Second Chances

Hundreds of attendees turned out as Offender Aid and Restoration of Arlington, Falls Church and Alexandria held its 11th annual Second Chance Fundraising Breakfast April 9 at the Crystal Gateway Marriott. The event featured the journeys of reentry into the community by several formerly incarcerated clients.

OAR assisted 2,014 participants in their program in 2018 including 635 men and women who received reentry assistance, both pre- and post-release and 1,432 men, women, boys and girls who were enrolled in the Community Service program, which is an alternative form of sentencing.

In addition, this was the third year of a new Intensive Reentry Program, which focuses on individuals still in incarceration to provide classes in essential life skills as well as case management and employment coaching. Individuals in this program have a recidivism rate of 14 percent compared to 54 percent for a comparable population nationally. See www.oaronline.org.

— Jeanne Theismann

Tiana Woods tells her story of desperation facing eviction with a young child and a husband in prison: “I’d never experienced something like this.” Now after assistance from OAR, her husband has been helped with getting a job after release from jail, her rent is caught up, and she is working as well. “Things have gotten better.” She says OAR treated her with respect and helped “when we had no place else to turn.”

‘Fait Accompli’?

School Board approves swing space plan over community objections.

By Dan Brendel

Over community pushback, the School Board approved a contentious plan to use the old Patrick Henry K-8 School building as interim “swing space.”

The vote, held Thursday, April 4, was 8-1 with School Board member Heather Thornton dissenting.

The school system originally planned to raze the old Patrick Henry building shortly after the new one opened in January. But the administration then thought to repurpose the old building as an interim facility — “swing space” — to educate students from Douglas MacArthur Elementary while it undergoes reconstruction. The School Board had slated the Douglas MacArthur rebuild to finish in FY 2025, subsequent to constructing an entirely new school elsewhere. That new school would have served as swing space before converting to its permanent use, perhaps as a new middle school. By patching up the old Patrick Henry building instead, staff think the school system originally planned to raze the old Patrick Henry building shortly after the new one opened in January. But

ACPS to release potential site options.

By Dan Brendel and Bridgette Adu-Wadier

After long discussion about high school expansion strategy, the School Board will consider initial site options at its April 25 meeting.

The city government’s FY 2020-2029 capital improvement budget, currently under consideration, would allocate $119 million for capacity expansions — the second single largest capital investment on Alexandria’s horizon.

In response to ballooning enrollment, the School Board last year launched the “High School Project,” an initiative to add capacity and modernize programming. The schools’ options for more

See ACPS, Page 20

See Plan, Page 20

State Sen. Barbara Favola (D-31), Bill Euille, Senica Lee, Alexandria City Council member Amy Jackson, Arlington County Board member Libby Garvey, Alexandria Sheriff Dana Lawhorne, state Sen. Adam Ebbin (D-30) and OAR executive director Elizabeth Jones Valderrama gather for a photo at the OAR Second Chances breakfast April 9 at the Crystal Gateway Marriott.

Second Chances Event highlights OAR services.

Photo by Janet Barnett

Photo by Shirley Ruhe

APD sergeants Charlette Mitchell and Donna Barnes with administrator Leah Tolliver at the OAR Second Chances breakfast April 9.

Next Steps for High School Expansion

See Plan, Page 20

See ACPS, Page 20
Guiding you on a smooth landing home.

A hard sell is not Melissa Shelby’s style; authentic and approachable is. While Melissa believes in aligning clients’ goals with her expert knowledge of our dynamic market, she would never compromise her integrity to earn business. No bullying and no bull - just scrupulous conduct, healthy communication and tireless dedication. Melissa’s vibrant approach to each transaction and spirit of cooperation yields success. That success is simply measured: her longtime friends have become her clients, and her clients have become treasured friends.

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Regional representatives and employees of Beyer Subaru gather in the Alexandria dealership showroom April 3 to present a check for $24,874 to the nonprofit Together We Bake. Founded in 2012, the organization is a job training program for women transitioning back into society.

Recipe for Success

By Jeanne Theismann
Gazette Packet

Regional representatives of Subaru of America joined with employees of Alexandria’s Beyer Subaru April 3 to present a check for $24,874 to local nonprofit Together We Bake as part of the automotive company’s annual Share the Love campaign. “This year’s campaign was a huge success,” said Beyer Subaru Vice President Stephane Beyer-Kirby. “It really speaks to our customers’ values.”

This year’s Share the Love campaign ran Nov. 15, 2018, through Jan. 2, 2019. During that time, Subaru donated $250 to Share the Love organizations for each new car that was purchased or leased. Customers were able to designate if the donation went to one of four national organizations — the ASPCA, Make-A-Wish, Meals on Wheels or the National Park Foundation — or a hometown charity. Beyer Subaru selected Together We Bake as this year’s local charity.

“In the past we have raised between $7,000-8,000,” Beyer-Kirby said. “But Together We Bake has had a tremendous impact on the local community and that resonated with our customers.”

Founded in 2012, Together We Bake is a job training and personal development program to help women transitioning back into society from the corrections system, facing long-term unemployment and/or experiencing homelessness.

“Together We Bake gave me a solid foundation to start over,” said Colida Johnson, a 2014 program graduate now working for the organization. “It gave me a place to feel safe — it felt like home.” Together We Bake teaches four, 8-week sessions per year. The program is centered around a small baking business through which women learn and participate in food production, food safety education and business administration.

“The program has been great,” said 2018 graduate Teresa Ross, who now works as a Together We Bake kitchen helper. “It gave me a chance to feel more comfortable, to learn how to open up and to feel safe.”

The annual Together We Bake Empowerment Breakfast will be held June 5 and is open to the public. For more information or to purchase tickets or a sponsorship, visit www.togetherwebake.org.

Beyer Subaru raises $24k for Together We Bake.

The Countdown Begins

By Jeanne Theismann
Gazette Packet

At the stroke of midnight April 10, Spring2ACTion formally kicked off as more than 150 local nonprofits began fundraising efforts in the city’s annual 24-hour online giving campaign.

Hosted by ACT for Alexandria, Spring2ACTion connects donors to grassroots charitable causes. The virtual fundraising effort offers local nonprofits the opportunity to raise thousands of dollars through direct donations as well as prizes and incentives for leaders in various categories throughout the day.

Last year, 9,438 donors raised $1,812,851 for 156 nonprofits serving Alexandria. ACT has set a goal of raising $2 million in this year’s campaign.

According to the Spring2ACTion website, its primary goals are to grow philanthropy, revenue and supporters and to educate the community on the impact of Alexandria’s nonprofit organizations.

New this year was a two-week period of early giving, which began March 27. Several organizations hosted events to encourage early donations with more than $500,000 being raised in the first few hours of the official kick off. Full results of the 2019 Spring2ACTion campaign were not available at press time but are available at www.Spring2ACTion.org.

Spring2ACTion sets $2 million goal for online giving.

Agenda: Alexandria executive director Donna Walker James, left, watches as Fernando Torrez makes a donation to the organization at an early giving Spring2ACTion Happy Hour April 8 at Union Street Public House.

Agenda: Alexandria executive director Donna Walker James, left, with Jennifer Fountain, Betty Middleton and Alan Horn at the organization’s early giving Spring2ACTion Happy Hour April 8 at Union Street Public House.
Featured Listings

309 W. Alexandria Ave.
Offered at: $1,799,000
5 4.5 4.741 sq ft
Christine Garner 703-587-4855
1 2

3805 Colonial Avenue
Offered at: $1,325,000
5 4.5 Approx. 5,000 sq ft
Christine Garner 703-587-4855
1 Pool 2

204 Summers Drive
Offered at: $849,000
2 1.5 2,255 sq ft
Christine Garner 703-587-4855
1

9520 Wallingford Drive
Offered at: $565,000
5 3.5 2,300 sq ft
Dave & Debbie Ingram 703-380-8966
1 1 driveway

6501 Nevitt Way
Offered at: $480,000
3 2.5 1,500 sq ft
Dave & Debbie Ingram 703-380-8966
1 1 driveway

5904 Mount Eagle Dr Unit 1015
Offered at: $385,000
2 2 1305 SF
Joann La Fon 703-618-2500

709 Grand View Drive
Offered at: $1,025,000
4 4.5 2,398 sq ft
Diann Hicks-Carlson 703-628-2440
2 1

103 West Howell Ave
Offered at: $925,000
4 1.5 nearly 2,800 sq ft
Christine Garner 703-587-4855
2 1
# News

## Shaping the City: How Planning Commission Voted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Request / Purpose</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Votes</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advisory recommendations to the City Manager re FY 2020-2029 10-Year Capital Improvement Program</td>
<td>City OMB Dept</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Annual adherence to City Charter § 6.14: “The city manager shall obtain and transmit to the council the advisory recommendations of the planning commission with regard to the consistency of proposed capital improvement projects with the master plan and the priority and timing of those projects in comparison to other elements in the master plan.”</td>
<td>Planning Commission finds city manager’s CIP is “generally consistent” with city master plan.</td>
<td>5 to 0</td>
<td>Goebel and McMahon absent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Use Permit #2019-0004</td>
<td>Del Ray Gardens, LLC</td>
<td>1503 &amp; 1505 Mount Vernon Ave (Del Ray Gardens Restaurant)</td>
<td>Operate a restaurant use with outdoor dining</td>
<td>Approved, as amended</td>
<td>6 to 0</td>
<td>Goebel absent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacation #2019-0001</td>
<td>Brian and Katherine Bartholomay</td>
<td>100 East Luray Ave</td>
<td>Vacate a portion of the adjacent public right-of-way to add area to a residential side yard</td>
<td>Approved, as amended</td>
<td>6 to 0</td>
<td>Goebel absent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Text Amendment #2019-0002</td>
<td>City P&amp;Z Dept</td>
<td>King St outdoor dining overlay zone</td>
<td>Amend Zoning Ordinance to permit installation of city-required outdoor dining enclosures secured to city brick, concrete, and brick/concrete hybrid sidewalks; provide unobstructed clearance for fire department connections; update regulations related to loudspeakers; update requirements for dining umbrella clearance requirements; update design of outdoor dining facilities and process requirements.</td>
<td>Approved</td>
<td>6 to 0</td>
<td>Goebel absent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master Plan Amendment #2019-0001</td>
<td>City P&amp;Z Dept</td>
<td>5701, 5701B, 5701 1/2, 5801, 5815, 5801, 6031, &amp; 6033 Duke St (Landmark Mall)</td>
<td>Amend Landmark/Van Dorn Corridor Plan Overlay in City Master Plan, add a Landmark Mall Chapter as an addendum</td>
<td>Approved, as amended</td>
<td>5 to 1</td>
<td>Brown dissented, Goebel absent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Use Permit #2019-0002</td>
<td>McCarthy Flowers, Inc</td>
<td>139 S Fairfax St</td>
<td>Request for change of ownership</td>
<td>Approved</td>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Use Permit #2019-0003</td>
<td>Durpiz, Inc</td>
<td>1504-A Mount Vernon Ave</td>
<td>Request for a change of ownership, minor amendment for additional seating and on-premises alcohol sales</td>
<td>Approved</td>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Use Permit #2019-0011</td>
<td>Eulogia Torrez</td>
<td>3401 Mount Vernon Ave</td>
<td>Request for new use for a restaurant</td>
<td>Approved</td>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Here’s what the Planning Commission decided at its monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 2. Commissioner John Goebel was absent. The commission comprises seven city council-appointed members, who influence development and land use decisions; make recommendations to council; and exercise approval authority over property subdivisions and “by right” development site plans. Commissioners serve staggered four-years terms.

---

**Arlington Festival of the Arts**

An Outdoor Art Show | Free Admission

April 13th – 14th | Sat./Sun. 10am – 5pm
Where I Connect with Life's Purpose

By Shirley Ruhe
Gazette Packet

Randy Gore spent the morning reconciling invoices and receipts as part of his fiduciary obligation. But last weekend, “We had our annual spring production. This year it was ‘Aladdin Junior,’ and I was working backstage giving vocal lessons, helping kids learn their lines and directing the show.” This afternoon he will be meeting on the Campagna Kids summer camp program to finalize the details of the field trips. “We have three field trips a week like Port Discovery in Baltimore, Imagination Stage in Bethesda, and Six Flags.” As senior director of the Campagna Center’s Out of School Time Programs, “I get to do a bit of it all.”

“But the joy of my job is going out to the sites to see our children. They know me by name. I’m not just a voice in an ivory tower.” Campagna Kids has sites for before and after school programs in 11 schools across Alexandria.

“Our program is one of Alexandria’s jewels,” he said. It provided before and after school programs to more than 900 children in the City of Alexandria this year. He says the enrichment programs range from musical theatre to sports like basketball and soccer, to sign language, 3-D printing, visual arts and chess. “Our chess team won eight consecutive titles in a national championship.”

He said, “We get more detailed about their interests and kids this year are interested in technology so we’re working to refine that. We design enrichment to get what they want.”

For instance, he points out they have a robotics team which builds robots that compete to perform a mission within a specified time period.

Gore started at Campagna Center in 2006 as a part time job when he was in school. “I didn’t think I would be here that long but I fell in love with the work. I came in as an entry-level assistant group leader. I still remember the first kindergarten class at Douglas MacArthur, how excited they were to be there.”

Gore says he was a latch key kid and “I went home and waited for my parents.” He wishes he could have had a program like this when he was growing up.

Gore advanced to assistant site director, site director, director of operations and now senior director of Out of School Time Programs where he has been for two years. He said, “I have a passion for the arts and was a vocal major. I found I could use my skill set and bring it to the job here.”

The Campagna Kids program “is not school, not home. It’s unique. We don’t have children in front of a video game.” Gore says adults used to come up with everything but now they have very detailed programs geared to the interests of the children.

“I like to call myself a program designer. I drive a lot of what happens with the highest level of quality so that children can enjoy coming here every day.” He wants to give them a positive experience in life.

He says he remembers when he did his first play with the kids. It was a play they wrote for Black History month about helping a Black child understand how he got where he is today by going back in a time machine. “That’s when I knew I was here to stay. When kids aren’t interested, they aren’t interested, but his job is to find out what excites them and do it. “Now we’re licensing our junior shows. We have costume designers.”

Gore notes that Campagna Kids levels the playing field for the diversity of their students to assure that all children have access to the same quality of programs. Parents are charged on a sliding scale from $23 per month to $425 a month. The program is funded through the City of Alexandria and the Alexandria City Public Schools.

“This is where I’m supposed to be, where I connect with life’s purpose,” Gore said.

Examining Confluence of Religion and Journalism

Local author produces “A Spiral into Marvelous Light.”

By Ashley Claire Simpson
Gazette Packet

Michael Gryboski has a few things in common with Scott Addison, the main character he created for his latest novel, “A Spiral into Marvelous Light” — the story of a writer tackling an article with a heated subject.

Like Addison, Gryboski — an Alexandria native — is an experienced journalist with ties to the D.C. area. They both cover political issues of national impact and confront controversial topics.

“It put a lot of my own personal experience into addition,” said Gryboski, who writes for The Christian Post. “His experience mirrors mine with how he interviews people, transcribes those interviews, and then how he writes about those day-to-day issues. Also, my home state of Virginia provides the main setting.

The book features Alexandria and Richmond, which are places I have strong personal ties to.”

There is, however, one significant difference between the two. While Addison is downright apathetic with regard to religion, Gryboski’s Christian faith has always fueled his professional journey.

“I began to write in my free time back in 2001, when I was in ninth grade at Minnie Howard, largely in response to the September 11 terrorist attacks,” Gryboski said. “After the tragedy, it was inspiring to see people come together, to see the rise in church attendance, to see more of my classmates saying the Pledge of Allegiance. Then it was a cynical downer to see these trends reverse course as the weeks went by. The whole cycle instilled in me a need to make the world a better place — to serve God and man through literature. The September 11 terrorist attacks always reminded me that even if I kept my ideas to myself, someone out there would still hate my guts.”

Released to the public on Tuesday, March 26, Gryboski approached “A Spiral into Marvelous Light” as a way for him to serve both God and fellow man.

“In 2016, Dean Baquet, (executive editor of The New York Times) did an interview with NPR, explaining how major new media sources often don’t really ‘get’ religion,” said Gryboski, who is speaking as an individual and not as a representative of the news publication he works for. “I was really impressed with that observation and how he wanted to learn more. They say journalism is one of the most secular fields, that individual journalists are disproportionately unreligious. I thought I could help a little by shedding some light through fiction.”

According to a 2008 Pew Research Center study that Gryboski encountered during his research, only eight percent of journalists for local publications — and 14 percent of journalists for national publications — regularly attended worship services.

Gryboski figured the best way for him to analyze this phenomenon was to tell a relevant story from the perspective of a journalist who distances himself from religion.

In “A Spiral into Marvelous Light,” Addison chronicles the life and death of a recently deceased public religious figure, the fictional Reverend Sammy Milton — a character that may have started to bubble in Gryboski’s brain more than 10 years ago.

“The first event to ultimately inspire me was in 2007, when the famous Baptist pastor and television evangelist Jerry Falwell died,” he said. “Originally, I didn’t have a very high opinion of Falwell, but then I read more about him. I was impressed with his philanthropy. He had a reputation for having a lot of friends and acquaintances. There was a thought that he was loud, outspoken and polarizing, but he was so much more. As it turns out, a lot of these qualities went into the character of Reverend Sammy Milton.”

While not his first novel, “A Spiral into Marvelous Light” is a little something different for Gryboski.

“My other novels tend to be more action-packed,” Gryboski said. “This is technically novel number eight, and I wanted something more centered on drama and emotion — something more focused on the spiritual, the historical, and the intellectual. Another difference is the personal aspect. I put a lot of my experiences as a journalist and as an observer as well as a participant in the ideological conflicts of modern America into this story.”

Despite that the novel fleshes out some touchy topics, Gryboski wrote it as a book
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MODEL HOME and SALES CENTER: 300 SOUTH UNION STREET, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314
The Old Town Shop, a gift boutique highlighting the historic heritage of Alexandria, celebrated its second anniversary with a weekend of special events culminating March 31.

Located at 105 South Union St., the retail store opened in March of 2017 as the vision of longtime resident Valerie Ianieri, who sought to feature local artisan products and celebrate the city's maritime heritage.

"We are excited to have a shop that is dedicated to promoting and celebrating the charm and uniqueness of Old Town Alexandria," said Ianieri, whose slogan for the shop is “Where the past is your present.” Ianieri commissioned custom designed "OTX" and Old Town Alexandria branded merchandise and features a variety of local curated artisan products that are offered at the Old Town Farmers Market in the section of the store called Locals’ Alley. The Sales associate Emma Buch, left, rings up the purchases of Carol and David Brown of South Carolina March 31 at The Old Town Shop.

Port is the section of the store that promotes the history of Alexandria, known as The Port City, with a representation of 12 state mile markers to depict the historic importance of the area. The store also features regular events that spotlight local vendors, writers and artisans. "My focus is to preserve and promote the history, creativity and culture of Alexandria locals and the Commonwealth of Virginia," Ianieri added. See www.theoldtownshop.com.
Learning about ‘Safe Place’

The city’s Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities Outreach Coordinator Michael Johnson has been working to educate the community about Safe Place, a national program that assists youth in crisis. “Participants at the Nannie J. Lee and Leonard ‘Chick’ Armstrong Recreation Centers were awarded for their work of celebrating National Safe Place Week. Participants watched a Safe Place Awareness video, completed worksheets as well as discussed what to do if they need help.” A total of 31 sites are currently available throughout the city. “All the city’s recreation centers, libraries, and fire stations are locations that will provide a safe place if a youth is in need.” The 24-hour hotline number is 703-746-5400. “For more information about Safe Place, contact Johnson at 703-746-5571. “If searching for summer adventure or afterschool availability, contact the Department of Recreation at 703-746-5414.”

Preservation of Hugo Black House

To the Editor:

In 1949 I moved with my family to Old Town Alexandria and knew most of its residents from my days delivering the Alexandria Gazette as a youngster. As I recall, that is how I came to know Justice Hugo Black who lived at a historic home with an unusually large garden at 619 South Lee St.

Growing up in Old Town, from my earliest youth I have been devoted to the cause of historic preservation. In 1961, I was the first recipient of a Bachelor of Architectural History, awarded by the School of Architecture at the University of Virginia. I went on to work at the U.S. Department of the Interior where I co-authored The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation as expressed by construction project at the Hugo Black House April 13.

The house is a site of national importance because Justice Black was instrumental in desegregating American schools and extending the protections of the Bill of Rights to all Americans. In 1969 the Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission certified the property as an Historic Landmark. It is one of the most important historic sites in the City of Alexandria.

I therefore wish to add my voice to those of Preservation Virginia, the Historic Alexandria Resources Commission, Historic Alexandria Foundation, the Alexandria Association, the Old Town Civic Association, the Northern Virginia Conservation Council, Preservation Virginia, and others who have called on the City Council to reject the current development plan for the Hugo Black House and property.

W. Brown Morton III
Architectural Conservator
The author is professor emeritus, Department of Historic Preservation, University of Mary Washington.

Spend Taxes Wisely

To the Editor:

With regard to the proposed FY 2020 budget for the City of Alexandria, I am very much against the announced policy of converting consultant positions in the IT department to full-time positions. Full-time salary positions bring with them reduced flexibility in staffing decisions and an undefined obligation for retraining and medical benefits. It behaves the City of Alexandria to spend its taxpayer dollars very carefully. IT skills decay rapidly and outsourcing provides protection for the city in terms of ability to bring new skills into the department at short notice when technology changes, which it does and very quickly.

A similar argument can be made with respect to janitorial/custodial positions in ACPS. The fact that ACPS has not managed to implement this outsourcing does not mean that it is not desirable. Please do not allow inertia to determine policy on this issue.

I also urge the City Council to use plain English when discussing budget issues. In particular, the term “affordable” housing is a euphemism for taxpayer-subsidized housing. Please call it what it is.

I am very much opposed to such taxpayer subsidies whether direct or indirect, because it distorts the wages that are/should be paid to workers in the city.

When workers are subsidized, it is the employer that benefits, not the employee. The employer gets to pay less for workers, thus increasing his profit margin and squeezing the worker.

The City of Alexandria should not be in the business of picking and choosing winners and losers in this way. I urge you to call a halt to subsidized housing.

Janet L. Bates
Alexandria
Opinion

Thoughtless Bureaucracy?
To the Editor:
The city is putting up new parking direction signs in Old Town. Have you seen the new one on Queen Street? If not, that is possibly because they put it behind a tree. Not behind the leaves, but behind a 4-foot tree trunk. Well it’s only behind a tree if you are stopped at the stop sign. If you are midway down the block and at the elevation of a London double decker bus, it’s OK.

Of course I was surprised to find the 3x5 foot sign towering 15 feet above street level in front of my house on a 100 percent residential block. So were my neighbors. To date no neighbor ever recalls being told of this billboard’s arrival by the city’s bureaucrats. Is this sign going to help direct people to parking? No. I would be in favor of that, but literally you will not notice this sign unless you live on the block. I notice it, because it partially obscures the views from the windows in my house. This billboard reduces the value of every house on the block.
The sign on one side give directions. On the other? It’s blank. Yep, a blank billboard. Just what Old Town needed. I can’t decide whether to convert this monument to thoughtless bureaucracy to a basketball hoop or post my own ideas of signs for where the city can go.
The council needs to exercise meaningful oversight on careless city bureaucrats.

Dan Hazelwood
Alexandria

Another Bad Decision
To the Editor:
This latest fiasco over the location of the slaughter house pinpoints one vital point: We are the victims of our decisions at the voting booths. What makes this issue so important is that with a slight change to the way we cast our ballots in November, we could have a much better outcome on adjudicating issues before the City Council.

In my opinion, eliminating the “At Large” system of City Council representation would greatly improve the fairness of the process. Replacing it with the Ward system would offer every voting citizen in Alexandria an ability to vote for someone who understands and represents the issues within their own neighborhood, and would be working to solve them, rather than being beholden to no one, which is the present situation.

William L. Blumberg
Alexandria

Decisions, Decisions ...
To the Editor:
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Dan Hazelwood
Alexandria

More Letters

And on the other side ....
4004 Carson Place
6BD | 7BA | 2HBA | $3,100,000

Open Sunday!
April 14th, 2 – 4pm

The Goodhart Group
Sue & Allison Goodhart
703.362.2221
sue@thegoodhartgroup.com
allison@thegoodhartgroup.com
thegoodhartgroup.com

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5BD | 5BA | 2HBA | $2,150,000

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Anne DiBenedetto
703.615.1897
anne@annesold.com
annesold.com

1010 Colonial Avenue
2BD | 2BA | $849,000

Open Sunday!
April 14th, 2 – 4pm

Mary Ashley Rhule
860.214.7474
maryashley@compass.com
maryashleyrealestate.com
The Alexandria Republican City Committee’s (ARCC’s) April meeting focused on the city’s proposals for reducing the number of driving lanes on Seminary Road, a busy east-west route in Alexandria, in order to add bicycle lanes. Though the road is already considered safe by the local residents, ARCC Chairman Sean Lenehan expressed concern that significant changes could be made in spite of overwhelming community opposition, as with the recent City Council approval of the poultry slaughterhouse.

Linda App, ARCC member who had attended a recent city-sponsored Open House event on the project, gave a presentation on the alternatives being proposed by the city, and explained the city’s decision process and deadline for comments. Other members expressed concern for the impact of lane reduction on: emergency vehicles’ response times, traffic flow, and the increased dangers of mixing vehicles and bicycles. Members also criticized aggressive bicyclist behavior and the perceived new city preference for bicycles over cars in this densely-populated area.

Lenehan said, “This is not a Republican or Democrat issue. This is a community issue. Most of us don’t or can’t ride bikes to get to work and run errands. Families can’t travel by bicycle. We need practical solutions, not social-engineering to end the use of cars.”

Michael Clinkscale, a recent candidate for Alexandria City Council, announced his candidacy for the Virginia House of Delegates, District 45. He spoke of his message of independence for every individual, and that “the only limits we have are those we put on ourselves.”

ARCC (at www.alexgop.org) is the local branch of the national Republican Party. The Commonwealth Republican Women’s Club (CRWC) is the Alexandria chapter of the National Federation of Republican Women. More information is available at www.alexandriacrwc.org. Alexandria Area Young Republicans (AAYR) can be found at www.alexyrs.org.
NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF AN APPLICATION BY VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL AND CERTIFICATION OF POTOMAC YARDS UNDERGROUNDING AND GLEBE GIS CONVERSION
PURSUANT TO TITLE 56 OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA
CASE NO. PUR-2019-00040

On March 7, 2019, pursuant to Virginia Code § 56-48.1 and the Utility Facilities Act, Code § 56-955.1 et seq., Virginia Electric and Power Company ("Dominion" or "Company") filed an application and supporting documents for approval and certification of electric facilities ("Application") with the Virginia State Corporation Commission ("Commission"). Specifically, Dominion seeks to convert the overhead portion of 330-kilovolt ("330 kV") Glebe-Di Line 248 and 330 kV Glebe-North Alexandria Line 2023 between Glebe Substation located in Alexandria, Virginia, and Potomac Yards North Terminal Station ("Potomac Yards Station") (located in the City of Alexandria, Virginia) to underground lines and to tie the converted lines into Glebe Substation. This conversion would include the removal and replacement of existing underground lines comprising a total installation of approximately 2,100 feet of new underground cable from existing manhole #110 to new manhole #111 to Glebe Substation ("Potomac Yards Undergrounding"). Of the 2,100 feet of underground line Dominion proposes to install, 1,100 feet would be installed using microtunneling and 1,000 feet would be installed using existing underground right-of-way. Dominion also proposes to remove 500 feet of underground cable and pipe from Potomac Yards Station to new manhole #111 and to remove 1,000 feet of cable only from new manhole #111 to existing manhole #110. Dominion also seeks to convert and connect the Company’s existing Glebe Substation to a Gas Insulated Substation (collectively, all the work described above comprises the "Project").

Dominion asserts that the proposed Project is necessary to comply with the expiration of an existing Special Use Permit issued by the City of Alexandria. The Special Use Permit is expected to expire January 1, 2021. According to Dominion, the proposed Project is necessary to permit the Company’s remaining transmission facilities in the area to provide adequate service to the Company’s existing customers located in the City of Alexandria and Arlington County, consistent with North American Electric Reliability Corporation Reliability Criteria. Dominion further asserts that the proposed Project would improve operational performance, maintain critical energy infrastructure needed to provide continued reliable electric service to facilities dependent upon to provide critical services, and to maximize available land use to accommodate necessary transmission terminations.

The proposed Project would require new right-of-way across Four Mile Run. Dominion expects that no feasible alternatives have been submitted to the PJM Interconnection, LLC specifically limited to this proposed Project because the key driver for the Project is the undergrounding requirement in the City of Alexandria’s Special Use Permit.

Dominion anticipates an in-service date of May 2022 for the proposed Project, subject to Commission approval and outage scheduling. Dominion estimates the conceptual cost of the proposed Project to be $122.8 million, including approximately $93.3 million for transmission-related work and approximately $39.3 million for substation-related work (2019 dollars).

Description of the Proposed Project

For the existing line relocation under the Potomac Yards Undergrounding, the entire Potomac Yards Station, including three double-circuit 330 kV structures, two single-circuit structures, and conductors would be removed. Also, approximately 550 feet of two existing double-circuit underground lines, currently entering Potomac Yards Substation would be removed and the connection relocated directly into Glebe Substation. Each line consists of two sets of three conductor bundles, with one three-conductor bundle per line. At the line in-point 550 feet from the existing Potomac Yards Station, four new steel poles would be installed turning northwest, crossing U.S. Route 1, going under Four Mile Run, and proceeding north into Glebe Substation. Three conductor bundles, high-pressure fluid-filled ("HPFF") cables would be removed from the Potomac Yards Station to existing manhole #110, where cables could be removed to facilitate this undergrounding project. This is approximately 1,500 feet, the distance of this line relocation is approximately 1,100 feet.

After the four HPFF cable pipes are installed into Glebe Substation, approximately 3,100 feet of new cable for each pipe would be installed in each pipe from existing manhole #110 to Glebe Substation.

Because the Potomac Yards Undergrounding would be constructed underground, no structure heights are provided.

All distances and directions are approximate. A sketch map of the proposed route accompanies this notice. A more detailed map of the proposed route may be viewed on the Commission’s website: http://www.psc.virginia.gov/press/releases/hpff.aspx.

The Commission may consider a route not significantly different from the route described in this notice without additional notice to the public.

A more complete description of the proposed Project may be found in the Company’s Application.

The Commission entered an Order for Notice and Hearing in this proceeding that, among other things, scheduled a public evidentiary hearing to be held on July 23, 2019, at 10 a.m., in the Commission’s second floor conference room located in the Tyler Building, 1000 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, to receive testimony from members of the public and evidence related to the Application from the Company, any respondents, and the Commission’s Staff. Any person desiring to testify as a public witness at this hearing should appear between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon on the day of the hearing.

Copies of the public version of the Application and documents filed in this case also are available for interested persons to review in the Commission’s Document Control Center, located on the first floor of the Tyler Building, 1000 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, between the hours of 8:15 a.m. and 5:15 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Interested persons also may download unfiltered copies of the Commission’s website: http://www.psc.virginia.gov/case.

Copies of the Application and other supporting documents also may be inspected during regular business hours at the following location:

Att’l: John Mulligan
Dominion Energy, Virginia
10000 Nuckoles Road
Suite 400
Glen Allen, Virginia 23050

Att’l: Karl Martinez
City of Alexandria Planning & Zoning
Room 2100
210 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Copies of the public version of the Application may be obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company, David J. DeFilipo, Esq., Dominion Energy Services, Inc., 130 Yawkey Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219. If acceptable to the requesting party, the Company may provide the documents by electronic means.

The Commission’s Rules of Practice may be viewed at http://www.psc.virginia.gov/case. A printed copy of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and an official copy of the Commission’s Order for Notice and Hearing in this proceeding may be obtained by the Clerk of the Commission at the address set forth above.

— VSU —

VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com
Alexandria Gazette Packet ❖ April 11-17, 2019 ❖ 15
Sports

TC Women’s Frosh Eight Place Second

The T.C. Williams frosh women’s eight took second at the Walter Mess Regatta on Saturday, April 6, its women’s second eight took third, and a women’s varsity double won gold at the Occoquan Reserve. Turtles sunned on branches and a light breeze was blowing as dozens of boats swept by in the Virginia Scholastic Rowing Association’s first regatta of the season. Parking was at overflow as usual as hundreds of people arrived to cheer on the rowers.

T.C. Williams fielded 14 boats, a sign of the depth of the T.C. team. The women’s frosh eight’s second place finish came with a time of 5:50.20. Wakefield had a time of 5:41.9; Washington & Lee was third, with a time of 5:52.13. The frosh eight was coming off a win at the Noxontown Regatta at St. Andrews School, where the number of contenders was smaller and neither Wakefield nor Washington & Lee had competed.

“We were really nervous about facing them,” said coxswain Maddy Glanz. “But we were strong all the way through and all the rowers tried their best, even with Lake Braddock crawling up on us at the end.”

“I’m excited to see if we can crawl up on Wakefield and give them a run for their money,” she added.

Women’s lightweight eight came in fourth, with a time of 5:50.67. A women’s varsity double with Maggie Coombs and Grace Wilmore took first with a time of 5:58.10, topping doubles from Mount Vernon and Forest Park. It was the first race for the team.

“Going into the race, man, I was scared of a lot,” said Coombs. “We didn’t really know what our competition was like, but when we saw them, they didn’t look too menacing.”

The T.C. Williams 2 eight took third with a time of 5:46.26, behind McLean with a time of 5:39.47. Whitman was first with a time of 5:33.40.

The T.C. Williams men’s 4th eight took fourth, and the men’s first four came in sixth in their races, respectively. T.C. Williams fielded two women’s novice boats. The men’s novice boat was fifth in a field of 15.

Next week, the rowers return to Occoquan for the Darrell Winslow Regatta.
$28,200 for Rebuilding Together
Burke & Herbert Bank is donating $28,200 to Rebuilding Together DC-Alexandria, a non-profit organization that repairs and rebuilds homes free of cost for those in need, including the elderly, persons with disabilities, military veterans, and families with children. The award is being made as part of Burke & Herbert Bank’s “Hundreds for Homes” program, which was promoted during Washington Capitals games televised by NBC Sports Washington. For every goal and every hat trick scored by the Washington Capitals during the regular season, Burke & Herbert Bank pledged to donate $100 to Rebuilding Together DC-Alexandria. This season, the Capitals scored 278 goals and 4 hat tricks, bringing the total donation amount to $28,200.

Letters to the Editor

From Page 12

Unfortunately, this solution is just not in the cards, as it faces too many political hurdles, none of which are easily overcome. Therefore, the impetus for all issues before our City Council rests exclusively upon the votes of our six council members and mayor. Unfortunately, the four new faces on City Council have had little to no experience in advocating for the critical issues facing them each month. That means that we must therefore live with decision making that is not informed by experience, a case in point being the recent slaughterhouse decision. If citizens are upset with this decision, they only have themselves to blame, and must live with their voting choices. Those citizens who are upset about poor City Council decisions must express this concern to them. If the council chooses to remain unresponsive, citizens have several choices, one of which is to run for City Council themselves, and another is to vote the incumbents out of office.

Still another choice is more draconian — they can move to a community with a more responsive and representative form of government.

Your decisions have consequences, Alexandria!

Townsend A. “Van” Van Fleet
Alexandria

Pleads Guilty to Heroin Distribution

A West Virginia man and an Alexandria man pleaded guilty Tuesday, April 2, to conspiracy to distribute heroin in and around Northern Virginia.

According to court documents, Rodney Malcolm Livengood, 57, of Martinsburg, and Nicholas George March, 28, of Alexandria, conspired to obtain heroin from sources of supply in Baltimore and bring it back to Sterling for distribution to users. After the narcotics were packaged for individual sale, Livengood and March delivered the heroin to users in Loudoun and Fairfax counties.

Livengood and March each pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute 100 grams or more of heroin and distribution of a controlled drug and face a mandatory minimum of five years in prison and a maximum penalty of 60 years in prison when sentenced on June 28.

Actual sentences for federal crimes are typically less than the maximum penalties. A federal district court judge will determine any sentence after taking into account the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

Fatal House Fire

The Alexandria Fire Department responded to a structure fire in the 300 block of S Pitt Street on Wednesday, April 10, 12:34 a.m. Upon arrival units saw fire showing on the second floor of a two-story townhouse, according to an Alexandria Fire-EMS tweet. Units extinguished the fire and rescued a male occupant. A second occupant was found dead in a second floor bedroom.
DONATIONS WANTED

Umbrella Drive. For those struggling to pay for rent or food, an umbrella can be a luxury. The Church of St. Clement, 1701 N. Quaker Lane, is collecting umbrellas during the month of April for neighbors in need. The umbrellas will be given to local nonprofits for distribution. Email office@stclement.org or call 703-998-6166 for more.

CAMPS

Spring Break Camp. Monday-Friday, April 15-19, 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. The Jerome “Buddie” Ford Nature Center is offering its Annual Spring Break Camp for children 6–10 years old, camp includes adventures including woodland hikes, live animal interactions, fishing, field trips, and more. Registration is open and space is limited. The fee is $355 and includes all snacks, materials, and field trips. To register, visit www.alexandriavir.gov/webtrac and use Activity #379800-01.

Alexandria Archaeology Summer Camp. Monday-Friday, July 15-19, 9 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Help City archaeologists excavate a real archaeological site and preserve Alexandria’s historic resources. Campers will learn professional excavating, recording, and artifact processing methods at the Shuter’s Hill archaeology site. Applications must be submitted through www.alexandriaarchaeology.org. Registration is limited, and all applications are processed on a first-come, first-served basis. The week-long camp is $400 with available scholarships.

Del Ray Artisans 2019 Art Camp. Youth ages 8-14 are invited to spend one week (July 15-19 or July 22-26) learning and creating through a variety of art skills and methodologies, followed by a showcase for family and friends. Visit www.delrayartisans.org 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 event.

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Free Cone Day

Sheriff Dana Lawhorne serves up a scoop of ice cream as part of Ben & Jerry’s Free Cone Day April 9 in Old Town. The annual event collected tips and donations for The Child and Family Network Centers, an Alexandria nonprofit providing education and other services to at-risk children and their families. Other guest servers included Police Chief Michael Brown, Vice Mayor Elizabeth Bennett-Parker, City Councilmembers Amy Jackson and Mo Seifeldin, School Board members Meagan Alderton and Jacinta Greene, City Coordinator for Early Education Michelle Smith-Howard, Deputy City Managers Debra Collins and Laura Triggs and ACPS Director of School Business and Community Partnerships Kurt Huffman. See www.cfnc-online.org.
City Council adopted a resolution affirming its “commitment to regionalism,” the first such for maligned local pledge from within the metropolitan area, but with little in the way of specifics.

The resolution says the region’s myriad municipalities weave into a common economic, social and ecological tapestry. They share “interconnected and often interdependent networks of streets, roads, bridges, sidewalks, bicycle paths, and transit systems, as well as sanitary sewer, stormwater and water infrastructure.”

It follows that the city “recognizes the interests for the good of the region are often paramount compared to the interests of an individual jurisdiction. … The city … pledges its best efforts and faithful cooperation in working with other jurisdictions and regional bodies … in addressing regional issues, and designing and implementing regional policies and plans.”

“Regionalism is more a concept [and ‘a guiding principle’] than a formal program,” said City Manager Mark Jinks in a memo. “Regionalism means considering and adopting the best policies for the region, and not just those policies that may be best for one’s own locality.”

“We have to realize we’re a piece of a bigger puzzle,” said Councilman Canek Aguirre, who’s championed regionalism since his term began. “We might be a small jurisdiction, but we have a lot of influence, and this is a clear example of … [our] helping to lead.”

Aguirre says that, even though local politicians ultimately answer to local constituents, regional issues need attention too. He sees the resolution as helping to induce a more regionally collaborative culture in Alexandria, as well as “sending a signal to other jurisdictions.”

For example, he wants localities to pitch in on shared advertising campaign along inter-jurisdictional transportation routes, urging people to participate in the upcoming decennial census. He also sees cut-through traffic in Alexandria neighborhoods, a common complaint from residents, stemming largely from passing-through regional commuters, the volume of which Alexandria ultimately exercises little control.

Chuck Bean, executive director of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, says his organization “supports efforts like this by its members that emphasize the need to collaborate on regional issues.” The Council of Governments, a non-
School Board Approves Swing Space Plan

From Page 1

they can advance Douglas MacArthur by two years. They also reckon the re-use plan avoids the need for a new campus entirely — at least over the next decade — saving $60 million earmarked for that project. They'd divert that money to meet rising costs for other capital projects, especially high school capacity expansion slated for FY 2020-2021.

With its retooled swing space plan, staff foresee delaying the old Patrick Henry demolition by four years. They say they only need swing space for MacArthur, not for subsequent school rebuilds.

But many in the surrounding West End community feel railroaded by the relatively sudden change of plans. They've expressed concerns about what they see as rushed and superficial community engagement; lack of trust in reassurances that the new four-year timeframe won't extend again in the future; exacerbation of traffic congestion and poor mitigation and enforcement by the city government; exacerbation of parking unavailability, including from additional teachers, buses and parents driving to and from the doubled-up school site.

More than 550 people signed a petition opposing re-use of the old Patrick Henry building, said Mary Brazier, president of the Patrick Henry PTA. According to the petition: "Patrick Henry School and the surrounding neighborhood have already endured a difficult construction process [over the past few years] which put stress on the entire community and limited students' outdoor play opportunities."

"It seems like this was presented as a fait accompli [an already done deal]," said Joel Finkenstein, a nearby homeowner, at a March 20 town hall with school officials. "How were you not thinking about [reusing the old building] for multiple years? It is shocking and it is not what we want from municipal management."

I don't see a whole lot of time to do a proper feasibility study. … I know how government runs around here, it's slow and inefficient," said homeowner Kellen Simpson. "Our concern is [that] this is going to become the permanent swing space [for multiple school reconstructions]. … I know you've told us that that's not the plan, and I appreciate that, but it's not you, it's the city, we don't trust them."

"We realize it's a really big deal and it's a huge inconvenience," said Superintendent Dr. Gregory Hutchings. "We would not take advantage of saying, well, now this is our swing space forever. … [But] we have to make a decision, … is it worth still moving forward, even if the community said no?"

"I'm just as frustrated as you are, in terms of why it wasn't thought of earlier," said Mignon Anthony, the schools' COO. Hutchings defended repurposing funds that would've gone to building new swing space elsewhere, saying last Thursday: "We are going to have to ask the city for more money in the future [to address rising capital costs]."

But … the city is not a bottomless pit … to just keep building all of these schools and swing spaces when we call …?"

ACPS To Release Potential Site Options for High School Expansion

From Page 1

space essentially boil down to three: (1) expand the current T.C. Williams High School, a disfavored option thus far; (2) build another stand-alone high school; or (3) create a network of smaller sites, but kept under one T.C. Williams banner.

Superintendent Dr. Gregory Hutchings recommended the third, dubbed the "Connected High School Network," which would have precluded the second, at least for the foreseeable future. In a January vote, the School Board half-stepped in his direction, authorizing new construction at T.C.'s Minnie Howard ninth grade campus; expansion of the existing high school site program at the administration's central office building; and implementation of an early college program, which would have students attend classes at Northern Virginia Community College.

But some School Board members weren't entirely convinced that constituents clearly understood the choices, or that Hutchings had exhausted the possibility of a second comprehensive high school. In a split 5-4 vote, they explicitly left that option on the table, pending more detailed "comparative cost-benefit analysis." While that analysis isn't due for School Board consideration until September, the administration will publish initial High School Project programming and site options on Friday, April 19. The School Board will discuss those initial options the following Thursday, April 25.

Land availability and cost depend in large part on building size requirements. The current T.C. Williams facility totals 460,000 square feet — the largest high school in Virginia. Hutchings reckons a second stand-alone campus would require a facility nearly as large — nearly 410,000 square feet — for 2,100 students. That would cost an estimated $216 million, 82 percent over the city's current budgeted amount. He expects multiple smaller campuses would be easier to find land for, and also cheaper to buy or lease.

In December, the city government suggested some 15 sites or areas large enough to warrant study, according to Mignon Anthony, the schools' COO. Those included, according to city spokesperson Craig Fifer: "We are going to have to ask the city for more money in the future [to address rising capital costs]."

But … the city is not a bottomless pit … to just keep building all of these schools and swing spaces when we call …?"
Hamstrung Local Tax Authority?

City government says state restrictions on city tax authority outdated.

By Dan Brendel

Gazette Packet

The city government would like the state General Assembly to modernize and expand local governments’ taxing authority, but doubts sufficient political will exists to support such an expansion.

During the annual budget process, city staff publicly answer questions posed by City Council, in order to help the council make informed budget decisions. Recently, Councilman Canek Aguirre asked: “What are the possibilities of advocating for more local authority in regards to city revenue generation? What are our options in terms of a potential progressive tax, income tax or other revenue generation?”

City staff responded: “Increased local taxing authority is highly desirable to bolster the long-term fiscal viability of the City and other Virginia municipalities. Virginia local tax authority is based on a 19th and early 20th century property based farming and industrial economy and not a 21st century service economy which now represents a far larger segment of consumer purchases ….”

“… The Dillon Rule, which the Virginia Supreme Court adopted in 1896, is a legal principle that local governments have limited authority and can pass ordinances only in areas where the General Assembly has granted clear authority. … Any proposals that advocate for local taxing authority that is specific to Alexandria would be considered ‘special legislation’ and requires a supermajority two-thirds vote of each house of the General Assembly to pass. As a result, even if the General Assembly majority parties change in 2019 and a less anti-tax political atmosphere occurs, any expansion of local taxing authority would likely need to be applicable to all Virginia cities and/or counties … In order for that to occur, there would need to be a statewide coalition/interest …”

“Any additional local taxing, such as a progressive or income tax, authority might come with the requirement of a local referendum, as was the case in the 1980s when a local income tax for transportation and education was authorized, but by local referendum only. No locality initiated the regional referendum as it was assumed that such referendum would result in a ‘no vote.’”

“Individual income taxes comprise the largest single major revenue sources for both the Commonwealth of Virginia and the federal government. Virginia has four income tax brackets, ranging from 2 percent for taxable income less than $3,000 to 5.75 percent for taxable income over $17,000. The federal government has 7 tax brackets, ranging from 10 percent for income less than $3,000 to 5.75 percent for taxable income over $500,000 (filing single). Alexandria, for which residential real property comprises largest single major revenue source, taxes property at a flat (regressive) rate on assessed value, as required by state law.

But rather than taxing more valuable property at progressively higher rates, Alexandria provides progressive tax exemptions to lower-income seniors and persons with disabilities, also as allowed by state law. There are three brackets of exemption, ranging from 25 percent when the annual gross income from all sources is between $5,000 and $72,000 to 100 percent when gross income does not exceed $40,000. For all budget questions and answers, visit www.alexandriava.gov/budget/info/FY20Memos.

No City An Island?

From Page 19

profit, serves as a kind of clearing-house for local governments to share information and maintain relationships.

However, Alexandria’s resolution doesn’t create or recommend any new specific regional policies or mechanisms.

While no comprehensive legislature exists between the state and local levels of government, a variety of subject-specific regional governance bodies already exist — especially related to transportation. Their governing boards generally comprise representatives from amongst local legislatures, or their appointees. Though limited in purview, they variously exercise policymaking, spending/borrowing or regulatory authority, and/or control public assets. Examples include the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (appointments via the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission); the National Capital Regional Transportation Planning Board; the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority; the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority; and the Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Center.
You are invited to share comments on transportation projects that have been recommended for funding in the FY2020-2025 Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP). Additionally, pursuant to §33.2-202, comments will be accepted for new projects valued in excess of $25 million. Hearings held in Northern Virginia and Fredericksburg will also provide opportunity for input on the I-95 Corridor Improvement Plan. The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) will consider your comments as it develops the FY2020-2025 Six-Year Improvement Program. The program allocates public funds to highway, road, bridge, rail, bicycle, pedestrian, and public transportation projects. All federally eligible projects in the SYIP will be included in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program to document how Virginia will obligate its federal funds. Meeting materials will be available at http://www.ctb.virginia.gov/planning/springmeetings/default.asp beginning April 11, 2019.

Public hearings begin at 4 p.m. in each of the locations except as noted below:

A formal comment period will be held at these meetings.

SATURDAY/APRIL 13
Boating Safety Classes: 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Washington Farm United Methodist Church, 3921 Old Mill Road. Prepare for boating season by taking one of the Boating Safety classes offered by U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 25-08. Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia have varying requirements for boaters before they may legally operate certain motorized vessels on their respective waterways. Register with Jeff Rut in alburn@verizon.net or 703-307-4642.

Volunteers Wanted. 9-11 a.m. The City of Alexandria’s Department of Transportation and Environmental Services (T&ES), in conjunction with the Alice Ferguson Foundation, will host a Potomac River Watershed Cleanup site in the city. The Stormwater Management Division and Resource Recovery Division, part of T&ES, will host one site this year, in Four Mile Run Park at the end of 3700 Commonwealth Avenue. Volunteers must RSVP to Wisdom Gbediame at wisdom.gbediame@alexandriava.gov. Learn more about the health of local streams using the Virginia Save Our Streams activity. For more information or a map, visit VSOSS.org, or contact the City’s Watershed Coordinator, Julianna Vignola, at 703-746-4550.

From Page 18
by a one-day gallery show. All art supplies and meals are provided. $325 ($300 before June 1) per child. Scholarships may be available upon request. Del Art Studio, 2794 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.DelArtStanvarts.org/event/art-camp-2019 for more.

FRIDAY/APRIL 12
Nomination Deadline. The Alexandria Commission on Aging (COA) is seeking nominations for its annual Excellence in Aging Awards Reception. Nominations are due Tuesday, May 14 at 5:30 p.m. in the Vola Lawson Lobby in City Hall, 301 King St. The COA, which advocates for the needs of Alexandria seniors, uses the awards to honor individuals — regardless of age — as well as an organization, that have provided service to older Alexandrians and other superiors in advancing issues and projects that favorably affect older Alexandrians. Visit alexandriava.gov/aging for nomination information or call Debbie Ludington at 703-746-5694.

Submission Deadline: Fair Housing Month Poster. 5 p.m. The City is hosting the fourth annual Fair Housing Month Poster Contest to help educate young people about fair housing laws and the importance of preventing against illegal housing discrimination. All Alexandria students in grades K-5 are eligible to enter the contest. Entries must be original artwork and represent this year’s theme, “Fair Housing Lives in Alexandria.” The top three winners of the poster contest will be chosen by a panel of Office of Housing staff on April 25. To submit entries for the poster contest, call the Office of Housing at 703-746-4990 or visit alexandriava.gov/Housing.

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Boating Safety Classes: 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Washington Farm United Methodist Church, 3921 Old Mill Road. Prepare for boating season by taking one of the Boating Safety classes offered by U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 25-08. Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia have varying requirements for boaters before they may legally operate certain motorized vessels on their respective waterways. Register with Jeff Rut in alburn@verizon.net or 703-307-4642.

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Comment Deadline. The Residential Parking Program is being reviewed and the city is looking for feedback on potential options. Provide thoughts on potential options for the issues being reviewed under the Resfresh Project (posted restrictions, permit fees/limits, and process) using the online questionnaire at www.research.net/r/AlexandriaVA-RPPRefesh. The questionnaire will be open April 1-16. The results will be presented at the April 22 Traffic and Parking Board Subcommittee meeting. For more about the RPP Refresh project and getting involved, visit alexandriava.gov/ ParkingStudies or contact Kathy North at kathy.north@alexandriava.gov.

THURSDAY/APRIL 18
Prevent and Recognize Child Abuse Month. The center for Alexandria’s Children, 1900 N. Beauregard St. This April, in recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month, the Child Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria (CAPCA) is offering free trainings to raise awareness of child abuse. The April 18 focus is: Responding Responsibly to Child Abuse and Neglect. Lunch and drinks will be provided. Learn more about the training and register (required) at alexandriava.gov/ ChildAbuse.

Recalling the Last Supper. 6:30-7:45 p.m. at FaithUnited Methodist Church, 3909 King St. Intergenerational meal where participants will remember what happened over 2,000 years ago, on the night before Jesus died. Menu: Greek rice, Greek salad, rotisserie chicken, rice, and date & nut bars. Free. Call 703-671-4557 or visit www.faithunited.org.

SUNDAY/APRIL 20
Stream Monitoring Workshop. 9-11:30 a.m. at Jerome “Buddie” Ford Nature Center, 5750 Sanger Ave. Learn more about the health of local streams using the Virginia Save Our Streams activity. For more information or a map, visit VSOSS.org, or contact Katye North at katherine.north@alexandriava.gov.

MONDAY/APRIL 22
City Council - School Board Subcommittee. 5 p.m. ACPS Central Office Contact Kilo Grayson, 703-746-3722.

TUESDAY/APRIL 23
City Council Legislative Meeting. 6 p.m. City Hall, Council Chamber, 301 King St. Contact City Clerk’s Office, gloria.sutton@alexandriava.gov, 703-746-4550.

FRIDAY/APRIL 26
Code Administration Technical Training. 8 a.m.-3 p.m. at City Hall, Room 1101, 301 King St. The City of Alexandria Department of Code Administration is sponsoring a free technical training on the Significant Changes to the ICC A117.1 Accessibility Standard – 2009 Edition. Space is still available for the free training for design professionals, contractors, and customers. This training will be presented by the International Code Council and will provide 6 hours of training credits under AICP, CSC, and DHCD continuing education units. Lunch and light refreshments will be served. To register, email pete.mensinger@alexandriava.gov.

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com
Stylish Outdoor Living Wins ‘Contractor of the Year’

Dreaming of making the most of outdoor living? Look at this.

By John Byrd

An outdoor living addition to Chateau-style residence in Oakton has won a “Contractor of the Year” grand award for Sun Design Remodeling Specialists.

The comprehensive design — which combines a screened porch, an outdoor kitchen and dining area, a hot tub and a stone fireplace in a cleverly integrated, multi-level layout — completes the rear elevation of the 9,500 square foot custom home the owners had built in 2001. The remodel to the home of Larry and Lisa Rice was named best “Residential Design/Outdoor Living Solution for $60,000 and over” by the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI) metro DC chapter.

“We wanted an indoor/outdoor gathering place that would bring the whole family together,” says Lisa, 56, a retired mother of teenage twins. “The rear of the house was originally conceived as a walk-out, but I realized later that I didn’t want high decks. Once I saw the design problem more clearly, I was simply looking for a better set of options — albeit, ones I couldn’t fully envision.” Rice credits Craig Durosko, chairman and founder of Sun Design, with re-awakening her enthusiasm for the project by identifying and prioritizing its primary components.

“Craig got our vision” Lisa says. “It was his attention to our goals that revived my interest in moving forward.”

In the end, the plan appreciatively responds to the Rice family’s passion for indoor-outdoor living.

❖ A 437-square-foot screened porch linked to the kitchen via a folding glass window provides a cozy, insect-free gathering spot. An eight-foot counter abutting the “pass-thru” inside the porch facilitates service and dining. With a gas fireplace clad in stone and a flat screen TV, the porch can be fully used as an entertainment mecca nine months of the year; ❖ A formal dining area situated under a cedar pergola incorporates retractable awnings for shade; ❖ The 21-by-21-foot outdoor kitchen includes a built-in Wolf gas grill, a beverage center with refrigerator, an ice maker, a sink, and a stainless oval grill; ❖ Three steps down, the open air deck (22-by-28 feet) features a wood-burning hearth and a hot tub set-off by planters and gas torches — an inviting spot to deeply relax, even in cooler weather.

❖ A ground-level patio (16-by-19-feet) just outside the fully-appointed lower level family room offers a fire pit, and a quiet perch for stargazing.

“I always thought of the lower patio as a place where the kids could get away from the adults if they wanted,” Lisa says. “On the other hand, Larry and I like it too.”

Sun Design Remodeling is headquartered in Burke, Va. and also maintains an office in McLean. For More Information Visit: www.SunDesign.com or call 703-425-5588

More photos and details at www.Facebook.com/ConnectionNewspapers
ENLIGHTENED

Submit entertainment announcements at www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar. The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

ONGOING

Good Luck Charms. Through April 14, at Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery, 105 N. Union Street, Studio 29, Alexandria. A very special found object, a four leaf clover, a rainbow, a wishbone, a charm on a bracelet - these objects all serve as inspiration to gallery members when creating pieces for this show. Themed work will be eligible for recognition by the jurors. Non-themed work may also be exhibited. www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com.


Art Exhibit: Checks & Balances. Through April 14, Thursday-Sunday, noon-4 p.m. in the Athenaeum rear gallery, 201 Prince St. Alex N. Sherman stumbled onto a cache of 1930’s checks in an antique writing box and was inspired to make use of the printed engraving, beautiful handwriting from a bygone era, and stamps that marked their passage through the banking system in a series of collages. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

Art Exhibit: “(No) Comfort Zone.” Through April 28, gallery hours at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. The “(No) Comfort Zone” exhibit reflects people, places and things that are in and/or out of their comfort zone. Visit DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits.

Photography Exhibit: “Ranch Life.” Through May 5, daily 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thursdays, 2-8 p.m. at Multiple Exposures Gallery, The Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N Union St., Studio 312. Sandy Lebunr Evans visited Eaton’s Ranch in Torpedo Factory Art Center, Megan Partridge’s exhibit reflects people, places and things that are in and/or out of their comfort zone. Visit DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits.

Art Exhibit: “Flowers, Or Kahfa On Puzazi.” Through May 5, gallery hours at The Art League, 105 North Union St., Studio 21 in the Torpedo Factory Art Center. Megan Partridge’s “Flowers, Or Kahfa On Puzazi” takes a closer look at these tiny creatures that are often overlooked. The artist imparts each arthropod with a personality as distinct as their biology, from the bedraggled bug

Art Exhibit: Checks & Balances. Through April 14, Thursday-Sunday, noon-4 p.m. in the Athenaeum rear gallery, 201 Prince St. Artworks encouraged. Visit www.connectionnewspapers.com/Events/Tues/ for tickets.

Art Exhibit: Magic & Illusion Show. 7.8-45 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 105 C. Campus Drive. An evening of “Magic & Illusion” featuring some of the world’s greatest magicians and performers. Strolling magicians before the show. Ticket prices are family friendly and seating is reserved. Tickets start at $20. Visit www.magi-whirl.org or call 703-347-5540.

Symphony Gala and Auction. At The Atrium/Society Fair. The theme for the event is Gatsby’s Speakeasy II, an Evening of Drinks, Dice & Dance. There will be games, a silent auction, live auction and dinner, and entertainment on stage. The Symphony Gala will go a long way towards assuring the continued growth and excellence of the ASO. $225. Visit e-givesmart.com/events/Tm/ for tickets.

SUNDAY/APRIL 14


Women in History. 3 p.m. at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1901 Windmill Lane. Featuring Pat Wirth, Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Association – highlighting the history of the Suffrage movement, the importance of honoring, memorializing and educating future generations about Suffragists, and the plans for the Suffragist Memorial. Elaine Flynn, of Our Town Tropics, will bring to life, in costume and in verse, the historic figure of Dorothy Parker, writer and satirist, known as the wittiest woman of the 1920’s. Tickets are $15, family friendly and seating is reserved. Tickets start at $20. Visit e-givesmart.com/events/Tm/ for tickets.

MONDAY/APRIL 15

Curves Birthday Party. Noon-4 p.m. at Curves of Alexandria, 7918 Fort Hunt Road. Curves of Alexandria, a fitness club for women, is celebrating their third year in the Hollin Hall Shopping Center. Join them for an open house, birthday party with fun, food, friends and prizes. Free. Call 703-721-2044.

TUESDAY/APRIL 16

U.S. Records Research. 1.3 p.m. at Mount Vernon Genealogical Society, Hollin Hall Unitarian Church, 1500 Shenandoah Road. “Using U.S. Records to Trace Your Original Surname and Village of Origin.” Genealogist Carol Kostolansky.

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Entertainment

will speak about U.S. records that can be used to discover ancestral surnames and villages of origin. Free, open to the public. Free, open to the public. Visit www.mvgenealogy.org for more.

Embrace Your Voice: A Night of Poetry, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St. Doors open, Friends of Guest House, and the Alexandria Sexual Assault Center for our annual Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month (S.A.P.A.M.) poetry share. This event is free, but space is limited, so tickets are required. Specially trained advocates will be available for anyone who may be triggered and would like help with grounding. If you're interested in speaking or reading your work, please contact Ashley Blowe at ashley.blowe@alexandraviara.gov or 703-746-3118 by March 30. Reserve tickets at www.dooworkyoa.org/events/embrace2019/

APRIL 16-MAY 19
Juried Show: “East Meets West.” Gallery hours at Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, Studio 29, 105 North Union St. Ikat weaving, Batik, Sashiko embroidery, Shibori dying, hand stamping, and other Eastern techniques and clothing styles are integrated with Western designs and techniques. Themed work will be eligible for recognition by the jurors. Non-thematic work will also be exhibited. Free admission. Call 703-548-9635 or visit www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com for more.

APRIL 19-21
Easter Egg Hunt, Friday, 3 p.m.; Saturday, 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m.; and Sunday, 12:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m. at Lee-Fendall House Museum & Garden, 614 Oronoco St. Activities include games, crafts, refreshments, and photos with the Easter Bunny. $15 children, $5 adults. Visit www.lee-fendallhouse.org or call 703-548-1789.

APRIL 20
Mount Vernon Flea Market, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at 8777 Fort Hunt Road. Flea market will take place the first Saturday of every month (through September). Sponsors and merchandise available for sale. Admission is free. Visit mountvernonfleamarket.wordpress.com for more info.

BOUNDARY STONE BIKE TOUR
9:15 a.m. at Entrance to East Falls Church Metro Station (under I-495 on Sycamore Street). See 12 historic D.C. boundary stones in Arlington, Alexandria, and Fairfax County on this 35-mile tour. The pace will be leisurely with many stops with easy-to-moderate difficulty and a few long uphill climbs on bike trails and paved streets. Bring lunch, water, and any type of bike. No reservations necessary. Sponsored by Center Hiking Club (www.centerhikingclub.org), $2 for non-members. Contact Bernie Bern at 703-243-0179 or bberne@yahoo.com.

Hamilton’s RFF & Frenemies Speciality Tour, 10-11 a.m. at Gadby’s Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal St. Inspired by the musical Hamilton, hear about Washington, Lafayette, Jefferson, Madison, and Burr, who all came to the tavern, and delve into the issues they faced and how their choices impacted local citizens. This specialty tour is offered every Saturday in April. $15 per person, $12 for museum members. Call 703-746-4242 or visit www.alexandraviara.gov/shop for tickets.

Floral Design Workshop – Spring Bulbs, 10-11:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. (16-Adult) Enjoy spring colors indoors with a basis-out spring bulb flower arrangement. Learn about the special conditioning and design considerations of working with bulbs from certified designer Betty Ann Galaway as she leads participants through creating this spring bulb design to take home. Materials provided for $30 supply fee. Program fee is $59/person. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parkstake/using code 245-F48B or call 703-642-5372.

Raptor Rapture, 10 a.m.-noon at Belle Haven Park, GWMemorial Parkway. Youngsters of all ages can see big birds called raptors (owls, hawks) up close when the Friends of Belle Haven Park, GWMemorial Parkway provide for $30 supply fee. Program fee is $59/person. Register online at www.fodm.org. Program dinner if desired. Dinner is $65-75 p. m., prices starting at $32 with reservations by the Friday prior to the program. Visit www.AgendaAlexandria.org for more.

MONDAY/APRIL 22
Eco-City Report Card: Is Alexandria Cleaning Up Its Act? 7:15 p.m. at The Hermitage Auditorium, 3000 Fairbanks Ave., Alexandria. Part of the City’s Sexual Assault Center (SAC) is sponsoring displays, exhibits, workshops and events around the community to raise awareness of sexual assault and support survivors. The SAC invites participants to create new initiatives around the community to raise awareness of sexual assault and support survivors. The SAC invites participants to create new initiatives
An Eastern screech owl is one example of the raptors visitors can see up close.

**Raptor Rapture**

Youngsters of all ages can see big birds called raptors (owls, hawks) up close when the Friends of Dyke Marsh, Secret Gardens Birds and Bees, the National Park Service and the Monarch Teachers Network “host” these birds. These birds were injured and rehabilitated. They cannot survive on their own in the wild. No pets, please. Saturday, April 20, 10 a.m.-noon at Belle Haven Park, GW Memorial Parkway. Free. Visit www.fodm.org.

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**FRIDAY/APRIL 26**

**Family Splash Night:** 6-9 p.m. At Chinguacuan Park Rec Center and Aquatics Facility, 3210 King St., Alexandria. Featuring John Adams and Patrick Henry Schools. Enjoy swimming, a floating obstacle course, games, relays, refreshments, music, diving for prizes and more. Different schools are featured at each event but all are welcome. Admission is $4 per person entry. Visit www.alexandriaga.gov/Recreation for more.

**Play: “Yet I Stand.”** 7 p.m., at the Lee Center, Kaufman Auditorium, 11th Jefferson St. The City’s Sexual Assault Center (SAC) is sponsoring displays, exhibits, workshops and events around the community to raise awareness of sexual assault and support survivors. “Yet I Stand.” is a presented in partnership with Friends of Guest House, and the City of Alexandria Domestic Violence Program, and SAC. For more information and a full list of events and activities, visit alexandriaga.gov/SexualViolence.

**SATURDAY/APRIL 27**

**Garden Day Craft Sale.** SATURDAY/APRIL 27

**Bush Tour: “From Slavery to Becoming American.”** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at George Washington’s Mount Vernon. This special bus tour begins at Mount Vernon with an exclusive viewing of Mount Vernon’s Lives Bound Together exhibition, on slavery at George Washington’s plantation. Afterward, visitors will walk to Mount Vernon’s Slave Cemetery for a site talk by archaeologists, followed by a lunchtime lecture (box lunch provided). Guests will board a bus to Alexandria and visit Freedom House (323 South Fairfax St.). Tickets will not be sold at individual tour homes. Spring Benefit Concert: “Kindred Spirits.” 3 p.m. at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Celebrate connections, including friendship, kinship, sisterhood, and even frenemies. This event will feature Sopranessence’s arrangements of music from popular operas & operettas such as Handel and Greel, The Mikado and Mozart’s Cincinnati. $20, $10, ages 12 & under. All tickets $25 at the door. Visit ourconvergence.org for more.

**TUESDAY/APRIL 30**

**Rare 1792 Gold Coin on Display.** In the Donald W. Reynolds Education Center, at George Washington’s Mount Vernon. On the 230th anniversary of George Washington’s first inauguration, visitors will have the opportunity to view the 1792 Washington President gold eagle pattern coin, the earliest gold pattern proposed for U.S. coinage and the only gold coin with this design. This unique piece, on loan indefinitely...
Public Hearing will be held by the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, City of Alexandria, Virginia, on Saturday, April 13, 2019, at 9:30 a.m., or as soon as may be heard on the hereinafter described items.

Public Hearing of a Short-Term License Agreement between the City of Alexandria and the Tall Ship Providence Foundation to Dock and Conduct Business Operations Temporarily in the Alexandria City Marina.

Public Hearing of the Draft City Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Action Plan for Housing and Community Development.

Consideration of a Proposed Joint City and Alexandria Redevelopment Housing Authority Resolution to Modernize and Replace Resolution No. 19-020 (Public Hearing).

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the Owner and Tenant of the property located at 600 Montgomery Street to construct and maintain an encroachment for outdoor seating at a restaurant at that location. The proposed ordinance permits the restaurant located at 600 Montgomery Street to establish outdoor seating in the adjacent sidewalk area.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and renumber the Master Plan of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, by adopting and incorporating therein the amendment hereof approved by city council to the Eisenhower West Small Area Plan chapter of such master plan as Master Plan Amendment No. 2018-0006 and no other amendments, and to repeal all provisions of the said master plan as may be inconsistent with such amendment. The proposed ordinance amends the final adoption of Master Plan Amendment No. 2018-0006 to amend the land use designation for the site to allow self-storage use and to clarify the definition of “PVR” uses to exclude storage/warehouse uses approved by the City Council on March 18, 2019.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and renumber Sheet No. 067.03 of the “Official Zoning Map, Alexandria, Virginia,” approved by City Council on Section 1-203 (OFFICIAL ZONING MAP AND DISTRICT BOUNDARIES), of the City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance, by rezoning the properties at 880 and 890 South Pickett Street and 620 Burns Place from, I/Industrial zone to CDD No. 26. The proposed ordinance updates the City Code sections that establish the overnight and daytime parking districts to change the references that require a vehicle to display a City decal to instead require that vehicles are registered with the City of Alexandria pursuant to City Code Section 3-2-229. This change is necessary due to the recent elimination of City decals.

Ordinance to repeal Article R (LICENSE TAXES ON MOTOR VEHICLES, TRAILERS AND SEMI-TRAILERS), Section 3-2-321 through 3-2-350, of Chapter 2 (TAXATION) of Title 3 (FINANCE, TAXATION AND PROCUREMENT) of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and renumber Section 3-2-181 (LEVIED; AMOUNT), Section 3-2-188 (CLASSIFICATION AND TAXATION OF CERTAIN COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL REAL PROPERTY), and Section 3-2-189 (TIER I POTOMAC YARD METROPOLITAN AREA SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT TAX) of Division 1 (REAL ESTATE), and Section 3-2-221 (LEVIED ON TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY OTHER THAN MOBILE HOMES, AUTOMOBILES, TRUCKS, ANTIQUE MOTOR VEHICLES, TAXICABS, MOTOR VEHICLES WITH SPECIAL DESIGN OR USE BY THE HANDICAPPED, MOTORCYCLES, CAMPER AND OTHER RECREATIONAL VEHICLES, BOATS AND TRAILERS; AMOUNT; AMOUNT), Section 3-2-222 (TIER I POTOMAC YARD METROPOLITAN AREA SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT TAX) of Division 1 (REAL ESTATE), and Section 3-2-224 (LEVIED ON AUTOMOBILES, TRUCKS, TRAILERS, SEMI-TRAILERS, ANTIQUE MOTOR VEHICLES, TAXICABS, MOTORCYCLES, CAMPER AND OTHER RECREATIONAL VEHICLES, BOATS AND TRAILERS; AMOUNT) of Division 3 (TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX AND MACHINERY AND TOOLS), of all Article M (LEVY AND COLLECTION OF PROPERTY TAXES), Chapter 2 (TAXATION), Title 3 (FINANCE, TAXATION AND PROCUREMENT) of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended.

The proposed ordinance sets the city’s calendar year 2019 general tax rates for (1) real property; (2) personal property; (3) machinery and tools; (4) for the additional real property taxes assessed on commercial and industrial real property; and (5) property located in special services tax district I/Tier I Potomac Yard Metropolitan Area Special Services District.

Public Hearing on the FY 2020 City Council Preliminary Add/Divest Options. Adoption is scheduled for Wednesday, May 1, 2019 at 7:00pm.

THE PUBLIC IS ADVISED THAT AMENDMENTS OR ADDITIONS MAY BE MADE TO PROPOSED ORDINANCES WITHOUT FURTHER PUBLICATION. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT PERSONS INTERESTED IN ANY OF THESE ORDINANCES OBTAIN FULL TEXT COPIES FROM THE CITY CLERK AT CITY HALL. If the mayor finds and declares that weather or other conditions are such that it is hazardous for members to attend the meeting, the meeting will be continued to the following Saturday April 20, 2019. GLORIA CITTON, CMC, CITY CLERK

from a private owner, will remain on view as part of Mount Vernon’s educational experience for its more than 1 million annual visitors. Visit mountvernon.org/1792emin.

Twilight & Tippie Tours, 6-9 p.m. at Pope-Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Highway. Experience Frank Lloyd Wright’s Pope-Leighey House by twilight. This tour series is a rare chance to see one of Wright’s houses illuminated against a night sky. Grab a drink, included in the price of the tour ticket, and walk through the house on a leisurely, open house style tour with plenty of time to take stunning photos. $35. Visit www.woodlawnpopeleighey.org for more.

FRIDAY/MAY 3

UCM Give From the Heart Gala. 6 p.m. at Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road. Hosted by The Friends of UCM, the 2019 Gala is also part of UCM’s 50th Anniversary Celebration. The theme for the yearlong celebration is “50 Years of Neighbors Helping Neighbors.” Honorary Co-Chairs are U.S. Sen. Mark Warner (D-VA) and Mrs. Addy Krizek, both former UCM Board members. $200. RSVP at www.umoragency.org.

Fostering the Future Gala 2019. 7 p.m. at Hummingbird, 220 South Union St. The Fund for Alexandria’s Child hosts its Annual Fostering the Future Event — Captain’s Night. This annual fundraiser supports the work of The Fund in providing life enriching opportunities for children in foster care and those at risk of abuse and neglect. Join for an evening of live and silent auction items, an oyster bar, hors d’oeuvres, cocktails, music, and dancing. Nautical or cocktail attire. $100. Visit www.FTAC2019.givesmart.com for tickets.

MONDAY/MAY 6


THURSDAY/MAY 9

Archaeology After Dark: Fort Delaware and the Alexandria VCP. 6:30 p.m. at The Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington St. Lab Manager Kevin Bradley introduces the Alexandria Veterans Curation Program (VCP) and its unique mission to serve military veterans and rehabilitate at risk United States Army Corps of Engineers archaeological collections. He will highlight the program’s preservation efforts of the Fort Delaware Civil War prison camp collection. $12/person; $10 FOAA/OHA members. Visit www.foa.info/events.

Audubon at Home. 7:30-9 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. The Potomack Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society presents Audubon at Home. For membership and other information, visit vps.org/potomack.

SATURDAY/MAY 11

Watercolor on Canvas. 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. (Adults) Learn to paint with watercolor on canvas with the help of artist Marni Maree. The process for this medium is very different from paper and quite fun. Experience painting more “subtractively,” by putting paint on the canvas then moving and removing the color to create the subject. Bring photo references of what you want to paint. $93/person. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parkstours using code 1297943 or call 703-642-5173.

Paint-a-Pot Workshop. 10-11:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. (16+Adult) Get crafty at Green Spring Gardens with some fun, flavored teas for you to sip while decorating a clay flower pot with paint and decoupage. Green Spring staff will provide the supplies and know-how, participants provide the creativity. $38/person. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parkstours using code 624FSD9 or call 703-642-5173.
FEDERAL PUBLIC NOTICE

FEDERAL PUBLIC NOTICE: The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Norfolk District Commandant has received a joint application for Federal and State permits as described below:

APPLICANT: City of Alexandria

201 King Street, Suite 2200
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

WATERWAY AND LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED WORK: The project site is located east of the existing wetland structures, approximately midway between the Right of Way on the National Airport and Bradlook Road Stations. The site proposed for the location is bounded by the George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP) to the east and active CSX tracks and Potomac Avenue to the west. The site is located south of Potomac Station neighborhood and east of the Potomac Yard Shopping Center in the City of Alexandria, Virginia.

PROPOSED WORK AND PURPOSE: The applicant is proposing the construction of the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station, a new rail station along the Blue and Yellow lines in the vicinity of the Potomac Yard. The proposed improvements and construction area are comprised of 17 acres. The project consists of grading and filling for the construction of the station and associated infrastructure, new and re-aligned tracks, pedestrian/bicycle facilities, entrance pavilions, access roads, landscaping, and stormwater management.

The purpose of this project is to improve and maximize local and regional transit accessibility to and from the Potomac Yard area along the U.S. Route 1 corridor for current and future residents, employees, and travelers in support of current and anticipated development in the area. The project will be consistent with the adopted North Potomac Yard Small Area Plan.

The proposed project would temporarily and permanently impact 5.57 acres of jurisdictional wetlands. Permanent impacts are due to 7.6 acres of sensitive forested wetland (FPO) and 0.046 acres of palustrine emergent wetland (PREW). Temporary impacts are to 1.1 acres of PFO wetland and 0.01 acres of PFM wetland.

Compensatory mitigation will be provided for permanent wetland impacts through the purchase of wetland credits from a Corps-approved wetland mitigation bank. Temporary wetland impacts will be restored through an approved wetland restoration project.

The project was previously public noticed on February 9, 2018. This is a modified version of the public notice.

ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT

The overall permanent and temporary impacts to wetlands have been reduced.

Additional information about the project, including the revised Joint Permit Application and permit documents can be found at the following links:


In addition to the required Department of the Army permit, the applicant must obtain a Virginia Water Protection Permit (401) certification from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, ensuring that applicable laws and regulations pertaining to water quality are not violated and a permit is obtained from the local wetlands board.

The full USACE Public Notice can be found at https://www.usace.army.mil/ArmyMedia/Public-Notices/Article/1508045/mco-2012-0210/.

HOW TO COMMENT: USACE accepts comments by email or in writing only. All comments must be received by the Corps of Engineers by Monday, May 6, 2019.

Comments must be submitted to:

Mr. Theron Crockett-Augustine, National Permit Manager, USACE, Attn: NCR-69030361, 777 North Quincy Street, Suite 213, Alexandria, Virginia 22314

HOW TO REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING: Anyone may request a public hearing to consider this permit application by writing to the District Commander within 30 days of the date of this notice. Specific reasons for holding the public hearing. The District Commander will then decide if a hearing is required.

Questions about this project or the permit process should be directed to Mr. Crockett-Augustine by email at 777.NQ-213410. Official comments will not be accepted over the phone.

PRIVACY & CONFIDENTIALITY: Comments and information, including the identity of the submitter, submitted in response to this Public Notice may be disclosed, reproduced, and distributed at the discretion of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Information that is submitted in connection with this Public Notice cannot be maintained as confidential by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Submissions should not include any information that the submitter prefers to maintain as confidential.
By KENNETH B. LOUIE

So far, four bi-weekly immunotherapy infusions into my left shoulder have been a success, permitting the encouraging results from my CT scan in mid-March. I remain optimistic but cautiously neutral as I prepare to see a number more times before my next scan in mid-May.

However, I feel, and however I feel, ultimately it is the CT scans — and to a lesser degree — my lab results, that do the talking, so to speak. What it will say will be interpreted by my oncologist who in turn will explain and discuss the results to me in person a week or so after the scan.

That’s why I know how I’m doing. And how I’m doing of course means how much longer I’ll be living. A more stressful appointment you can’t imagine.

What I’m sure you can imagine is how high my blood pressure will be as we sit in the examining room, waiting for my oncologist to knock on the door, asking if it’s OK to come in.

And when he comes in, he usually center and shakes curiously and the cancer is six behind the computer where he proceeds to ask all the standard questions about my health and fitness type questions. Then he might even examine me not all the time — as he has said, the scan tells him most of what he needs to know before he addresses the elephant in the room — metaphorically speaking, although I have gained few pounds.

Diana and I don’t exactly hold hands but we are holding our collective breath as we prepare to hang on to his every syllable. This exchange of pleasantries happen every eight weeks or so. In the interim, I am encouraged to relay to my oncologist with any questions or concerns, particularly if new symptoms develop and persist for two to three weeks.

Well, I did have something happening to me the other Saturday, the day after my last immunotherapy infusion which, treatment side effects, had not happened.

When I woke that morning, I was unable to summon up the strength to get out of bed. It felt similar to my early days of heavy-duty chemotherapy, when due to the destruction of my red blood cells and white blood cells, I could hardly move. There was no pain, but neither was there any energy.

Simply put: the tank was empty. I could barely roll over in bed, let alone get up, walk downstairs and feed the cats. This is not one of those post-immunotherapy states. All previous post-immunotherapy Saturday were not the least bit similar or different than any other day.

I did not, nor have I since, consider myself oncologically with any of these details. At this juncture, I consider it an aberration and not worthy of an overreaction.

For all I know, to invoke an old punchline, my undercarriage was too tight.

As such, I will wait until my next infusions and see if the following morning follows an old or new pattern. If it’s new, I will call my oncologist.

It is ironic that this situation occurred a few days after last week’s column "If Not, As If. My Life Depends On It" published. The content of which was my anxiety concerning emulating my oncologist about new symptoms. If effects for fear that in so doing, my oncologist would be for stopping my treatment. And in stopping my treatment, there is nothing stopping the cancer.

This is some of what I’ve heard over the years: it’s not so much the fear that gets you as it is the side effects which cause the treatment to stop which then enables the cancer to then do what it does best (and I don’t think you need a doctor to know that).

But I’m not an alarmist, nor an "overreactionist," so make up your own mind as to others. I’ve survived 10 years by being neither.

I try to go about my cancer business as any other and live it (as normally — for me) — as possible. I am not gloom and doom and for me, the glass is always half full. And even though I’m in the middle of a big negative, I’m still positive.

After all, I am a member of Red Sox Nation hoping spring times eternal.

Kenny Louie is an Advertising Representative for The Alexandria Gazette Packet.

For everyone to enjoy — and for every reader to glean something from.

“I try my utmost to really get toward different points of view,” he said. “Different groups are represented. That was a goal with my book, to build bridges. We are a time when it’s not the worst for political civility, but it’s not great.”

Available to readers through all major retailers, “A Spiral into Marvelous Light” was a novel that the publishers at Emerald House Group were eager to get behind.

“I believe this story is a fundamental foundation tool that everyone should consider using today,” said Elizabeth Burgdorf, publicity director for Emerald House. “The message is: ‘Give others who are different from you a chance. Don’t buy into a package deal of believing a certain way, or that people who think differently are enemies you need to shut down … If you do, you may be missing out on a life-changing conversation, preventing yourself from learning a different perspective, or depriving yourself of so much more.’

Gryboski has been following politics, and the way it intertwines with religion, for as long as he remembers.

“For most of my life, I lived in Alexandria, across the street from the epicenter of American politics,” Gryboski said. “While in high school, I used to regularly watch prime time cable news and watch the pundits and activists debate each other. From there, I would look up the groups that were represented and read their websites. I debated with non-like minded friends, usually in a civil manner. Actually, for teenagers and adolescents, I think we sometimes did a better job of being civil in our disagreements than many adults do today.”

As for the kind of job he did with “A Spiral into Marvelous Light,” Gryboski insists that only time will tell.

“They say journalism is one of the most secular fields, that individual journalists are disproportionately unreligious. I thought I could help a little by shedding some light through fiction.”
McEnearney Associates has always had one motto in mind... not to be the biggest, but the best. This year marks our 39th year in Alexandria, and we are celebrating our investment in helping to build our town into the thriving community it is today. To learn more about our Associates and our firm, visit www.WeAreAlexandria.com

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