



City of Alexandria, VA

City Hall, 301 King St. Room 3500, Alexandria, VA 22314

eNews Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 1, 2009

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Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities programs and activities' announcement for the month of June 2009:

- FY 2010 Service Reductions
- Community & Special Events
- Summer Concerts
- Farmers' Markets
- Out of School Programs
- Summer Pools
- Summer Camp Opportunities
- Nature Programs
- Arts in Alexandria
- Youth Sports
- Commission Meetings
- 2009 Park & Recreation Commission CIVIC Awards
- Dispatches from the Front

For additional information, visit alexandriava.gov/recreation or call 703.838.4343.

FY 2010 Service Reductions

On April 27, City Council adopted a \$530 million General Fund Operating Budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2010, a 2.2% decrease of \$12 million from FY 2009 resulting in service reductions in several City departments. Service reductions were made in response to the City's current economic challenges, the need to meet Fiscal Year 2010 budget goals, and the increased cost of providing these services to residents and the public. For more information, visit www.alexandriava.gov/recreation..

COMMUNITY & SPECIAL EVENTS

June 6

17th Annual Armenian Festival

Market Square, 301 King Street from noon - 5 pm

Cosponsor: Alexandria Armenian Festival Committee

For more information, call the Special Events Hotline at 703.883.4686 or visit www.ArmenianFestivals.com.

June 14

9th Annual Arlandria Chirilagua Festival

3700 Commonwealth Ave. from noon - 7 pm

(Gate Entrance at the intersection of Commonwealth & Reed Ave. and Edison St.)

Sponsor: Tenants and Workers United

Fees:

- **Advance Sales:** \$5 Festival Entrance, Kids under 12 Free
Advance Sales: \$15 Combo Festival and Unlimited Carnival Rides, Kids Under 3 Free
- **Gate Fee:** \$10, Kids under 12 Free
Gate Fee: \$20 Combo Festival and Unlimited Carnival Rides, Kids Under 3 Free

For more information and discount ticket sales, call 703.684.5697, ext. 310.

June 20-21

Alexandria Red Cross Waterfront Festival

Oronoco Bay Park, 100 Madison St. from 10 am-10 pm & 11 am – 7pm

Sponsor: Alexandria Red Cross Chapter

For more information, call Dana Brunson of the Alexandria Chapter of the American Red Cross at 703.549.8300.

City of Alexandria to Host AHS Garden School

Eco-City Principles In Action: Sustainable Gardening Practices The City of Alexandria, in cooperation with the American Horticultural Society (AHS), will host a new Garden School, "Green Garage®: Sustainable and Earth-Friendly Solutions for the Landscape" on Saturday, June 27 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. Garden School participants will learn about environmentally friendly gardening practices from organic lawn care and water conservation to soil health and creating wildlife habitats. Focusing on Eco-City outreach, the Garden School will include lectures, hands-on workshops, and an exhibit hall featuring companies that offer green products, services, and tools. AHS members and City of Alexandria residents will receive a registration discount. Space for this exclusive program is limited, so early registration is recommended. To register, visit http://www.ahs.org/events/garden_schools/09/index.htm, or call 703.768.5700, extension 132.

SUMMER CONCERTS

Music At Twilight Concerts - Fort Ward Park Amphitheater, 4301 West Braddock Rd. at 7:30 pm

This free concert series features area artists in performances of music ranging from concert band pieces to soft rock.

- June 4 Alexandria Citizen's Band (Concert Band)
- June 11 Alexandria Singers (Pop)

- June 18 Alma Folclorica del Peru (Folk Music of Peru)
- June 25 Annie Sidley duo (Original Pop/R & B)

Lunch Bunch Concerts - Canal Plaza, 44 Canal Plaza at Noon
Free concerts featuring a variety of musical entertainment.

- June 10 Lying Heart (Country, Classic Rock, & Blues)
- June 24 La Tanya Mari (Jazz Vocal)

Alexandria Citizens Band Concerts - "City's Oldest Performing Arts Organization"
Market Square, 301 King St. at 7:30 pm

- June 5 & 19

FARMERS' MARKETS

West End Farmers' Market

The West End Farmers' Market is open to the public on Sundays through November 22 from 9 am to 1 pm at Ben Brenman Park, located at 4800 Brenman Park Drive. For additional information, call 703.838.4343.

Upper King Street Fresh Farmers' Market

The City of Alexandria and the Upper King Street Neighborhood Association proudly announce the opening of the 2009 Upper King Street Fresh Farmers' Market on Wednesday, June 3 at 3 p.m. This weekday farmers' market in Historic Old Town Alexandria is located at the King Street Garden's Park, 1806 King St., just a few steps from the King Street Metro Station. For additional information, visit <http://www.upperkingstreet.org/farmersmarketfrontpage.htm> .

OUT OF SCHOOL PROGRAMS

"A World of Culture"

Travel the distance through the "A World of Culture" program This program is designed to help capture the imagination, encourage education, and stimulate learning while having fun. Communication through the fine and visual arts, coupled with education, help integrate excitement while providing insight and respect for the culture of the world. Celebrations, food workshops, music, dance, visual arts, civic event activities, and eco-systems are planned throughout the calendar year. The activities infuse innovative program ideas, diversified leisure interests and learning to support the idea of exposing participants to events and people that have shaped the culture of our world. Call the recreation center in your neighborhood for additional information.

June - Dad and the Family Month

As school ends and summer begins, we celebrate the family. Programs feature how families live around the world and what they do to recreate together. Dads are honored with a special Fathers Day activity.

SUMMER POOLS

The City's outdoor pools are open for the 2009 summer season. For a complete opening schedule, visit

www.alexandriava.gov/recreation.

SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES

The City offers a variety of summer camps for children and teens ages 3 to 17 years of age. Camps include the following: Sports Camp, Day Camp, Theatre Camp, Soccer Camp, Tennis Camp, Tiny Tot Tennis Camp, Basketball Camp, Baseball Camp, Ballet Camp, Gap Camp, Inline Skating Camp and Rafting Trips. Camp weeks vary from June, 29 through September, 4 2009.

Registrations will be accepted until each camp is filled. For any additional information or to register visit www.alexandriava.gov/recreation or call Melissa Riddy at 703.838.4812.

NATURE PROGRAMS

Budding Naturalist Camp

This summer the Jerome "Buddie" Ford Nature Center is offering two fun-filled summer day camp for children ages 5 to 12. In the "Budding Naturalist" camp, designed for children entering kindergarten or 1st grade, participants will explore the fascinating world of reptiles and amphibians. Camp participants will be led through forest, field and stream in search of these elusive creatures. Camp features outdoor hikes, creation of herpiterrium, arts, crafts and more! One session of "Budding Naturalist" camp is offered: June 24-26 from 1 – 3 pm. The cost for City residents is \$85 per session and Nonresidents is \$110. Advance registration required. To register, or to request additional information, call the Naturalist staff at 703.838.4829.

ARTS IN ALEXANDRIA

Sign up for Arts eNews!

The Office of the Arts now has eNews. To receive Periodic news and announcements on arts events, programs and services from the Office of the Arts, please sign up for Arts eNews at <https://enews.alexandriava.gov/register.php> .

Alexandria Film Festival Seeks Submissions through June 29

The Third Annual Alexandria Film Festival is soliciting entries from U.S. and international filmmakers. The festival will be held Thursday, September 24– Sunday, September 27 at the George Washington Memorial Masonic Temple. This year, the Film Festival is partnering with Withoutabox, the film industry's premier online service platform. To submit your film online, please visit www.withoutabox.com/login/7816 . All entries submitted through Withoutabox will receive an additional discount. For more information or to obtain entry forms and submission guidelines, visit www.alexandriafilm.org . For more information, call the Alexandria Commission for the Arts at 703.838.6348.

Alexandria Commission for the Arts Presents Goals-Setting Workshop for Grants Recipients

Two Goals Setting Workshops will be presented on June 6, 2 - 5pm, and June 13, 9 am - noon, to Alexandria Arts Grant Recipients at the Dr. Oswald Durant Memorial Center, 1605 Cameron St . An Arts Commissioner with an expertise in the area of goals setting will be providing the workshop free of charge. To reserve a seat, call Cheryl Anne Colton at 703.838.6348 or aca@alexandriava.gov .

"Tea & Talk" Sharing Alexandria's Civil Rights Stories

Please join us on Monday, June 8, 1 – 3 pm at the Charles Houston Recreation Center for tea and conversation. You are invited to share the story of your civil rights experiences in Alexandria and how it was shaped by the Parker-Gray School and Charles Houston. This event is free of charge but reservations are requested, please call 703.838.6348 or e-mail aca@alexandriava.gov by June 5. "Tea and Talk" is an outreach project designed in collaboration with the Alexandria Black History Museum, Parker

Gray Alumni Association, Alexandria Commission for the Arts, Charles Houston Memorial Public Art Project's Selection Panel and Stakeholders Advisory Group, Charles Houston Recreation Center, Parker Gray Alumni Association, the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities' Office of the Arts.

Alexandria Film Festival Presents a Juneteenth Film & Music Celebration at MetroStage

Join us on June 14, 5 – 8 pm, at MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St. to view the film "Come Walk in My Shoes" and enjoy a performance by the Ebenezer Ecumenical Women's Choir. Reservations required, to purchase tickets (\$25), visit www.alexandriava.gov/recreation.

Alexandria Commission for the Arts Meeting

On June 16, the Alexandria Commission for the Arts will hold its regular monthly meeting beginning at 7 pm, Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St. The monthly meeting is open to the public. Additional committee meetings are scheduled throughout the month. All meetings are open to the public. For more information on these and other arts related meetings, call Cheryl Anne Colton at 703.838.6348.

Alexandria Arts Forum Meeting

On June 25, noon, the Alexandria Arts Forum will hold its monthly meet at the Dr. Oswald Durant Memorial Center, 1605 Cameron St. This month's featured speaker is Sheila Whiting, Director of the Charles Houston Recreation Center. For more information, call Alan Wile, President, at alan.wile@comcast.net.

YOUTH SPORTS

Coaches Needed

The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities is currently seeking volunteers to coach youth Volleyball, Cheerleading, Basketball, Baseball and Softball. Criminal History background checks are required. Interested persons should call the Youth Sports Office at 703.838.4345.

Alexandria Sportsman's Club Award's Recipients

The Alexandria Sportsman's Club held its 54th Annual Awards' Banquet at the Hilton Mark Center Hotel on Wednesday, May 20. This year, two members of the Department's Youth Sports Advisory Board, and a student athlete who were recognized for exemplifying youth sports in the City of Alexandria.

Congratulations to the 2009 Award Recipients.

Recreation Department Athlete of the Year

McKayla Robinson - Basketball and Softball

Alexandria Sportsman's Club Civic Award

Jim Gibson - Youth Sports Advisory Board President, Alexandria Titans Youth Football Program Commissioner, and Youth Coach (football, basketball and volleyball)

Alexandria Sportsman's Club Sportsman of the Year Award

Bill Simmons - Athletic Director, Bishop Ireton High School

COMMISSION MEETINGS

All commission and committee meeting are open to the public.

June 11

Alexandria Beautification Commission, 7:30 pm

Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. For additional information, call 703.838.5041.

June 16

Alexandria Waterfront Committee , 7:30 am

Lee Center 1108 Jefferson St. For additional information, call 703.838.4842.

June 16

Commission for the Arts, 7 pm

Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St. For additional information call 703.838.6348.

June 18

Park and Recreation Commission , 7:30 pm

Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St. For additional information, call 703.838.4842.

June 24

Alexandria Waterfront Committee's Annual Waterfront Walk

Lee Center 1108 Jefferson St. For additional information, call 703.838.4842.

2009 PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION CIVIC AWARDS

The City of Alexandria Park and Recreation Commission announces its 24th annual awards program to select and formally recognize outstanding citizens who have provided a valuable service to our Community in meeting recreation, park, or cultural needs. An Alexandria group, club, organization or corporate neighbor may also be nominated for an award for such service. Nominees for the award for citizen, group, club, organization, or corporate neighbor should be volunteers who have contributed time, talent or resources in an exemplary fashion. Youth nominations are encouraged. Whether the volunteer activity involves removing invasive plants, coaching youth, or providing program support at City nature and recreation centers, the CIVIC Awards recognize the special, unsung volunteer efforts of Alexandrians involved in their community. The Park and Recreation Commission invite your help in identifying those who contribute so that they may be recognized. For additional information, visit www.alexandriava.gov/recreation.

DISPATCHES FROM THE FRONT

"Dispatches from the Front" is the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities newsletter reporting on current issues, activities and updates on park projects. To view the current issue, visit www.alexandriava.gov/recreation..

The City of Alexandria is committed to compliance with the City's Human Rights Code and the Americans with Disabilities Act. To request a reasonable accommodation or to request materials in an alternative format, call the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities at 703.838.4343 (TTY 703.838.4902).