



City of Alexandria, VA

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

eNews

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

November 1, 2009

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Jack Browand, Director, Marketing, Public Relations and Special Events, at 703.746.5504

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

- Community & Special Events
- Farmers' Markets
- Out of School Time Programs
- Early Morning Fitness at Charles Houston
- Playground Renovations
- Arts in Alexandria
- Youth Sports
- Commission & Committee Meetings
- Dispatches from the Front

For additional information, visit alexandriava.gov/recreation or call 703.746.4343.

COMMUNITY & SPECIAL EVENTS

November 26

34th Annual Alexandria Turkey Trot 5 Miler

Cora Kelly Recreation Center, 25 W. Reed Ave.

5 mile Road Race in Delray area Thanksgiving morning at 10 am

Sponsor: Delray Business Association

For information, call Paul Coleus at 703.933.0520 ext. 203 or email paul@waterfordinc.com

November 27

Annual City Tree Lighting Program

Market Square, 301 King St. at 7 pm

Sponsor: City of Alexandria

For information, call the Events Hotline at 703.883.4686 or the Special Events Office at 703.746.5418.

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.

OUT OF SCHOOL TIME PROGRAM

Registration for the Out of School Time Program for the 2009-2010 School Year is currently open for children youth ages 5 (enrolled in Kindergarten) -12, and Preteens and Teens in grades 6 – 8. The Out of School Time Program operates at the seven neighborhood recreation centers and five school sites (John Adams, Douglas MacArthur, Durant/Houston, George Washington Middle School, and Francis C. Hammond Middle School). Beginning this fall, participants will be charged a \$25 activity fee per semester (Fall, Winter/Spring, and Summer). A Fee Assistance Program is available for eligible families. To register, visit your neighborhood recreation center. Click here for a list of neighborhood recreation centers. For additional information, call Recreation Services at 703.838.4345.

EARLY MORNING FITNESS AT CHARLES HOUSTON

The Department of Recreation Parks and Cultural Activities provides early morning fitness and recreation opportunities, Monday through Friday, from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. at the Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St. Participants have access to the center's fitness room, game room, gymnasium and computer lab. Single and multi visit admission passes are available for purchase. For additional information, call 703.746.5552 or email Sheila.whiting@alexandriava.gov.

PLAYGROUND RENOVATIONS

The Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities invites the public to attend a community meeting about the Buchanan Street Park Playground Renovation on Monday, November 9, 7 pm at the Dr. Oswald Durant Memorial Center, 1605 Cameron St. The purpose of the meeting is to present draft plans of the proposed Playground Renovation for community review and discussion. The renovation will include new play equipment, rubberized safety surfacing, improved pedestrian circulation and access, additional seating, and landscaping. For additional information, call Judy Lo, Urban Planner at 703,746.5490 or e-mail judy.lo@alexandriava.gov.

ARTS IN ALEXANDRIA

The Alexandria Commission for the Arts is seeking volunteers to serve on the Public Art Committee

Applications must be received no later than 5 pm on Friday, November 13. The Commission will review the applications and select the members at the November 17 meeting. The Public Art Committee will provide advice to the Arts Commission on the acquisition and funding of public art in the City. The Arts Commission is seeking a diverse group who can commit to a three-year term. Volunteers should plan to devote 12 – 16 hours per month as members of the Public Art Committee. Individuals who are interested in serving should send a letter of interest and resume or curriculum vitae to

aca@alexandriava.gov or via postal mail to Alexandria Commission for the Arts, 1605 Cameron Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 by November 13. For more information, call Matthew Harwood at 703.683.5554 or e-mail harwoodtaylor@erols.com.

Deadline for Alexandria Commission for the Arts Grant Application is November 20

Grant applications for fiscal year 2010-2011 are due on Friday, November 20 at midnight. Applications must be submitted through an online process. Grants are available in the following categories: operational, project, technical assistance and special opportunity awards. For more information, eligibility requirements, and application instructions, visit alexandriacommissionforthearts.org.

Program at the Captain Rocky Versace Place and Vietnam Veterans Memorial on November 11 to Honor All Military Veterans

The "Friends of Rocky Versace" will host a Veterans Day program in partnership with the Mt. Vernon Recreation Center, the Office of the Arts, and the Alexandria Commission for the Arts to honor the 67 Alexandrians who were killed in action or missing in action during the Vietnam War as well as honor all Military Veterans. The event is scheduled for Wednesday, November 11 beginning at 12:30 pm at the Captain Rocky Versace Plaza and Vietnam Veterans Memorial located in front of the Mt. Vernon Recreation Center at 2701 Commonwealth Ave.

Call for Nominations for the City of Alexandria Poet Laureate

The Office of the Arts has issued a call for applications to serve as the City's Poet Laureate. The role of the Poet Laureate is to foster an appreciation of poetry as an art form, encourage creative writing and reading, and promote literacy through poetry. The Poet Laureate is appointed to a three-year term and receives a modest honorarium.

Individuals can nominate themselves or be nominated by someone else. Nominees must distinguish themselves in the field of poetry through the body of work they have created; be a resident of the City for a minimum of one year and maintain residency through the three-year term of service; accept the Poet Laureate post as a ceremonial role, and be 18 years of age or older. All nominations must be submitted to the Office of the Arts, c/o the Durant Center, 1605 Cameron St., Alexandria, VA 22314, by 5 pm on Monday, January 11, 2010. The new Poet Laureate will be named in March 2010.

YOUTH SPORTS

Coaches Needed

The 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 703.746.5402.

Youth Basketball Registration

The Youth Sport's Office is currently accepting registrations for the Winter Youth Basketball League for boys and girls ages 7 - 17. Registration fee is \$25 per child and is available to City residents only. Registration deadline is November 15. Registration forms are available at all neighborhood recreation centers, public libraries and the Department's administrative office at 1108 Jefferson St. For more

information, visit alexandriava.gov/recreation or call the Youth Sports Office at 703.746.5402.

COMMISSION & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

All commission and committee meetings are open to the public. For additional information, call 703.746.5500.

November 10
Alexandria Beautification Commission, 7:30 pm
Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St.

November 17
Alexandria Waterfront Committee, 7:30 am
Lee Center 1108 Jefferson St.

November 17
Commission for the Arts, 7 pm
Durant Center, 1605 Cameron St.

November 19
Public Hearing and Park & Recreation Commission, 7 pm
Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St.

DISPATCHES FROM THE FRONT

"Dispatches from the Front" is the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities Park Operations & Park Planning newsletter reporting on current issues, activities and updates on park projects. To view the current issue, visit 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 703.746.4343 (TTY 703.838.4902).