Oehler - Guidehouse; Marilyn Patterson - Joyous Events LLC; Heather Peeler - ACT for Alexandria; Mike Porterfield - Tartan Properties Commercial; Scott Reamy - Dominion Energy; Christopher Reese - Revolve Solutions

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Honoree Janet Barnett with staff of Synergy Home Care.



Honoree Timothy Anderson surrounded by family.



Amanda Chandler with honoree Heather Peeler.



Honorees David Hagen and Pamela Gilchrist.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 5

spaceofherown.org and www.spaceofhisown.org. For more information on how to become a SOHO mentor, contact Sarah Maroney at sarah.maroney@alexandriava.gov or phone at 703-746-4687.

Farmer's Market Volunteers Needed. To volunteer for the Farmer's Markets, email Brian Morreale, brianmorreale@gmail.com

SUPPORT GROUPS

Postpartum Support Virginia sponsors a free, bi-monthly support

group for women suffering depression and/or anxiety during pregnancy or in the first year following childbirth. Meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at Inova Alexandria Hospital, Health Education Center, rooms 1-2, 4320 Seminary Road. Contact co-moderator Susan Doyle at suzjdoyle@gmail.com or 571-403-0673.

The Parkinson's Disease Support Group of Alexandria meets the 1st Wednesday of each month at 2 p.m. At the Hollin Hall Senior Center, Room 109, 1500 Shenandoah Road. All Parkinson's patients and caregivers are welcome.

The Caregiver Support Group is facilitated by the Alexandria Department of Community and Human Services Division of Aging and Adult Services. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at the Adult Day Services Center, 1108 Jefferson St., 4-5:30 p.m. Participants are full- or part-time caregivers providing care locally or long distance to a family member or friend. Participants share their experiences, provide support for each other and receive resources to assist them with caregiving. The next Caregiver Support Group meeting is June 7. For more

information or to register, contact Jennifer Sarisky at 703-746-9999 or email DAAS@alexandriava.gov. FACE Center Support Groups provide parents with a space to share their daily parenting frustrations and triumphs while offering new strategies for helping parents to cope, build positive parent-child relationships and best support their children's learning.

- ❖ Support Group in English, every Monday, 6-7:30 p.m. at ARHA Main Building, 401 Wythe St.
- ❖ Support Group in Spanish, every Wednesday, 6-7:30 p.m. at Community Lodgings Brookside Center,

614 Four Mile Road. Registration not necessary. A light dinner and childcare services provided free. Contact Krishna Leyva at 703-619-8055 or krishna.leyva@acps.k12.va.us for more.

Divorce Workshop for Women. Second Saturday of each month, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Hilton Alexandria Old Town, 1767 King St. The workshops are designed to provide education on the legal, financial, family and personal issues of divorce

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40 Over 40

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LLC; Gayle T. Reuter - Alexandria Sheriff's Office; Melissa Poretz Riddy - Inova Health System; Vivek Sinha, M.D. - Bellevue Medical Partners, PC.; Brooke Sydnor Curran - Move2Learn & City of Alexandria; Sarah Graham Taylor

- Capitol Square Strategies; Mary Wadland - The Zebra Press; Lianne Wang - John Marshall Bank; Tristan Wright - Lost Boy Cider; and Chris Yianilos - Virginia Tech Innovation Campus.

The event was sponsored by United Bank.

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Honoree Gaynelle Bowden Diaz.

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OBITUARY

Thomas A. Hulfish III



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Tom Hulfish, with his sister Sherry Brown, was acknowledged for his 25 years as a member of the Board of Architectural Review by Historic Alexandria in 2014.

FROM PAGE 3

until the time of his death.

Hulfish was appointed to the BAR in 1986 where he served for 28 years, with 25 of those as Chairman. A 2014 proclamation recognizing Hulfish's work on the BAR said he attended 600 BAR meetings and reviewed approximately 6,000 cases during his 28 years of service.

"Tom lived a good life," said Al Cox, a former city architect and close friend of Hulfish. "Tom cared so much about the city, its history and its people. I was so fortunate to work under him when he was chair of the BAR."

Cox credits Hulfish with leading a professional and diplomatic BAR.

"Tom didn't want BAR staff just processing applications," Cox said. "Because of Tom we were able to build a professional staff. He was very diplomatic and always worked to find the ideal solution where everybody thinks they won."

Cox recalled Hulfish saying many times, "Don't bring me problems, bring me solutions. I don't want people arguing with each other on live TV. I don't want the board trying to redesign people's projects from the dais. Get this worked out and then everybody come in and make whatever refinements we need to make. It's a win-win."

Among his many endeavors Hulfish served as a president of the Fairfax Hunt Club and for several years owned two racehorses, including Formidable Heart, which won several races. Polo was a par-

ticular passion of his, bringing him in contact with British Royalty, including King Charles of England.

For 20 years, Amy and Sean Burke attended many horse races with Hulfish.

"We were always amazed at the amount of people who recognized Tom and came to see him," Sean Burke said. "Even in races held far outside Northern Virginia – in Charlottesville or rural Monkton, Maryland – so many people knew him. He was like a celebrity as he made his way through the crowds. We could only smile as he held court."

Over the years of their friendship, Hulfish and the Burkes regularly met for dinner or traveled to races together.

"Whether it was riding in a car to the races or having dinner, we always learned something new," said Amy Burke. "He always had a story to share. He was so well read, had so many experiences and wanted everyone to learn as well."

Added Sean Burke, "Tom could talk about anything – world news or local politics – he could talk about any topic. He was so plugged in it was a pleasure to just relax and hear his stories."

Hulfish was a longtime member of the Old Dominion Boat Club and was an avid kayaker along the Potomac River. His father owned and operated the old Beachcomber Restaurant, which was located on the site of the current Boat Club on Prince Street.

Known for being larger than life, Hulfish belonged to many groups,



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Tom Hulfish on his Vespa in front of Hal Hardaway's garage, a longtime popular gathering place in Old Town.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

A young Tom Hulfish riding a penny-farthing bicycle through the streets of Old Town.

including the Alexandria Kiwanis and the Alexandria Businessmen's Club. For years he was referred to as Alexandria's unofficial mayor. He was a fixture at Landini Brothers Restaurant where a salad on their menu was inspired by and named for him.

Hulfish's first marriage ended in divorce. His second wife, Susan Southgate, died in 1979. He is survived by his two sons, Thomas "Chip" Andrew Hulfish IV and Charles Stewart Hulfish, and his daughter Holly Elizabeth Hulfish. He is also survived by six grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. Survivors also include his sister Sherry Hulfish Browne, her husband Hendrik, and niece Polly Browne Bainbridge (Ben) of London.

Funeral services will be held Sept. 21 at 1 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 228 S. Pitt Street in Alexandria.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Old Dominion Boat Club Foundation, 0 Prince Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, www.OldDominionBoatClub.com/foundation or the Historic Alexandria Foundation, 218 N. Lee Street, Suite 310, Alexandria, VA 22314.

"More than a guardian of history, Tom was a neighbor, mentor, and friend to so many," said Zebra publisher Mary Wadland. "He will be profoundly missed, but his spirit will always walk with us through every preserved façade and every cobblestone street of Alexandria."

Second Hearing on Fort Belvoir Stormwater Discharges

DEQ Seeks Comments on Agency Responses.

BY GLENDA C. BOOTH
THE GAZETTE

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) will hold a hearing on Sept. 15, 2025, to receive testimony on the agency's summary of public comments addressing Fort Belvoir's permit application. The 8,700-acre military installation in southeastern Fairfax County has applied for a permit to release industrial stormwater into several waterbodies.

At a June 2 hearing, DEQ official Sarah Sivers reported that Belvoir releases industrial stormwater from the "airfield, a hazardous waste storage facility, operations and maintenance, marinas and a contractor laydown area," from seven outfalls into Accotink Creek, Accotink Bay, Gunston Cove, Dogue Creek and Mason Run, Potomac River tributaries.

DEQ's notice says, "No new information will be accepted at the hearing. Only comments regarding the Department's Summary of Comments will be accepted." When asked why DEQ will not accept "new information," Irina Calso, Communications Manager, responded that it is an opportunity for all previous commenters to address DEQ's responses to their comments. "This helps ensure that DEQ staff understood what commenters meant in their comments and that DEQ's responses address what was conveyed in the comments."

The meeting will be at 6:30 p.m., Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria.

Twelve people spoke at the June 2 hearing. Some advocated stronger limits and monitoring of PFAS contamination, as we reported on June 19.

On Aug. 28, officials from the Potomac River Keeper Network (PRKN) and Wild Virginia issued a statement by PRKN president Betsy Nicholas asserting that the draft permit "places human health at serious risk because it fails to regulate PFAS – dangerous and toxic 'forever' chemicals – discharged in stormwater from the base." Nicholas said that "stormwater discharges likely contain significant quantities of PFAS, because the Army's own sampling demonstrates surface water, groundwater, and soil contamination at the base."

DEQ's Response to Commenters

DEQ has posted a 10-page summary of comments received, 37 during the first comment period, 27 during the second comment period, including four elected officials, and 12 at the June hearing.

Responding to recommendations that DEQ should require PFAS discharge limits, monitoring and corrective actions, DEQ says that the agency is "following current federal and state guidelines and requirements ..." Citing 2024 and 2025 state laws, DEQ also contends that these state laws' intent was to protect drinking water sources, and that "Fort Belvoir is not subject to this initiative because the receiving waters at the installation's discharge points are not designated as public water supply waterbodies in the Virginia Water Quality Standards and it is also not upstream of any raw water intakes for a public water system. Furthermore, the discharge points are not within the Occoquan watershed upstream of the reservoir's dam."

DEQ also states that "there are currently no water quality standards for PFAS" and therefore, they have no basis to put limits on PFAS chemicals. One source of PFAS chemicals at Belvoir is Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF). DEQ notes that there are no water quality standards "upon which to develop a water quality-based effluent limit nor are there any ELGs (effluent limitation guidelines) for AFFF or any specific PFAS in AFFF."

❖ One commenter urged environmental studies analyzing the long-term effects of PFAS releases. DEQ maintains that these studies are "not within the purview" of the permitting program.

❖ Some commenters requested a PFAS threat analysis. DEQ responded that Belvoir is investigating PFAS releases installation-wide into soil, groundwater, surface water and sediment as part of the federal CERCLA process. CERCLA, known as "Superfund," is the 1980 federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act.

Belvoir's Report

When this writer in June asked

Belvoir officials if the installation is releasing PFAS chemicals, they provided a 2022, 164-page "preliminary assessment/site inspection report" by Arcadis.

The report's summary concludes that 12 of 17 sites examined had "PFOS, PFOA and/or PFBS present at concentrations greater than the risk-based screening levels ..." and that "the majority of OSD [Office of the Secretary of Defense] risk screening level exceedances ... can be attributed to historical and present fire station management and firefighter training activity, as well as fire truck maintenance activities."

The report is at https://aec.army.mil/Portals/115/PFAS/2022_Final_Fort_Belvoir_PFAS_PA_SI_Report_Volume_I_Compressed.pdf?ver=mhQpHy-JiIob_3KEfbQnTgw%3d%3d.

The Army PFAS Elsewhere

The U.S. Army's Environmental Command posted, "The Army is assessing the potential historical use of PFAS-containing materials at Army installations nationwide and is committed to transparently handling PFAS-related issues, sharing information, and maintaining open dialogue with communities, regulators and other stakeholders. As part of that commitment, the Army will publish PFAS drinking water testing results and cleanup data on this webpage (<https://aec.army.mil/PFAS/>). The site lists eight Virginia installations, including Fort Belvoir.

EPA Rollbacks

A May 14 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) release said that the agency will retain current drinking water limits for PFOA (perfluorooctanoic acid) and PFOS (perfluorooctane sulfonic acid) and that the agency will "rescind the regulations and reconsider the regulatory determinations for PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA (commonly known as GenX), and the Hazard Index mixture of these three plus PFBS to ensure that the determinations and any resulting drinking water regulation follow the legal process laid out in the Safe Drinking Water Act."

The Aug. 29 New York Times reported that Steven Cook, an EPA official, proposed repealing a rule that would make the public responsible for PFAS cleanups instead of entities that knowingly release the chemicals.

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Now is the moment we've been waiting for. With new treatments emerging in the fight against Alzheimer's and all other dementia, now is the time for hope. But not the time to stop.

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Northern Virginia
October 12, 2025

**WALK TO END
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Spotted Lantern Fly nymphs can be found in groups on plant stems during their first four stages of development, or instars.



Spotted Lanternfly nymphs are black and white, then turning red & black with white spots in their last instar before becoming adults.



Killing the insects at all stages is encouraged, by destroying their egg masses and by smashing or vacuuming hatched insects.

Stomp, Squish, Slap, Smash!!

Making spotted lanternfly unwelcome.

BY SUSAN LAUME
THE CONNECTION

Advised to “stomp, squash, squish, squeeze, slap, spray, scrape, smash, or otherwise destroy” by Virginia’s Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Spotted Lanternfly is getting anything but a warm welcome since its arrival in the Commonwealth. Not actually a fly as their name implies, *Lycorma delicatula* is scientifically classified as a planthopper. About an inch long and half an inch wide as an adult, the insect does not sting or bite. It does not eat fruit or the leaves of plants. It’s not interested in taking up residence in your house. It may be considered pretty in both nymph and adult stages. So why the admonition to kill them?

When first detected their numbers were low, but they are now a significant presence here. Their numbers alone can make encountering them unpleasant for park users or in one’s yard. For those with plantings to protect, they represent a significant risk. Spotted lanternflies have specialized mouthparts that allow them to suck sap from plants. They feed on a wide range of our native plants, including grapes, hops, stone fruits, and hardwood trees. With few natural predators here, their sig-

“Like a vampire in a black tuxedo, white shirt and red bowtie.”

— Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources



Adult Spotted Lanternflies, look very different from their nymphs, with scarlet wings visible when wings are spread.

nificant numbers have the capacity to devastate wine and lumber industries. Further the sticky, sugary fluid they secrete when feeding, called honeydew, can coat leaves and stems, cause sooty mold and prevent photosynthesis, further damaging plants. In early stages, they feed on a range of plants.

Their preferred host is the non-native Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) tree, which they seek after mating, in preparation for laying their egg masses.

A hitchhiking native of Asia, the insect was first detected in Pennsylvania in 2014, and likely reached the US on goods shipped from overseas or on imported Tree of Heaven. They were first detected in Virginia in 2018. Fairfax County began SLF detection trapping in 2019 and installed and maintained traps, seasonally, through 2023. The county began treating (destroying) Tree of Heaven, the insect’s host plant, in 2020. This is the best SLF control measure known at present. Fairfax



Fairfax Master Naturalist Aurora Boughi, of Lorton, sneaks up for a kill before the adult can jump.



Adult spotted lanternflies group on a Tree of Heaven, with white honeydew shown below as they suck tree fluid.

County has spent more than \$300,000 to date using herbicide on the hard-to-control Tree of Heaven, which spread by seed, regeneration, and rhizomes. The county’s Urban and Community Forestry Department indicates that treatment is expected to continue “for the foreseeable future, as long as funding and need are both present. These efforts include funding Park Authority’s activities on their properties as well as managing contractors to remove tree of heaven from other county owned properties.”

SLF nymphs, which look nothing like the adults, are seen in June, with adults appearing as early as July. They mate in four hour sessions, and lay eggs from late September through the onset of winter. The first three

instars of the nymph stage are black with white spots; the nymphs turn red and black with white spots in their final fourth instar. The adults are quite striking with their mix of white, brown, black and scarlet coloring, making them sometimes easier to spot than other pests. The Virginia Dept of Wildlife Resources describes them as “like a vampire in a black tuxedo, white shirt, and red bowtie.”

Eggs are laid in inch-long egg masses, holding 30 to 50 eggs, on trees, stone, fences, grills, lawn furniture and vehicles. The egg masses are found in all seasons except summer, resembling a dull brown smear of cracked mud. The stationary egg masses

SEE STOMP, SQUISH, SLAP, PAGE 15
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

News

23rd Annual Alexandria Art Festival Returns To John Carlyle Square Sept. 13 – 14

The art walk of the season returns to John Carlyle Square during the 23rd Annual Alexandria Art Festival. The popular, free showcase featuring thousands of fine art works from local and national artists happens Sept. 13 - 14 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days.

The annual Alexandria Art Festival is presented by top art festival producer Howard Alan Events. Consistently ranked by Sunshine Artists Magazine as one of the top art festivals in the nation, the show encompasses fine jewelry, exquisite works of art and hand-crafted apparel and decor. Attendees can look forward to discovering spectacular paintings, life-sized sculptures, jewelry, glasswork, photography, ceramics and more. All artists will be on site for the duration of the festival, allowing visitors to uncover the inspiration behind each original piece.

Like Virginia-based painter Meghan Baran's artworks, that feature abstract expressionism and botanicals. She uses collage materials like scrap paper, thread, and jute to create unique textures with professional-grade paints, inks and markers.

Admission for patrons is free, and ample parking is available.

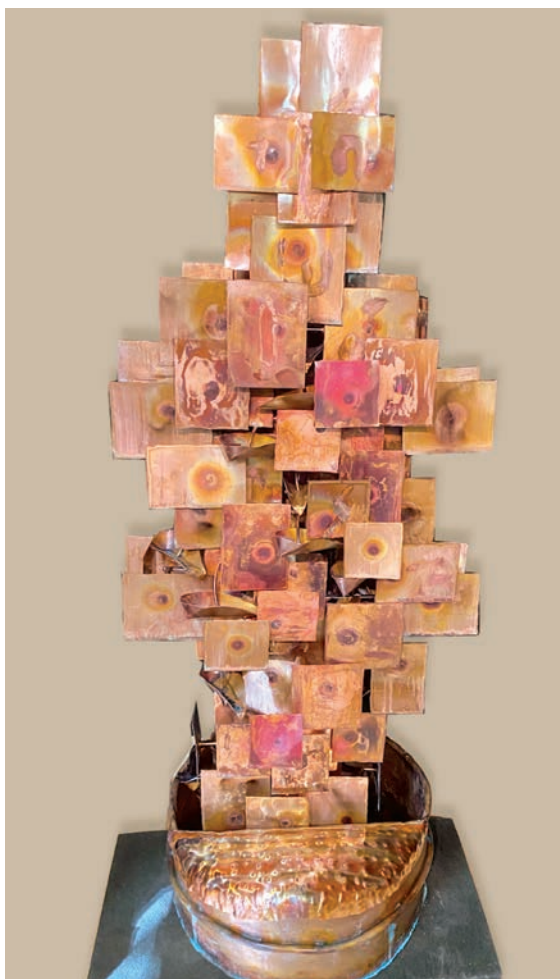
For more information, visit Howard Alan Events at artfestival.com.



Maryland fine art painter Renee Eugene's art is driven by playful spontaneity using traditional tools or found objects. Renee uses water-based and acrylic mediums to achieve bold, colorful pieces shaped by instinct.



One-of-a-kind works of wearable art, like this piece from Delaware artisan Alex Hossick, will be on display during the Alexandria Art Festival.



Maryland sculptor Josef Belchatovski uses copper and bronze to design, fuse and create original water element fountains that bring functionality to beautiful, original art.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 7

in a logical, yet compassionate way. The workshop fee is \$25. Visit www.novasecondsaturday.com for more.

ONGOING

Backflow Preventer (BFP) Assistance Program. The City of Alexandria has reinstated its sewer Backflow Preventer (BFP) Assistance Program

for homeowners in designated areas that historically experience basement back-ups or flooding. The program reimburses homeowners for up to 50 percent of the cost of installing a BFP device by a licensed plumbing contractor, up to a maximum of \$2,000. The current program period is through Dec. 31, 2019. Alexandria homeowners should call the Department of Transportation and Environmental

Services at 703-746-4014 or visit www.alexandriava.gov.

Robust Walking. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9 a.m. at Mount Vernon Recreation Center, 2701 Commonwealth Ave. Free 55+ robust walking 1-hour exercise class (with chair exercise option). No class on holidays. Contact jjkingconsulting@yahoo.com.

PUBLIC NOTICE

In-Person Public Hearing on the McLean Community Center's FY2027 Budget (July 1, 2026–June 30, 2027)

**McLean Community Center Governing Board
Wednesday, Sept. 24, 6:30 p.m.**

Small District 1A-Dranesville residents who wish to speak at the Public Hearing are asked to call 703-790-0123, TTY: 711, to be placed on the speakers' list. The draft budget proposal will be available on the center's website and copies can be picked up at the center's reception desk beginning the week of Sept. 14.

Written comments may be delivered to the McLean Community Center (see address below) marked "Attention: Executive Director," or sent by email to feedback@mcleancenter.org. Written comments may continue to be submitted after the Public Hearing through Monday, Oct. 13.



McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean VA 22101
703-790-0123, TTY: 711
mcleancenter.org

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ENTERTAINMENT

NOW THRU SEPT. 21

Sally Kauffman - Pleasure Park. At The Athenaeum, Alexandria. Sally Kauffman, a Washington, DC-based visual artist, is known for her large-scale, abstract yet illusory paintings depicting people and animals in social and communal settings. Her recent series, inspired by scenes from Malcolm X Park, captures Washingtonians engaging in activities including picnicking, hula hooping, Jiu Jitsu, juggling, gymnastics, skating, playing, dancing, and listening to music. These works celebrate the joy of gathering after pandemic isolation, emphasizing the fundamental human instinct for connection and restoration.

MGNV PLANT CLINICS ARE OPEN

The Alexandria Old Town Farmer's Market Plant Clinic at 301 King St., Alexandria operates on Saturdays from 7 - 9:30 a.m. Del Ray Farmers Market Plant Clinic at Oxford & Mt. Vernon Avenues, Alexandria operates on Saturdays from 8:30 - 11 a.m. The Arlington Farmers' Market at N. 14th and N. Courthouse Roads, Arlington operates on Saturdays from 8 - 11 a.m. The Fairlington Farmers' Market Plant Clinic at 3308 S. Stafford St., Arlington, operates on Sundays from 9 - 11 a.m.

YEAR ROUND ON SUNDAYS

Farmer's Market. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. At Casa Chirilagua Community Center, 4109 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Experience fresh foods, native plants, artisan crafts, music and community at Four Mile Run Farmers & Artisans Market in the heart of Arlington outside the Casa Chirilagua Community Center, every Sunday 9-1 p.m.

NOW THRU SEPT. 14

REVISITED Exhibit. At Multiple Exposures Gallery, Studio 312, Torpedo Factory Art Center, Alexandria. REVISITED is a solo fine art photography exhibition by Stacy Smith Evans. In her series of color images, Evans explores a deep connection to nature, the land, and memory, revisiting the places she turns to for solitude and renewal, and when joined by family and friends, for celebration and tradition. Through the exhibition, Evans invites viewers to join her as she traverses the rivers, mountains, and forests that shape the Eastern landscape.

ONGOING

Revolutionary War Exhibit. At the National Museum of the U.S. Army, Alexandria. The National Museum of the United States Army has opened a special exhibition, Call To Arms: The Soldier and the Revolutionary War. The two-year exhibition commemorates this year's 250th Birthday of the U.S. Army and next year's 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. This 5,000 square-foot exhibition features a rare collection, specially curated by the Museum, that includes Revolutionary War artifacts from the original colonies, England, France and Canada. Among the exhibit's highlights are a pair of General George Washington's pistols, the original flag of the 1st Rhode Island Regiment carried by the Army's first African American Soldiers, and a complete

Loyalist uniform—one of the rarest items in the collection. The sword of British General Charles Lord Cornwallis, presented to Washington at the surrender at Yorktown, Virginia, will also be displayed for a limited time.

AUG. 7 TO SEPT. 29

Masterpiece Mini Golf. Thursday: 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Friday and Saturday: 11 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.; Sunday: 12 – 5 p.m. At Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Masterpiece Mini-Golf isn't just a game—it's an interactive journey through the world of art like you've never seen before! Imagine 18 artist-designed holes bursting with bold colors, iconic imagery, and mind-bending creativity. From Monet's water lilies to Banksy's graffiti walls, every twist and turn brings you face-to-face with art history's greatest paintings—reimagined in wild, surreal, and playable form. It's part gallery, part game, and 100% fun for all ages. Visit the website: <https://www.workhousearts.org/masterpiece-mini-golf>

SEPT. 5-27

The "Second Time Around" exhibit at Del Ray Artisans gallery features artwork made out of recycled materials. This exhibit focuses on the thought-change concept of sustainable creativity and enhancing artistic environmental ethos, from the art to the earth-conscious workshops and events. View at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. Opening Reception: Friday, September 5, 7-9 p.m.. Gallery hours: Thursdays 12-6 p.m., Fridays 12-9 p.m., Saturdays & Sundays 12-6 p.m. Details at DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 6

First Saturday Used Book Sale: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Selection of over 20,000 gently used children's books, fiction, history, biography, home and garden, cooking, crafts, sports, religion, travel, CDs, DVDs, and more. Unless specially priced, \$1 for hard backs and large paperbacks, and 25 cents for mass market paperbacks. Visit <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-sherwood-regional> for information on other days and times for the library's ongoing book sale.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 6

Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy Discussion. 7 to 8:30 p.m. At Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, 3606 Seminary Road, Alexandria. Dr. Cook will share the inside scoop about how Virginia Interfaith works with community members, advocacy, organizations, and legislators, to impact positive social change. You'll learn about legislation we work on advocating for maternal health, higher education in prison, affordable housing and worker rights.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 6

Writers in Residence Reading. 12 to 1 p.m. At Woodlawn & Pope-Leighey House, Alexandria. Each summer, Woodlawn and Pope-Leighey House collaborates with The Inner Loop to invite writers to the historical site to explore place,



The Chalk-a-Block Party takes place Sunday, Sept. 7, 2025 in Old Town Alexandria.

ownership, and history to bring awareness to critical social and environmental issues we face today. These writers will be sharing their experiences with an on-site reading on Saturday, September 6th.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 6

Introduction to Basketweaving. 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. (16-Adult) Join expert basket maker Sharon Shaeffer for a hands-on workshop where you'll learn the art of basket weaving from start to finish. Sharon will guide you through each step of the process—from selecting materials to adding personal embellishments—so you can create a beautiful basket to take home. Whether you're a beginner or looking to refine your skills, this class offers inspiration, instruction, and everything you need to get started. Bring a lunch. \$66 per person. Register online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes> or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173. Code MGM.QFWG

SATURDAY/SEPT. 6

Little Gardeners. 10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. (2-6 yrs.) Explore the ever-changing landscape of the garden. Each week, participants will explore and discover the changes in the garden. This program will feature seasonal activities that can include planting seeds, pollinators, harvesting vegetables, digging in the soil and exploring plant parts. Adults must attend with a registered child. Kids must be accompanied by a parent or guardian who does not need to register for the program. \$10 per

child. Register online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes> or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173. Code ZF6.IPJ5

SUNDAY/SEPT. 7

Farewell to Lafayette: A Bicentennial Tribute. At Woodlawn & Pope-Leighey House, Alexandria. In collaboration with the American Friends of Lafayette, this event will take place during the final week-end of bicentennial celebrations in honor of Lafayette's 1824-1825 tour of America. Join us as we reflect on Lafayette's legacy, his enduring influence on American liberty, democracy, and friendship at a site Lafayette visited during his celebrated visit to America.

Schedule of events:

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Open House Tours at Woodlawn
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Specialty Presentation: "Lafayette at Woodlawn"
1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Panel Discussion: "Embodying Lafayette"

SUNDAY/SEPT. 7

Chalk-a-Block Party. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. In Old Town Alexandria. Chalk artists will transform the sidewalks and parking lots of Old Town North into their canvases. Live music will fill the air from a variety of artists including local favorites The Okays, The Frontier, and Alejandro Villareal. Local artisans and makers organized by Made in ALX will be on hand to showcase their works. From stained glass to stationery to jewelry to spices to baked goods and more, there's something for everyone!

SUNDAY/SEPT. 7

MIN ~ World Music Duo. 2 p.m. At

the Athenaeum, Alexandria. Saïs Kamalidiin & Leonard Brown have performed together, in various contexts, for more than ten years. They have traveled to every continent (except Antarctica) studying and performing in many of the world's great music traditions. Dr. Saïs Kamalidiin performs on nine different instruments and has taught music at the collegiate level for more than a quarter century. Maestro Leonard Brown helps lead one of the world's great music organizations and has also taught music for more than a quarter century.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 7

Portals to the Past. 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road – Alexandria. (Adult) Doors and thresholds have been symbolic portals, defenses, and status symbols, revealing details about their time in history and about what lies within. Explore the fascinating – and sometimes humorous – history of doorways, their purposes and their accessories, from medieval portcullises to door knockers, bolts and boot scrapers. Hear about the recent project to replace the front steps and stoop of Green Spring's 1784 Historic House and what its doorways – past and present – reveal to us about the house as a home. \$42 (lecture + tea); \$18 (lecture only). To register, call Green Spring Historic House 703-324-3988.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 7

Family Fun – Monarch Migration. 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road – Alexandria. (4-Adult) Learn about the amazing migration of the monarch butterfly as we search the garden for caterpillars and butterflies. Discover the secrets of this butterfly's life cycle, from egg to flight and beyond. Take home a monarch-themed craft. All attendees, including parents, must be registered for the program. All attendees, including parents, must be registered for the program. \$10 per person. Register online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes> or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173. Code E09.YQ2G

MONDAY/SEPT. 8

Garden Sprouts Fall - Nature Playgroup. 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road – Alexandria. (3-5 yrs.) Your preschooler will enjoy nature-themed activities and crafts while you meet other playgroup parents one Monday a month. Through games, songs, activities and a garden walk, we will explore seasonal topics. Kids must be accompanied by a parent or guardian who does not need to register for the program. Siblings under 3 welcome to accompany parent without registering. \$12 per child. Register online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes> or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173. Code C72.BK02

SEPT. 12 AND 26

Wright at Twilight. 6:30-9 p.m. At Woodlawn & Pope-Leighey House, Alexandria. Enjoy the iconic Pope-Leighey House, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, at twilight! Sit

ENTERTAINMENT

back with complimentary snacks and a glass of wine, as you watch the changing light bring out the beautiful architectural details of the house. Play games in the yard, listen to period music, and tour the house at your leisure as the sun slowly sets.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 13

Historic Marker Dedication Honoring Colored Rosemont. 3-4 p.m.

At the intersection of Wythe and West Streets (1300 block of Wythe Street) Alexandria. The public is invited to attend the dedication of a Virginia State Highway Historic Marker honoring Colored Rosemont, a vibrant African American neighborhood established in the early 20th century that fostered community, resilience, and pride in Alexandria. You might know it today as West Braddock. The program will feature remarks from Mayor Alyia Gaskins, the Office of Historic Alexandria, the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR), and the Colored Rosemont Descendant Group. This marker commemorates the legacy of the Colored Rosemont community and highlights ongoing work of the Colored Rosemont Oral History Initiative, which is collecting stories and memories of residents to preserve this important history for future generations. In case of rain, the ceremony will be held at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe Street.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 13

Fall Old Town Arts & Crafts Fair. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

At Tavern Square 415 King Street (behind Made in ALX), Alexandria. Arts & Crafts Fair supporting Volunteer Alexandria and sponsored by Made in ALX. Same great vendors new location from the June event. Tavern Square is across N Royal Street from the Farmers Market and City Hall. You can enter from N Royal Street, N Pitt Street, King St or Cameron Street.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 13

Expungement Clinic. 9 a.m. to noon.

At Hybla Valley Community Center, 7950 Audubon Ave., Alexandria. Criminal charges that didn't lead to a conviction can make it hard for someone to get a job, housing, or other opportunities. Sign up for the Fairfax County Franconia District Expungement Clinic. Volunteer lawyers will be there to help and see if your charges are eligible to be removed from your record. Only charges from Fairfax County or the City of Fairfax can be considered.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 13

Historic House Walk and Talk. 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road – Alexandria. (Adult) Take a brief outdoor stroll around the 1784 Historic House to learn about its architecture and historic designed landscape. Step inside the house to learn about residents of Green Spring past. Enjoy compelling stories of public service, trailblazing women, espionage, civil rights, enslavement and freedom. Hear what we know about enslaved people who lived and worked on Green Spring Farm, and ongoing research to discover more. \$15 per person. Register online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes>



The Fall Old Town Arts & Crafts Fair takes place Saturday, Sept. 13, 2025 in Alexandria.

or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173. Code R40.MFFZ

SATURDAY/SEPT. 13

Garden Talk – Fall Vegetable Gardening. 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road – Alexandria. (16-Adult) Planting a fall vegetable garden extends the gardening season so you can continue to harvest fresh produce. Many cool-season vegetables, such as, carrots, broccoli, cauliflower, and Brussels sprouts, produce their best flavor and quality when they mature during cool weather. Extension Master Gardeners share tips and recommendations. \$12 per person. Register online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes>

or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173. Code 3A3.OW9Q

SATURDAY/SEPT. 13

Fall Plants for Small Gardens. 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road – Alexandria. (16-Adult) Join Green Spring Gardens' horticulturist Brenda Skarphol on a walk to look at the variety of colors and forms of beloved plants with fall interest, including bloom, fruit and colorful fall foliage. See a mix of herbaceous perennials, trees, and shrubs that grow well in small spaces, from containers to gardens. Get plant recommendations tailored to your garden. Dress for the weather. \$19 per person. Register online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes>

or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173. Code DDX.WZR9

SATURDAY/SEPT. 13

Edible Garden Tour. 9:00 a.m.

- 10:00 a.m. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road – Alexandria. (16-Adult) Explore the bounty of Green Spring's Edible Garden with an Extension Master Gardener docent who showcases many food plants – from vegetables to fruit trees – suitable for home landscapes. See how edibles can grow in containers and small spaces and discover their ornamental

value in the garden. \$15 per person. Register online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes>

or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173. Code 96U.CCNS

SATURDAY/SEPT. 13

Historic House Walk and Talk. 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road – Alexandria. (Adult) Take a brief outdoor stroll around the 1784 Historic House to learn about its architecture and historic designed landscape. Step inside the house to learn about residents of Green Spring past. Enjoy compelling stories of public service, trailblazing women, espionage, civil rights, enslavement and freedom. Hear what we know about enslaved people who lived and worked on Green Spring Farm, and ongoing research to discover more. \$15 per person. Register online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes>

or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173. Code R40.MFFZ

SATURDAY/SEPT. 13

Family Fun – The Story of Rain.

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road – Alexandria. (7-Adult) Cultures around the world have legends and myths dedicated to rain, the bringer of life and hope. Listen to our storytellers and take home a craft. All attendees, including parents, must be registered for the program. All attendees, including parents, must be registered for the program. \$10 per person. Register online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes>

or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173. Code NTB.2HZI

SEPT. 13-14

23rd Annual Alexandria Art Festival.

10 a.m. to 5 p.m. At John Carlyle Square, 300 John Carlyle Street, Alexandria. The popular, free showcase featuring thousands of fine art works from local and national artists happens September 13 - 14 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both

days. The annual Alexandria Art Festival is presented by the nation's top art festival producer, Howard Alan Events (HAE). Throughout the decades, it has become a hallmark staple event for residents and visitors alike. Consistently ranked by Sunshine Artists Magazine as one of the top art festivals in the nation, it showcases the works of both local and national artists. The show encompasses fine jewelry, exquisite works of art, and handcrafted apparel and decor. Attendees can look forward to discovering spectacular paintings, life-sized sculptures, jewelry, glasswork, photography, ceramics, and more. All artists will be on site for the duration of the festival, allowing visitors to uncover the inspiration behind each original piece. Admission for patrons is free, and ample parking is available. Visit artfestival.com.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 14

Meditation in the Gardens. 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road – Alexandria. (16-Adult) Explore how nature, metaphor, and deep listening can enhance connection—with yourself, others, and the world around you. This immersive garden-based class combines guided reflection, emotional awareness practices, and practical tools for mindful communication. Learn to tune into your inner landscape while engaging with the natural one. End with a relaxing sound bathing experience to help you integrate, unwind, and return to your day grounded and refreshed. Class goes outside, weather permitting. \$24 per person. Register online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes>

or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173. Code 3DC.NHIQ

SATURDAY/SEPT. 20

American Horticultural Society Gala.

The American Horticultural Society (AHS), the national organization dedicated to inspiring Americans to garden for the benefits to all, will host its annual Gala at River Farm, its headquarters in Alexandria. Individual Gala tickets are available

for purchase at ahsgardening.org/gala. AHS will honor Skipp Calvert, long-time Alexandria resident, local champion of River Farm, and former AHS Board member, and Brian Kemble, winner of AHS' 2025 Liberty Hyde Bailey Award. The Gala will feature a pop-up sculpture garden with whimsical works from Nepenthe Gallery, sure to surprise and delight. The sculpture garden will include works by Vadim Kharchenko, Kevin Carman, Dorothy Gillsepie Foundation, David Turner, and Michael Alfano – many available for purchase.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 20

The HalloWEIRD Art Market. 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Features a variety of artwork from local artisans celebrating the spooky and playful sides of the autumn season. Join us for lots of fun at this outdoor, family-friendly, rain-or-shine event. HalloWEIRD takes place in the Mount Vernon Recreation Center fields adjoining Del Ray Artisans gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, VA. Details at Del-RayArtisans.org/halloweird-2025

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 24

Evening with Dr. Krystyn R. Moon.

7 p.m. At The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington Street, Alexandria. The Alexandria Historical Society invites you to join them for an evening with Dr. Krystyn R. Moon as she presents Proximity to Power: Rethinking Race and Place in Alexandria. Dr. Moon will explore how Alexandria's proximity to the nation's capital shaped African Americans' access to schools, transportation, and resources compared to other southern towns. Her work highlights the long-standing advocacy of Alexandria's Black residents, offering new insights into the intersection of race, place, and power.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 27

Alexandria Oktoberfest. 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

At John Carlyle Square, 300 John Carlyle Street, Alexandria. Celebrate the season with the best of German culture, food, music, and fun at the beautiful John Carlyle Square in Alexandria. This family-friendly event captures the unmistakable spirit of Bavarian merriment with traditional music, lively entertainment, and a lively beer garden. Whether you're here to enjoy the delicious food, shop for unique handmade crafts, or dance to the rhythms of authentic German tunes, there's something for everyone.

What to Expect: Live German Music and Traditional Dance Performances: Enjoy lively German tunes and classic Oktoberfest songs that will fill the air with festive energy all day long.

Beer Garden: Sip on a variety of refreshing German beers in our beer garden. Whether you love a classic lager or something a little more adventurous, you'll find the perfect brew to enjoy.

Delicious German Food: Indulge in delicious Oktoberfest favorites, from bratwurst and pretzels to strudels and more. It's the perfect way to experience authentic German flavors.

Handmade Arts & Crafts: Explore a variety of unique, handcrafted items by local artisans. Whether you're looking for a special gift or something for yourself, you'll find a treasure here.

Obituary

Obituary

Carla Trice Crawford

May 6, 1968 - August 4, 2025

As the sun rose on the morning of August 4, 2025, in St. Simon's Island, Georgia, Carla Trice Crawford, age 57, passed away peacefully, surrounded by her loving family. She left this world as she lived in it, with grace, dignity, and unshakable courage. Though the earth feels dimmer without her radiant presence, Heaven is surely brighter with Carla there, and she has joined the chorus of angels. Her absence will be deeply felt by all those who knew and loved her.



Carla played many roles throughout her life, both onstage and in the everyday moments that defined her. Yet the role she cherished above all others was being a wife and mother. She treasured the life that she and her husband Tom built together, and her greatest joy was raising their three beloved children, Trice, Grace, and Witt. Motherhood was her most important work, and she poured her heart and soul into her family. With the same grace, humor, and determination that marked everything she did, Carla nurtured her children into the kind, loving, and accomplished young adults they are today, all three living testaments to the depth of her love.

Carla's beauty and vivaciousness, especially her smile that could light up a room, was matched only by her extraordinary gifts as an actress and singer. Offstage, she was known for her quick wit, endearing sense of humor, and the ability to keep her friends laughing. She carried a rare combination of raw acting talent, a beautiful voice, and striking presence. Carla loved fashion and carried herself with effortless elegance.

Carla grew up in Fayette, Alabama, a place that gave her the foundation for a beautiful life. Even as a young girl, Carla was known for her singing, dancing, and acting talents, along with her vibrant, sassy personality. After graduating from Fayette County High School in 1986, she enrolled at the University of Alabama, where she joined Chi Omega sorority and became a Crimsonette. She cherished her years at Alabama, making lifelong friends and she never stopped cheering for her Crimson Tide.

Carla dearly loved Fayette, its warmth, her family, and the friends who gave her roots, but her dreams carried her further. So after earning a degree in Business from Alabama, she followed that calling to Washington, D.C., ready to embrace the city's rhythm, to meet people whose paths she might never have crossed in Fayette, and to seize the opportunities to perform and to grow. It was during this time that she met her future husband, Tom Crawford, on a blind date that Tom loved to say never ended for the nearly 34 years they were together.

Tom and Carla settled in Alexandria, Virginia, where they raised their family and built a community of lifelong friends that were by her side to the end and continue to uplift the family in this difficult time. Carla poured her heart into supporting her children, whether cheering on the sidelines of the lacrosse field or tennis court, or volunteering at St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School. Even while devoted to her family, she continued to nurture her acting career. Carla studied at the Theatre Lab School of the Dramatic Arts in the Honors Acting Conservatory and at the Broadway Artists' Alliance Professional Workshop. She earned leading roles in beloved musicals and dramas—including Gypsy Rose, Bridges of Madison County, Steel Magnolias, and Sweeney Todd. She also made television appearances, including a role in the final episode of Succession in 2023.

To say Carla squeezed a lifetime into her short 57 years is an understatement. She loved to travel and explored cultures across the globe, visiting the major continents and experiencing adventures on land and at sea. Always curious, Carla sought out people from all walks of life and delighted in the richness of their stories. She approached life with energy, joy, and an openness that inspired all who knew her.

Carla is survived by her devoted husband of over 30 years, Thomas Raymond Crawford of Alexandria, VA, and St. Simon's Island, GA; her daughter Grace McLean Crawford of Arlington, VA; and her two sons, Trice Peterson Crawford of Dallas, TX, and Thomas Hewitt "Witt" Crawford of Drexel University. She is also survived by her loving parents, Judith and James "Harrell" Trice, Jr., of Fayette, AL; her brother, James Harrell "Jimmy" Trice III, and his wife Marsha, of Fayette, AL; her mother-in-law, Marilyn Wizer Crawford of Gaylord, MI; her sisters-in-law Rebecca Crawford Metzinger (Stephen), of New Orleans, LA; Sarah Crawford Grobbel (Matthew) of Aurora, CO; Kathleen Crawford Guerra (Aldo) of Phoenix, AZ; and many beloved relatives and friends who will forever cherish her memory.

Though her time on earth feels far too short, Carla's spirit lives on in the love of her family, the laughter of her friends, and the countless lives she touched through her gifts. As the University of Alabama fight song says, "Hit your stride," and that is exactly how Carla lived, pouring her heart into every step of her journey. In her memory, Tom and the family have established the Carla Trice Crawford Memorial Scholarship at the Theatre Lab School of Dramatic Arts, ensuring that future generations of performers will be lifted by the same joy, determination, beauty and art that defined Carla's life. In lieu of flowers, donations to this scholarship can be sent to:

Carla Trice Crawford Memorial Scholarship Fund
The Theatre Lab School of the Dramatic Arts
900 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20001

Or at the following online link:

<https://theatrelab.org/the-carla-trice-crawford-memorial-scholarship-fund/>

The Crawford Family invites you to join them celebrating Carla's life at a memorial service on Saturday, September 20, 2025 at 11:00 am at Saint Paul's Episcopal Church, 228 South Pitt Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314. A reception will be held immediately following the service at Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22307.

The family requests that attendees wear colorful attire in line with the spirit, joy and radiance Carla embodied.

Until we meet again in the presence of our Lord, we rejoice in knowing that Carla is now dancing, singing, and smiling in Heaven.

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Obituary

Obituary

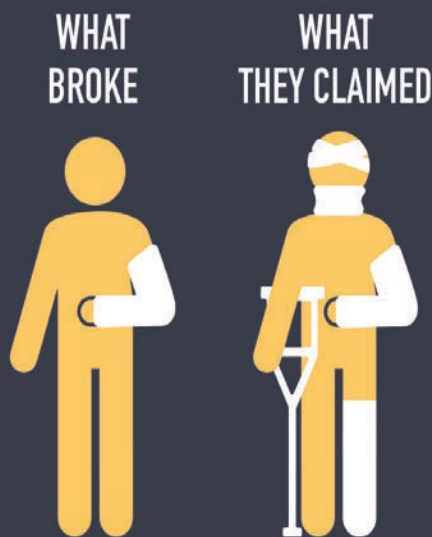


It is with great sorrow, but deep gratitude for her life, that we announce the passing of **Mary G. Glass** July 26, 2025. Mary, at the age of 90, passed with her daughter Melanie by her side and her entire family in her heart. Predeceased by her husband Melvin, daughter Elizabeth Anne Collingwood Leo, and parents James and Annie (Giammittorio) Giuseppe, Mary is survived by her brother George Giuseppe, her daughter Melanie, numerous nieces and nephews, and by her seven grandchildren: Braedon, Blaire, Brooke, Baylor, Bryce, Berkeley, and Noah.

Mary graduated from George Washington High School in Alexandria, VA in 1953, soon beginning her career in the Alexandria General District Court. Through her hard work and dedication, Mary took on several promotional roles in her career, eventually being appointed Clerk of the Alexandria General District Court. There, Mary served the public alongside her staff to manage court records, process legal documents, and prepare the daily docket of court proceedings, trials, and hearings, for the judges. During her career, Mary received the Liberty Bell award: recognizing the exceptional service of a non-lawyer citizen whose dedication of time and energy has helped strengthen the American system of freedom under law in keeping with the spirit of our Constitution. The Supreme Court of Virginia, judges, and lawyers alike praised Mary's dedication and extraordinary service. Mary was a vital link between the public and the court until her retirement in 2003 after 50 extraordinary years of dedicated public service.

As much as Mary achieved and enjoyed her career with the court, she adored her role as "Mia" to her seven grandchildren. Whether she was cheering them on at concerts and sports, cooking meals, making lunches, or shopping for their back-to-school needs, Mary was a constant loving presence and pillar of support in her grandchildren's lives. Mia's lasting impact on her grandchildren will continue to keep her spirit alive, and she will be remembered through the family's love of Italian cuisine including pizzelles, cruella, and puffs! Simply being around her family brought Mary immense purpose and joy, for which her grandchildren will be forever grateful.

The funeral mass for Mary G. Glass will be held at The Basilica of Saint Mary at 310 S Royal St, Alexandria, VA 22314 on Saturday, October 25, 2025, at 12:30pm.



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PHOTO BY SUSAN LAUME/THE CONNECTION

Fairfax Master Naturalists Kathy Stewart of Vienna and Aurora Boughi stomp massed spotted lanternflies.

Stomp, Squish, Slap, Smash!!

FROM PAGE 10

are easier to destroy than the quick hopping nymphs and adults. Look for the adult insects now, and their egg masses through the winter, particularly on Tree of Heaven trees. Eliminating those trees goes a long way toward managing the insect pests.

The Urban and Community Forestry website offers education and advice on managing the insects. Squishing adults is a method that can achieve some limited success. Urban Forester, Rachel Habig-Myers, says "Every SLF eliminated before egg laying saves up to a hundred next year." She adds that while they jump to avoid their demise, "They get lazy after one jump or two."

She has this warning about control by smashing: "Well, it's going to be a gross sticky mess." She says instead we may have to learn to live with these insects, as we have with stink bugs (Pentatomidae). Stink bugs are another crop pest with sucking mouth parts.

Stink bugs will not lay eggs in our houses, but are often found in numbers near window frames or having made their way inside.

Habig-Myers shares that in Philadelphia, where there was

a heavy infestation, they saw the population drop after a couple of years. She says, "We can live with them [SLF] without stressing out."

At this point, Urban Forestry is still recommending reporting sightings on iNaturalist for population prediction purposes, though no direct reporting of insect sightings to the department is needed. As Habig-Myers says, "They are everywhere."

Other possible new controls are emerging and may offer help for the pest's management overtime. In a four-year \$475,000 grant from the US Dept of Agriculture, Virginia Tech researchers are training pet dogs for detection of SLF egg masses.

Some observers have seen birds, European hornets and ants using SLF as a food source.

For advice on dealing with SLF, see VA Cooperative Extension's manual at

<https://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/ENTO/ento-586/ento-586.html>. Urban forestry seeks the public's assistance in mapping the location Tree of Heaven, and reporting SLF on the iNaturalist app; see <https://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/ENTO/ento-586/ento-586.html>

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Remind Me Again



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I can understand receiving reminders from my healthcare provider concerning appointments and medicine refills - as I'm a cancer patient still undergoing treatment. I can understand receiving reminders from pet superstores concerning food and pharmacy items which as an owner of four cats and a dog - I might need reminding. I can understand receiving reminders from a high-end kitty litter distributor given their product's time-sensitive effectiveness in identifying a cat's overall health status since I'm paying an extra premium for the privilege. And I can certainly appreciate reminders from car dealers about miscellaneous service intervals and recommended repairs/replacements for our cars that we likely would otherwise let pass. But I cannot understand - other than the company's motivation to nudge me to buy their products as often as possible, maybe even prematurely, that I'm "arrowed" to a line near the bottom of a plastic dish soap bottle pointing to the advisory "Refill."

Really? I need to be encouraged/nagged about dish soap? You mean to tell/advice me that I can't be left alone to my own homeowners' devices to know when and if I want to refill a bottle of dish soap? Is there some other reason - other than emptying my "refill" inventory as soon as possible in order to create a need, possibly, to replenish my reserves? Does the product lose its effectiveness if I don't refill the bottle at the exact line as indicated? There's not a shortage of dish soap in the market, is there? I mean, this isn't a pandemic-era shortage of toilet paper type-situation, where I need to hoard dish soap in case the market/bottle dries up, is it?

Let me rework the great Alfonso Bedoya's response to Humphery Bogart in "The Treasure of Sierra Madre" (1948) as my reply: I don't need no stinkin' line on a bottle to show/tell me what to do. I may not be the most capable homeowner in the world (least capable more likely), but neither do I need to be held by the hand. And I don't need any help from the long arm of corporate America reaching into my wallet and extracting dollars for a purchase that might not make any sense - and don't really benefit me. Well, not as much as the purchase benefits them. This is dish soap. It's for cleaning dishes. It's not penicillin. It's not insulin. And more to the point - for me, it's not chemo/targeted therapy. It's a product for a sort-of-a-daily, somewhat mundane task: washing dishes. We're not sterilizing anything here. We're handwashing. There's no surgery scheduled. Just life in the kitchen.

A life with which we're all familiar and likely equipped to manage. As you might have guessed, I've taken offense with this, in my opinion, money grab. Can't I be left alone concerning my purchases for the kitchen. It's not an operating theater. The only eyes watching me belong to either a cat - wanting a treat, or the dog - wanting to go out. Moreover, I'm not giving any lessons. I'm not you-tubbing my handiwork. There's nothing particularly time-sensitive going on. And there's certainly no spouse monitoring my every wipe. She knows I'm capable of "doing the dishes" and trusts me to know what kitchen-centric products need to be purchased when. However, as indicated by the line on the bottle, apparently corporate America thinks I'm a dufus and needs to tell me what to do with their products and when. What products are next? Tissue paper? Paper towels? Toilet paper? (God forbid.) A line may not have been crossed but it has been drawn. And as a consumer, I take objection to its appearance and corporate America's reach. If I need any help managing my day-to-day/activities of daily living, I'll let you know. Otherwise, mind your own business, and I'll mind mine.

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

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