



Alexandria Times

Established in 1797 as *The Alexandria Times and Advertiser*

Marking Time

WAVES played major role in war at home

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Image: WAVES in the Lloyd House during the war were ready for a party with a Hawaiian or "South Pacific" theme. Photo, Alexandria Library Special Collections.

During World War II, thousands of people relocated to the Washington, D.C., area to fill the government and private sector jobs that supported the war effort. Alexandria, home to the U.S. Naval Torpedo Station and in close proximity to the newly opened Pentagon, saw tremendous growth. At the torpedo plant, women filled jobs once held by men as so many of them were away in the service. For the first time, large numbers of men and women worked closely together and the factory's newsletter, *The Torp*, offered female workers this "Sweater Warning: If the sweater is too big for you, look out for the machines. If you're too big for the sweater, look out for the men."

Women were also allowed to enter military service, though not in combat roles.

A permanent exhibition at the Lyceum, *Building a Community: Alexandria Past to Present*, features local artifacts from the World War II era. The Lyceum is open seven days a week and has free off-street parking.



"Out of the Attic" is published each week in the Alexandria Times newspaper. The column began in September 2007 as "Marking Time" and explored Alexandria's history through collection items, historical images and architectural representations. Within the first year, it evolved into "Out of the Attic" and featured historical photographs of Alexandria.

These articles appear with the permission of the Alexandria Times and were authored by Amy Bertsch, former Public Information Officer, and Lance Mallamo, Director, on behalf of the Office of Historic Alexandria.