

Interim ACPS head aims to bridge the gap

Lois Berlin brings 40 years of experience to superintendent post

BY ALEXA EPITROPOULOS

When Lois Berlin arrives in a new school district, she has two questions in mind: First, what is going well? Next, what can be improved on?

That was how she approached her time as superintendent of Falls Church City Public Schools, a position she held between 2004 and 2011.

While at Falls Church, Berlin said she prioritized getting to know teachers, principals

and staff. She describes coming back to Alexandria City Public Schools, the district where she spent 24 years, as “coming home.” But Berlin said, as she takes the reins as ACPS interim superintendent, she will again emphasize getting to know school staff.

“It’s been 13 years. There are a lot of new players,” Berlin said in a joint press conference with School Board Chair Ramee Gentry on Monday morning. “We have six new



Lois Berlin

principals this year. I’ll be looking at how to support them.”

She inherits a school district in the midst of a growth spurt. The student population stood at about 15,056 when the

2016-2017 school year began, a 5.9 percent increase from the 2014-2015 school year, when the student population was 14,157. According to an ACPS report from 2014, enrollment is expected to grow by an addi-

SEE **BERLIN**

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Woman injured in Eisenhower shooting

Arrest made in incident police attribute to “road rage”

BY EVAN BERKOWITZ

A shooting left one woman seriously injured Wednesday morning in what Alexandria Police said appears to be a case of road rage.

At 7:56 a.m., police responded to reports of a shooting at the intersection of Eisenhower and Clermont avenues, department spokeswoman Crystal Nosal said.

The victim remains in stable condition at Inova Fairfax Hospital after being shot in the neck and back, Alexandria Fire Department Spokesman Rick Muse Jr. said.

The Washington Post reported she was “able to walk



COURTESY PHOTO

Alexandria police Lt. Matthew Weinert updates media at a Wednesday morning press conference following the shooting.

and speak” after the shooting, but Muse declined to confirm such details.

The suspect fled the scene, leaving Alexandria and turning

up in Maryland, where Maryland State Police apprehended him Wednesday afternoon,

SEE **SHOOTING**

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COURTESY IMAGE

A rendering of the proposed \$35 million stadium the Potomac Nationals had hoped to build in Prince William County before negotiations fell through.

Nationals farm team weighs move from PW County

Alexandria one of several potential sites

BY EVAN BERKOWITZ

City leaders have mixed views on the possibility of a minor league baseball team’s return to the Port City, with Mayor Allison Silberberg preaching caution while Vice Mayor Justin Wilson expressed excitement at the prospect.

The relocation possibility was first raised when Wilson told the Washington Business Journal on July 14 that he’s interested in bringing the Potomac Nationals, or P-Nats, back to the city, should a “feasible” path forward appear.

The P-Nats, a high class A Carolina League affiliate of the Washington Nationals, originally hailed from the Port City: they started life as the Alexandria Dukes in 1978. The team later moved to Prince William County, where they’ve been for 30 years. Now, the team may move or be sold, the Business Journal reported, after negotiations with county leadership for a new, \$35 million stadium fell through.

P-Nats owner Art Silber told the Alexandria Times Monday afternoon that the team was “delighted” to hear of Wilson’s interest and are

SEE **BASEBALL**

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INSIDE

Who’s selling your block

Young real estate agents describe the secrets to their success | Page 6

Railroad tracks uncovered

A section of a 20th century railroad was uncovered on the riverfront | Page 8



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THE WEEKLY BRIEFING

Alexandria's bond rating reaffirmed

The City of Alexandria announced on July 14 that it has once again received top bond ratings of AAA and Aaa, respectively, from S&P Global Ratings and Moody's Investor Service. The reaffirmation comes as the city prepares to issue \$100.9 million in general obligation tax exempt bonds to fund municipal and school facility capital projects and \$4.4 million in general obligation taxable bonds to fund affordable housing.

"The bond rating agencies have once again recognized Alexandria's proactive management and sound financial policies," Mayor Allison Silberberg said in a news release.

The city has maintained its top bond ratings from both agencies since 1992, which enables Alexandria to pay very low interest rates on bonds issued to fund capital projects. The interest rate for the city's most recent bond



COURTESY PHOTO

Alexandria's financial leadership team traveled to New York City in June to meet with financial analysts regarding the city's bond rating. Pictured during their meeting at Moody's Investor Service are (L-R): Jimmy Sanderson of Davenport and Company, LLC; Mayor Allison Silberberg; City Manager Mark Jinks, and Alexandria Economic Development Partnership President and CEO Stephanie Landrum.

sale in 2016 was just 2.12 percent over a 20-year period.

In reaffirming the city's bond rating, Moody's praised Alexandria's "dynamic tax base with above average wealth levels..."

and said its rating includes a stable outlook, meaning it is likely to continue on its current trajectory regarding its management and tax base.

-Times staff

SHOOTING FROM | 1

according to police. The suspect, Ernest Stickell, 58, of Mechanicsville, Maryland, is charged with malicious wounding and use of a firearm in commission of a felony. Police wouldn't release a description of the suspect's vehicle during the ongoing investigation.

A man who was in the passenger seat of the victim's car at the time of the shooting was not injured, Nosal said. Muse said the passenger was also transported to Inova Fairfax Hospital after being shaken up by the incident.

The car, a black Chevrolet SUV, sustained damage, Nosal said. She declined to elaborate further, but WJLA

reported the car's passenger window was shot out and said multiple bullet holes were visible in its windshield.

A Fairfax County police helicopter assisted Alexandria police in the search, Nosal said.

The scene remained closed to traffic late Wednesday morning and officer presence was expected in the area as police investigate, she said. The intersection is about one block north of Exit 174 off the Capital Beltway.

Alexandria City Public Schools rerouted one bus from the area, ACPS spokeswoman Helen Lloyd said.

-eberkowitz@alextimes.com

Clarification: Multiple additional addresses, including 1010 King St., were affected by fire department activity there on July 1, as described in "Firefighters respond to reports of smoke at Old Town storefront" in last week's Times.



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CRIME

Alexandria accident ends in death of 22-year-old resident

An accident on South Van Dorn Street over the weekend ended with the death of an Alexandria resident.

The Alexandria Police Department responded to a single vehicle crash at around 9:41 p.m. on Saturday. The driver was headed northbound on

South Van Dorn Street and was involved in a minor crash with little damage, according to a news release.

The driver, Zain Siddiqui, a 22-year-old resident of Alexandria, was conscious when he was transported to the hospital. Siddiqui's medical condition,

however, worsened and he later died.

It's unclear what caused his death at this time, but a news release said an autopsy will be conducted.

The investigation into the crash is ongoing, with members of the police's criminal

investigations section and crash reconstruction team leading the effort. Any witnesses or individuals with information about the incident are asked to call Detective Ryan Clinch at 703-746-6673.

The incident follows a fatal crash in Old Town early July

8. That crash, which occurred in Old Town around the 300 block of South Henry Street, resulted in the death of Jose Wuilver Urbina-Vasquez, a 24-year-old resident of Silver Spring, Maryland.

- aepitropoulos@alextimes.com

Alexandria resident sentenced in grisly murder

Reinaldo Mauricio Portillo Membreno, a 19-year-old Alexandria resident, has been sentenced to decades in prison after being convicted in the violent

murder of Jose Luis Perez Ferman.

Portillo Membreno will serve 60 years in prison, with 30 years suspended, on the condition of

compliance with supervised probation for a period of 20 years following his release and 30 years of good behavior, the office of the commonwealth's attorney announced in a news release.

Once accomplice Leidi Granados Gutierrez lured Ferman into Beverley Park, Portillo Membreno "viciously attacked" him with a third accomplice, Alvaro Saenz Castro. Ferman had at least 21 wounds to his body,

including chop wounds, stab wounds and incised wounds. When found, Ferman was almost decapitated.

An investigation by the Alexandria Police Department resulted in the arrests of Portillo Membreno, Granados Gutierrez and Saenz Castro. Granados Gutierrez has been sentenced to commitment with the Department of Juvenile Justice and will serve a suspended adult sentence

after her release, on the condition of supervised probation. Saenz Castro, who pleaded guilty to first degree murder, has not yet been sentenced.

Portillo Membreno is being held at the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center and will be transferred to the Department of Corrections, where he will serve out his sentence.

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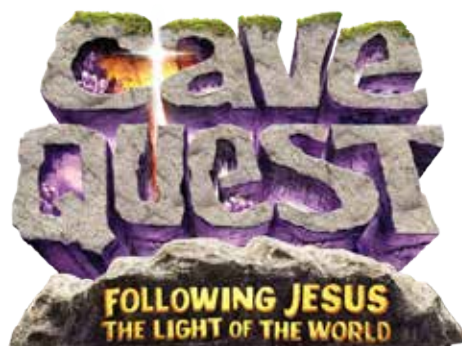


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CRIME

Paula Thompson Marshall sentenced in murder of husband

Paula Thompson Marshall, the 48-year-old Alexandria resident convicted in April of murdering her husband, will face 14 years in the penitentiary with three years of post-release supervision, the office of the commonwealth's attorney announced in a news release.

Marshall was convicted on April 21 of murdering her husband, Rolf Marshall, on Oct. 5, 2016.

The murder, which occurred on the 1100 block of Duke Street, sent shock waves through Old Town last fall. Thompson Marshall's motive was apparently anger from an argument with her husband on the morning of Oct. 5 concerning whether or not their elderly Akita dog should be euthanized. Thompson Marshall

shot Marshall during the argument with a .38-caliber revolver while he was sitting in what was described as his favorite easy chair. His body was turned away from Thompson Marshall in a defensive posture.

The bullet struck Marshall in the torso and, as a result, damaged several internal organs and blood vessels, which caused his death.

Thompson Marshall called police and told them the shooting was accidental, but the jury in the case dismissed her defense.

Thompson Marshall is being held in the Alexandria Adult Detention Center and will be transferred to the Department of Corrections.

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BERLIN

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tional 2,200 students by fiscal year 2021.

While the student population continues to climb, the school district concurrently faces a number of constraints, including aging facilities and limited land that ACPS can use to build new schools.

"Facilities is a major piece," Berlin said. "I'm going to focus on the [ACPS] 2020 plan. There are a lot of good processes, planning in place... My role and goal is to keep things going, to keep the trains running on time."

Berlin said she considers it her role to continue the work begun by outgoing superintendent Alvin Crawley.

In order to make the transition as seamless as possible, she will start her role next Monday, July 24, to give her time to shadow Crawley before he assumes a faculty position at George Mason University. Time, she said, she will use to



PHOTO/ALEXA EPITROPOULOS

Alexandria School Board Chair Ramee Gentry, left, sits next to incoming interim superintendent Lois Berlin at a joint press conference Monday morning.

pick his brain.

After that, Berlin said her job will start in earnest: talking with school faculty, setting goals and getting up to speed as quickly as possible.

"I haven't hit the ground yet, but when I do, I'll be running," she said at the press conference.

Berlin said she won't seek to make significant changes

during her time at ACPS and will focus on making sure things run smoothly until the school board names a permanent superintendent. The school board is required to make that decision by the end of January.

Berlin, however, said she's flexible when it comes to her

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BUSINESS

Young realtors lead Alexandria's growing real estate market

Two local professionals weigh in on changes to the industry

BY ALEXA EPITROPOULOS

When Allison Goodhart DuShuttle decided to go into real estate full-time in 2008, she was often the youngest person in the room.

That's not an uncommon experience. The average realtor is 53, according to recent statistics from the National Association of Realtors — though that's on a downward slope.

Goodhart DuShuttle, chief operating officer and lead agent at the Goodhart Group within McEneaney Associates Inc. in

Old Town, said the environment has started to change over the last decade, especially with the growing popularity of all things HGTV.

That doesn't, however, mean there aren't challenges for younger real estate professionals, particularly those in their 20s, when they're beginning their careers.

"At 22, I felt like, 'Who is going to trust me as a realtor?'" Goodhart DuShuttle said.

After spending about four years on the administrative side at McEneaney, she began making sales in her mid-20s as a licensed agent in Virginia and D.C. Now, she represents buyers and sellers everywhere from hot D.C. markets like the Golden Triangle and Shaw to Old Town or more suburban markets in Northern Virginia like Ashburn.



Allison Goodhart DuShuttle

She said she particularly likes working with real estate novices, whom she can help by mentoring and guiding them through the process.

"I really like working with the first-time buyers.

The teaching part of it is fun for me, as I tend to be very thorough," she said. "Seeing them get the settlement at the end — that's the best."

The sales volume for the Goodhart Group within McEneaney Associates has grown significantly in recent years, from \$79.6 million in 2014 to \$96 million in 2016. The Goodhart Group's 2017 sales volume already stands at \$70 million just over halfway through the year, positioning her team to easily surpass last year's total. In addition to building up the

company's business, Goodhart DuShuttle has also won individual accolades, including being named to Realtor Magazine's "30 Under 30" at age 29 in 2014.

She said the key to that success has been proving her know-how to clients.

"The first few years you have to prove that you have experience," she said. "A lot of people think it's like HGTV... It's not just the fluff."

She said over the years she's learned how to navigate relationships with clients better, particularly clients who are selling homes.

"I've learned more about the nuance of the emotional journey," Goodhart DuShuttle said. "I've learned to find out upfront about people's motivations for selling."

Another Realtor Magazine "30 Under 30" honoree, 29-year-old Will Wiard of Weichert Realtors, knows about the uphill climb to gain trust as a young real estate professional.


As managing broker at Weichert's Alexandria office, he oversees the day-to-day operations of the company, which has 120 agents. So far, he's had notable success in his three years in the position, including leading the Alexandria office to have the top sales volume within Weichert Company in 2016 at \$281.9 million.

Despite his success, Wiard said there are a number of individuals who are surprised that someone so young is in his position.

"I get that all the time. It's a big thing because historically, in terms of the national average, the average age in the industry is about 65," Wiard said.

Wiard has fought that perception by being involved in the industry as much as possible. For instance, he sits on the board of the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors.

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Real Estate Watch

Weichert Realtors' Alexandria/Old Town office was recognized for exceptional performance in June, Mark Ackermann, president of Weichert Realtors' Capital Region, announced. The office led its sales region in resale listings for the month.

Nicole Canole, sales associate with **Long and Foster's** Alexandria/Kingstowne Centre Sales Office in Alexandria, was named "Rookie of the Year" both for Northern Virginia's metropolitan region and companywide. Canole had a \$9 million sales volume in 2016.

Berkshire Hathaway PenFed Realty's Alexandria broker, **Maxine McLeod**

Miller, says they are making and breaking their own records. They have outperformed the market by 16 percent for the past year and last month doubled their office production.

Mark Ackermann was named president of Weichert's Capital Region, which includes its Virginia, Maryland and D.C. offices. Ackermann previously led the company's Virginia sales offices as regional vice president since 2016.

The **Northern Virginia Association of Realtors** has appointed **Nisha Thakker** as senior director of strategic partnerships, a newly created position.



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Construction unearths 20th-century rails

Portions extracted, but most tracks to stay buried at Windmill Hill Park

BY EVAN BERKOWITZ

Archaeologists with the Office of Historic Alexandria had hoped that when city developers began work on Windmill Hill Park on the Potomac waterfront, they would find remnants of a 19th-century ship buried long ago.

Instead, when construction workers called to report they had unearthed something near the 500 block of Union Street, it was a pair of 20th-century railroad tracks that could help tell the story of Alexandria's industrial past.

"For me, the rail lines were sort of an inadvertent find," said Garrett Fesler, an archaeologist with OHA. They'd become lodged in tree roots and were revealed as construction crews working on the Windmill Hill shoreline project pulled trees up."



COURTESY PHOTO

The crews, Fesler said, "did exactly what they're supposed to do:" stop work and call in city archaeologists.

Upon further review, Acting City Archaeologist Eleanor Breen said the office decided that the majority of the buried rails wouldn't be disturbed by construction.

"We determined to take a

stance of preserving some in place," she said, while extracting those segments that might be impacted. "We removed a section, possibly for future use in historical interpretation."

Early community reaction included excitement at a possible link to Civil War-era railroad activity in the area, which proved unfounded.

While Breen said there was a post-bellum freight spur on the site built before 1877 to serve a car float that ferried laden railcars riverward, those tracks were gone by 1921 at the latest.

Sometime between 1921 and 1941, according to contemporary maps, a second railroad line was built, exiting the Wilkes Street tunnel then curving across Union Street and briefly grazing the corner of the project site. It served an industrial site nearby and appeared on 1949 aerial photographs before disappearing by 1964, Breen said.

"We sort of trace the documentary history of this find," Breen said, "which is what led us to believe that they're probably 20th-century."

The tracks' sweeping shape, and the fact that they were found at so shallow a depth, suggests the more recent line, once part of the Southern Railway, was the one discovered.

The city had commissioned a detailed report on the site's history ahead of development, as is required, Fesler said, and a different intriguing prospective discovery stood first in the archaeologist's mind.

"The main focal point of what we were hoping to identi-

fy was a buried ship," he said.

A small, prow-shaped peninsula appears on contemporary maps, and newspaper accounts led archaeologists to believe a derelict 1840s ship — the "Young Hero" — was scuttled there and used to create filled land.

"We very strongly believe that the 'Young Hero' boat was buried here, so that was one of our main concerns when they started this process," he said.

Alas, no luck.

The ship may have been disturbed by marina construction on the property between 1949 and the 1960s, Fesler said, or perhaps the "Young Hero" lies still deeper, beyond the reach of the current project, undiscovered by soil surveys and therefore best left undisturbed.

"Sort of like doctors, you know 'do no harm,' that's kind of our guiding principle," Fesler explained. "If it doesn't need to be excavated and it's not going to be impacted, then just leave it in place, let it be where it is."


That was the fate of most of the rails.

The Windmill Hill project — which aims to create a naturally sloping shoreline in place of an unsightly, often smelly




GRAPHIC: USGS/OVERLAY BY EVAN BERKOWITZ BASED ON SANBORN FIRE INSURANCE MAPS PROVIDED BY OFFICE OF HISTORIC ALEXANDRIA

The newly uncovered railroad tracks, which sweep through the upper left corner of the Windmill Hill shoreline project area, are visible starting on a 1941 Sanborn Fire Insurance map, recreated above.



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BERLIN

FROM | 5

end date, should an incoming superintendent need more time before starting.

Most recently, Berlin served as executive director for the Washington Area School Study Council, composed of current and retired superintendents from the D.C. Metro area who meet and discuss topics relevant to their positions. She has also worked as an executive coach and trainer for area principals.

When the longtime educator looks back at the differences between the challenges she faced as superintendent in Falls Church and what trials she will face as interim superintendent at ACPS, the sheer difference in size is something that comes to mind.

While ACPS has more than 15,000 students, FCCPS had 2,685 at the start of the 2016-2017 school year — which is roughly equal to the enrollment at T.C. Williams High School alone, as Berlin pointed out in the press conference.

“I think the same challenges are still being faced — growth and facilities. That is just universal. Where do you build if there’s not room to do that? What are the things you do to accommodate a growing population?” Berlin said. “How do you keep achievement on par and continue to improve?”

As Berlin assumes her leadership post, she said she will always ask herself “is it good for the children?” and “can we do it better?”

Berlin said, when it comes to

particular schools that are facing academic problems, whether it’s lack of accreditation or dipping test scores, she always looks at how to help the individual students.

“I always look at each student individually and what their progress is at the beginning of the year and at the end of the year,” Berlin said. “I look at ‘how are we focusing on individual growth?’”

Gentry said the search for an interim superintendent after Crawley submitted his resignation to the school board on May 10 brought them many qualified candidates, but that Berlin’s breadth of experience and familiarity with ACPS made her stand out.

“We do really feel very fortunate to have her joining us as we go through this period of searching for a permanent superintendent,” Gentry said. “We had a really strong group of candidates applying for the interim and we were really excited that we had such a great group, but Dr. Berlin was clearly our best choice.”

At the same time, Berlin, despite being retired from the day-to-day of school administration, felt compelled to return to Alexandria to guide the school district through its transition phase.

“When this opportunity arose, it was something I wanted to do because I had such great years in Alexandria and I have such a commitment,” Berlin said. “It’s good to be back.”

- *aepitropoulos@alextimes.com*

RAILS

FROM | 8

stretch of waterfront bordered by seawall — wouldn’t have disturbed the rails, and they’re still in place for future archaeologists to discover.

The sections removed, now in storage, Breen said, may find use as interpretive artifacts harkening to the Port City’s industrial past.

In the past, Fesler said, the city has “used railroad lines to

show the different industrial zones of the city; ... to give an echo of what it was in the past.”

The recently discovered rail lines could have a similar value, to help visitors and residents remember the heritage, he said, and think about Alexandria’s evolution.

“It wasn’t always high-priced townhomes,” he said. “It was a working, thriving city.”

- *eberkowitz@alextimes.com*

REALTORS

FROM | 6

“After you see the track record I have, age is just a number,” Wiard said. “At the end of the day, some of the people in this office are 22, some are 80.”

Wiard started working in the industry at 15 for his father’s real estate company in Northern Virginia. He



Will Wiard

said he plans to continue working to advance Weichert and the industry.

“I want to...[help] someone who might not necessarily understand that real estate can be a career,” Wiard said. “I want to do that across the board, and support the office and the industry as a whole.”

- *aepitropoulos@alextimes.com*

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SPORTS

Alexandria boys win national Futsal title

BY EVAN BERKOWITZ

Alexandria's under-15 boys' indoor Futsal team took home its first-ever national title in an overtime win in San Jose, California Sunday night.

The Alexandria Soccer Association squad bested a team from Colegio Pearson of Ensenada, Baja California, Mexico, winning 6-5 in overtime, according to a team press release.

Futsal is a soccer variation played mainly indoors on hard courts smaller than soccer fields, with five players to a side. Teams hailing from foreign communities near the American border are eligible for U.S. Futsal leagues and tournaments, an official from the sport's national governing body said, hence the Mexican squad's presence.

"We knew the competition was going to be some of the best in the country," Alexandria Coach Will Hanna said in a submitted quote. "I'm proud of the boys for sticking to the plan and trusting their team-



PHOTO/LIZ BLOUNT

The U15 Boys Futsal ID, an Alexandria Soccer Association team, were named national champions after winning an overtime game 6-5 against an Ensenada, Baja California, Mexico-based team in San Jose, California.

mates and the coaching staff."

The Alexandria boys won three games at the national tournament under the direction of Hanna, as well as Assistant Coach Peja Radivojevic, Manager Drew Dietrich and Futsal Program Director Chris Arnold, the release said.

Alexandria won the Northeast Regional Finals in New Jersey in February, then beat club Futsal Without Borders of Silicon Valley, California, 3-2

in the semifinals to face Pearson, the release said.

The finalists ended regulation knotted at 5, but Alexandria scored early in overtime and held on to top the Baja Californian team.

"This has been an unbelievable journey," Hanna said in a submitted quote. "Words don't describe how proud I am of these guys."

- eberkowitz@alextimes.com

BASEBALL

FROM | 1

eager to begin the conversation.

"We are aware of our Alexandria heritage," said Silber, who bought the team in 1990, seven years after it relocated. "Nobody could possibly complain about Alexandria [not] having potential for a minor league team."

Several other Northern Virginia communities have expressed interest, Silber said. He declined to name localities or provide a number of interested parties, instead saying the team had "been very gratified with the number of responses and certainly the quality of those communities that have approached us."

Wilson said his first state-

SEE **BASEBALL**

| 17

Aces fall to Big Train in 15-innings, slip out of national top-10

The Alexandria Aces slipped behind Bethesda Big Train in national rankings July 14 after a "heartbreaking" 6-5 away loss to their rival in 15 innings the night before, the team said.

CollegiateSummerBaseball.com had pegged the Aces as high as No. 4 in the nation before the squad slipped to No. 7 last week, then No. 11 in its latest poll.

The Big Train, now one game above the Aces in the Ripken League's South Division, climbed to No. 9 in the rankings.

The Aces' performance has clinched a berth in the Ripken League's playoffs, though, set to be played between July 23 and 30.

After the loss at Bethesda, the Aces dropped a 5-1 road game to

the D.C. Grays on July 15.

They split a home doubleheader with the FCA Herndon Braves the next day, losing the first contest on a walk-off hit by a 4-3 score before rebounding to win 10-8 in the nightcap.

They then topped the Gaithersburg Giants on a walk-off hit 7-6, at home.

They faced the Big Train Wednesday in the pair's final regular season matchup, with results not available at press time.

They'll close out the season with two away games against the Baltimore Redbirds and the Rockville Express on Thursday and Friday, respectively.

- eberkowitz@alextimes.com

Times Living



Foodie

RECIPES, TRENDS and TIPS

The Lager revival

As summer reaches its midway point, craft beer fans are seeking out lighter, more refreshing beer options.

BY ALEXA EPITROPOULOS

It should come as no surprise that session IPAs, which still pack a hop-heavy punch at a lower alcohol percentage, are popular this time of year. American pale ales, which are also frequently on tap at breweries and craft beer bars, are a go-to for those looking for a drinkable beer that still has a complex flavor profile.

Lagers and pilsners – lighter

styles that were long considered outcasts or, at best, the wallflowers of the craft beer world – are making a comeback in a big way this summer. For proof, look no further than Alexandria's Port City Brewing Co., which launched its own lager series earlier this year. This lighter offering is produced in smaller batches than Port City's staples, allowing it to ex-

periment with seasonal flavors.

"We can do these fun projects that we're not used to brewing on the very large scale," said Chris Van Orden, Port City's manager of marketing and beer strategy. "It's a fun thing for us and our brewers are excited."

So far, Port City has released
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TORPEDO FACTORY

Sarah Nesbitt's first solo show is superb, but difficult

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HAUTE HOUSEWARE

New shapes and styles for household classics

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JULY AND AUGUST EVENTS

The Port City hosts a beer release, Harry Potter science crash course, "Legally Blonde" performance and more

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BEER

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three varieties of the lager: Helles, a classic German-style blonde lager, Oscura, a Mexican-style dark lager, and, for the summer, a German pilsner.

The newfound popularity of lagers and pilsners represents a shift from the last few years, when IPAs ruled summer beer lists. IPAs, Van Orden says, aren't necessarily going anywhere, but people are seeking more variety.

"I think people are appreciating more styles of beer, which is a good thing," Van Orden said. "We make lots of beers – there will always be IPAs. IPAs will always be a popular style, but there will be different types."

So, what are lagers and pilsners? Lagers, which originally hail from Germany, are beers that mature in cold storage. That's because lagers, in order to be classified as such, must use lager yeast, which works through the beer from bottom to top and thrives in cold temperatures.

Pilsners are a subset of the lager family and were named after Pilsen, a city in Bohemia, which is now the Czech Republic. Although pilsners and lagers offer different flavors, both have a similar end result: a clean and crisp-tasting beer.

Port City isn't the only



COURTESY PHOTO

Port City's Optimal Wit is a traditional Belgian style witbier. Its ingredients include Virginia-grown wheat, Spanish orange peels and Grains of Paradise, making the flavor crisp and citrusy.

Northern Virginia brewery to participate in the lager revival. Portner Brewhouse has its flagship Hofbrau Pilsner and a Vienna Cabinet Lager, both based on original recipes from the Robert Portner Brewing Co.

Caboose Brewing Co. in Vienna has a Wasser Bohemian Pilsner on tap, while regional brewery Devil's Backbone Brewing Co. distributes its Vienna Lager widely across the commonwealth and has a number of other lager varieties, including pilsner Call me Pilsmael and lager Evergreen Rye, available at its taproom in Roseland, Virginia.

Fans of hoppy beer will still be able to find plenty of IPAs on tap, however. Citrusy

IPAs are retaining their popularity this summer, taking a cue from the ever-popular Citradelic Tangerine IPA from New Belgium Brewing Co. and Grapefruit Sculpin from Ballast Point Brewing Co. Port City is also releasing its Integral IPA, a lighter, more aromatic IPA, on Friday. That beer will be available on tap throughout the summer and will also reemerge from time to time, Van Orden said.

What should craft beer fans expect as the summer goes on? Lagers won't be the only German beer style widely available. Kolsches, a light-colored ale (ales are fermented with yeast that works from the top down and stored in warmer conditions), are showing up on regional tap lists as Oktoberfest approaches.

Curious beer drinkers can taste test these distinctly German beers at a number of nearby institutions. Mad Fox Brewing Co. in Falls Church offers a Kellerbier Kolsch, a past winner at Great American Beer Fest, while Bad Wolf Brewing Co. in Manassas, Virginia offers the Liger Kolsch. Heritage Brewing Co., which has locations at Market Common in Arlington and Manassas, also offers a kolsch in its taproom.

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The writer is managing editor of the Alexandria Times.

Art Review:

Sarah Nesbitt grasps truth of the matter

In conceptual Torpedo Factory solo show, artist explores the nature of fact and context

BY EVAN BERKOWITZ

If a concept or story is initially factual, but its facts are obscured, intentionally or not, by each retelling, is the new story any more or less true?

If we all agree on one angle or one fact or one story, does it really matter what that story might obscure or falsify or ignore? In other words, if a critical mass of people say an apple is an orange, doesn't that become the reality?

These are the heady questions that artist and art historian Sarah Nesbitt explores, but does not answer in her first-ever solo show, a superb but difficult offering that opened at the Torpedo Factory's Target Gallery July 13.

It's all very night-is-day and black-is-white, and while Nesbitt may not have meant to go so "1984," we're lucky that she did.

Historical revisionism — at its core, the idea that truth is a moving target, rarely hit and never viewed objectively — is key to Nesbitt's work. Even the venerable New York Times is shown to be a vehicle susceptible to Father Time and its readers' humanity.

In "The Breakdown of Language," Nesbitt slowly deconstructs a laminated 2010 front page. The big features — the masthead, a centerpiece photo of Haitian schoolgirls — remain intact as in our memory, as do headlines only starting to disintegrate.

Slowly though, in zig-zag slices mimicking readers' eye paths, the articles fall apart. A paragraph or two lasts here and there, but the lines slowly stretch to oblivion as readers'



COURTESY PHOTO

attention and memory wanes.

The predicament is even starker for yellowing old pages Nesbitt tucks behind this top layer. Photos are still etched in our memory, but given malleability by age, the cut-up text of newspapers past falls floorward, unreadable and unrecalled.

Along with "Migration" (a photo of a site-specific installation at an Ohio paper mill wherein Nesbitt transposed a Times front onto dripping dilatant silicone), the work is a sobering reminder of how one day's major truth falls by the wayside in an instant.

All the news that's fit to print today will be all the pulp that's fit to trash tomorrow, its truths irrevocably marred by the passage of 24 hours.

Nesbitt's most viscerally successful pieces are those, like "The Breakdown of Language," that pop out of their two-dimensional planes, spewing paper fragments onto the surrounding floor or, at the

very least, pouring out toward viewers.

In "Relying on Memory,"

an old notebook is cut open, revealing deep layers while great

leaves, held fast by t-pins, bil-

low outward.

The scrawlings on its surface are Nesbitt's evolving thoughts on art, fueled by each lecture, book or article she encountered and noted.

By their intimate nature, they are the purest possible version of "the truth," or at least the truth of Nesbitt's thinking. Unintended at the outset for public consumption, they were, as Nesbitt notes in wall text, originally "for my eyes only."

When she decides to make them public, as an artwork, this purity is distorted.

The work acknowledges this in its rips and tears, showing that, while the words written may be physically the same, by transforming into art and becoming an object for public view and purchase, their context changes.

SEE NESBITT

| 17



PHOTO/RODRIGO TORREGROSA

Above: Sarah Nesbitt, left, a Michigan-based artist whose first solo show, "Making Sense of What We Have," runs at the Torpedo Factory's Target Gallery through Sept. 3.

Left: "Migration" is a 2014 Sarah Nesbitt photograph of her site-specific installation at an Ohio paper mill, wherein a New York Times front page is transposed onto dripping dilatant silicone.

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HAUTE HOUSEWARES:

Innovative shapes and technologies rule

Part 2 of 2

BY ELAINE MARKOUTSAS

Last week we examined trends in housewares in the realm of color and styles. This week we take a look at houseware innovations in shape, health consciousness and technology. Manufacturers are particularly focused on the millennial generation, as spending by this group on home products has almost caught up with that of the baby boomers.

catches the eye, as do unconventional shapes, which is why square dinner plates were so intriguing when they first came on the scene. One of the most striking utilitarian pieces is a black and stainless steel cheese grater designed by the late architect Zaha Hadid at Alessi. Such familiar objects always are engaging when reimaged.

The health category continues to draw those who want to assure that there are no harmful components — such as BPAs, PVs or phthalates — in the



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALESSI

To create a novel form for an egg cup holder for Alessi, designer Adam Goodrum played off of the egg's perfect geometry for "Roost," a stainless steel sculptural cup that has two parts that nest together.

Distinctive form always

SEE **SHAPES**

| 15

HOME OF THE WEEK

Spectacular Remodel is move-in ready

No detail was overlooked in this thoroughly, thoughtfully and, above all, beautifully updated Colonial in Alexandria's Braddock Heights neighborhood. Working with an architecture firm consistently ranked as one of the region's best, inspired touches have been applied throughout the property. Featuring custom Porcelanosa cabinetry from Spain and luxury Sub-Zero and Wolf appliances, the open kitchen blends seamlessly with the family room, which spills out into a stunningly landscaped backyard with Pennsylvania Blue-stone patio.

The home also features a traditional living and dining room, three fireplaces, a cathedral-ceilinged master suite with two walk-in closets



COURTESY PHOTO

Above: A tranquil oasis with an inviting porch

Right: Beautifully updated kitchen makes cooking a joy



ets and luxury bath, two additional bedrooms upstairs, an upper level laundry with new washer and dryer, a fully finished lower level with full bath and a detached garage. The back yard is ideal for entertaining.

Eco-friendly construction

choices have been made to the greatest extent possible throughout the house, including Zero VOC Benjamin Moore Natura paint, water-saving dual flush Toto toilets in every bathroom and plant-based binded Knauff Ecobatt insulation in the attic.

Located on one of Braddock Heights' most popular streets, this home is just a block from George Mason Elementary School, park and tennis courts. This home is a commuter's dream location. It's conveniently located 1.5 miles from Old Town, a block

away from a Dash Bus stop, a mile away from the Braddock Metro, five minutes from The Pentagon and 12 minutes from DCA.

Schedule a private showing today with Jessica Richardson, McEneaney Associates.

At a Glance

Address: 2433 Davis Ave, Alexandria, Virginia 22302

Price: \$1,155,000

Neighborhood:

Braddock Heights

Bedrooms: 3

Bathrooms: 3.5

Interior: 2,700 square feet

Year built: 1940

Contact: Jessica Richardson

at (703) 864-3438, jessicarichardson.com,

<http://jessicarichardson.com>

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SHAPES FROM | 14

products they use. New products based on health trends like fermentation also are emerging. One from Kraut Source features a stainless steel device that fits on any wide-mouth mason jar to ferment small batches. Some rice cookers now have different settings for specific grains, such as oatmeal and quinoa, and breadmakers now include gluten-free options.

Health has certainly affected styles of cooking, which is why there's an influx of air fryers like NuWave and Frieling that don't require oils and fats and have more streamlined countertop designs and LED displays. The closed systems eliminate odor and spattering. Steaming options continue to be popular, as does one-pot cooking (crock). And juicers have a large fan base, now nuanced as to the merits of cold press — more juice volume, higher nutrient volume and longer shelf-life.

Even styles of eating have morphed. As The Wall Street



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRABANTIA
Fresh looking storage containers from Brabantia have a range of colorful tops

Journal reported last year in a story titled "Bowls are the new plates," retail sales of bowls were rising. Manufacturers like Gibson and Villeroy & Boch are responding to a growing desire for bowls in a variety of shapes to accommodate entire meals.

One need that is universal is that of storage. Those who live in small apartments are painfully aware of limitations, and they need to maximize

every square inch. Manufacturers are delivering with more thoughtful, practical and attractive solutions for every room of the house.

Containers in all shapes and materials — from metal tins to cloth bins — are available in fashionable colors and prints. There are stack organizers for coffee pods and stands that hold 100 standard size tea bags, as well as drawer organizers with magnets to hold bins together — MagnaBin at YouCopia (www.youcopia.com). Stadium-style spice racks that also work for nail polish and makeup underscore multifunctionality.

Space-saving also is addressed with objects that nest, whether it's cookware, water bottles or colanders.

One thing is clear: the idea of curated display. As exposure to good design expands through magazines, TV and social media, consumers want function that's also decorative or striking in its minimalism — on the counter or the bookshelf or in the drawer.



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Legally Blonde

7/22 - 8/12



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Join us at the Springfield Golf and Country Club for our Annual Golf Fundraiser to support the kids at the Alexandria Boys & Girls Club.

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Monday, September 18th, 2017

11:00 a.m. Registration & Lunch On Patio

1:00 p.m. Shot Gun Start

6:00 p.m. Reception & Awards Ceremony



The event is held at
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For more information, call Jim Almond at 703.549.3077
www.bgcgw.org/club-page/fore-the-kids/
Dunbar Alexandria-Olympic Boys & Girls Club
401 N. Payne St, Alexandria, VA 22314

JULY 20

MUSIC AT TWILIGHT

CONCERT This installment of the city concert series will feature a performance from Silver City, which will play country and bluegrass music. Amphitheater seating is available, but bringing chairs, a blanket and a picnic supper is also encouraged.

Time: 7 to 8 p.m.

Location: Fort Ward Park Amphitheater, 4301 W. Braddock Road

Information: 703-746-5592

LECTURE: THE ALEXANDRIA

STABLERS Pharmacy historian Dennis Worthen will place the owners and the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary into a broad environment of medicine and pharmacy, including commentary on the role of Quakers in education and the sciences. He will explore the period from 1800 to 1900, including the period when Richard Hartshorn Stabler was president of the American Pharmaceutical Association, which is now the American Pharmacists Association.

Time: 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Location: Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St.

Information: 703-746-3852

THE LATE SHIFT: NIGHT

MARKET The Late Shift series continues in July with Night Market. Come hungry and shop with a variety of local food vendors. The riverfront pop-up art market returns too.

Time: 7 p.m. to midnight

Location: The Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St.

Information: <http://torpedofactory.org/event/nightmarket>

JULY 21

INTEGRAL IPA RELEASE

Port City Brewing Co. is throwing a party to celebrate its newest release, Integral IPA. The event will feature the Boringen Lunchbox food truck and live music from Skribe starting at 7:30 p.m.

Time: 3 to 10 p.m.

Location: Port City Brewing Co., 3950 Wheeler Ave.

Information: <http://www.portcitybrewing.com/>

FRIDAY NIGHT ON THE

SQUARE Performance by The Shawn Cody Band will feature roots,

rock and blues. Feel free to bring a picnic supper and folding chairs or sit around the fountain seating and enjoy this Alexandria band.

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: Market Square, 301 King St.

Information: 703-746-5592

JULY 25

LEGALLY BLONDE AT THE

LITTLE THEATRE Gadsby's Tavern Museum Society (GTMS) is sponsoring a night at the Little Theatre for the production of "Legally Blonde." Based on the much-loved movie, this musical will take you on heroine Elle's journey of self-discovery. Reception begins at 7 p.m., performance at 8 p.m. Admission is \$35 per person.

Time: 7 to 10 p.m.

Location: Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St.

Information: <http://www.gadbsytavernmuseum.com>

JULY 26

CANAL CENTER CONCERT

SERIES Performance by Michael Mulvaney, featuring blues. Come enjoy a lunchtime concert in a beautiful amphitheater setting along the waterfront. Offered in partnership with American Real Estate Partners.

Time: Noon

Location: Canal Center Plaza, 44 Canal Center Plaza

Information: 703-746-5592

JULY 29

THE ART OF HISTORY

Take a 60-minute tour of this special summer exhibit as you learn from museum staff about how history and art merge to create a rich tapestry of Alexandria history. Each work in the exhibit is grounded in local history, while connecting to contemporary art approaches. Reminiscent of Fred Wilson's "Mining the Museum," the "Centennial of the Everyday" draws on how art can be used to highlight the complex narratives embedded in history. Tours are 10 a.m. and noon and reservations are required. Admission is \$15 per person.

Time: 10 to 11 a.m.

Location: Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St.

Information: <https://shop.alexandriava.gov/Events.aspx>

JULY 30 & 31

THE SCIENCE OF HARRY

POTTER In honor of Harry Potter's birthday, the Apothecary is offering family-friendly tours that explore the real world of science and medicine behind J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter series. Tickets, which are available for \$6 per person, go on sale July 1 for timed entry at shop.alexandriava.gov. Children must be accompanied by a ticketed adult. This event sells out, so purchase in advance.

Time: 1 to 4 p.m.

Location: Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 105 to 107 S. Fairfax St.

Information: <https://shop.alexandriava.gov>

AUGUST 2

CANAL CENTER CONCERT

The latest installment of the concert series will feature a performance from the Brian Cunningham Project, featuring R&B, jazz and reggae. The lunchtime concert is offered in partnership with American Real Estate Partners.

Time: Noon

Location: Canal Center Plaza, 44 Canal Center Plaza

Information: 703-746-5592

AUGUST 3

MARKET SQUARE CONCERT

Performance by the 257th Army Band Concert Band. Feel free to bring a picnic supper and folding chairs or sit around the fountain seating and enjoy some of the military's finest.

Time: 7 to 8 p.m.

Location: Market Square, 301 King St.

Information: 703-746-5592

AUGUST 5

FRIENDSHIP FIREHOUSE

FESTIVAL Enjoy the annual Friendship Firehouse Festival in the 100 Block of South Alfred Street. Visit historic Friendship Firehouse and get a free fire hat. Be sure to see the old hose reel, as well as the suction pumper fire engine, both pulled by hand. This year marks the 151st Anniversary of the City of Alexandria Fire Department. Festival includes community booth, firefighting activities, fire vehicles and more.

Time: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Location: Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 S. Alfred St.

Information: <http://historicalalexandria.org>

CARLYLE SATURDAY CINEMA

Join the Carlyle Community Council, the City of Alexandria and the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership for the second of a series of free movies in the John Carlyle Square Park. This time, "Caddyshack," the 1980 movie featuring Rodney Dangerfield and Chevy Chase, will be the featured film. Niccream will serve up ice cold treats on the scene.

Time: 8 to 10 p.m.

Location: John Carlyle Square Park, 300 John Carlyle St.

Information: www.AlexandriaVA.gov/CarlyleFun

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STOP CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN



NESBITT FROM | 13

They go from what may have been idle jottings to scrutinized fragments eyed for each sentiment as if it is some deep commentary on Nesbitt's mind and oeuvre.

By doing so, they may enter the cadre of art historical misconceptions Nesbitt chronicles in her most ambitious work, "The Whole of Our History," which annotates a stitched photograph of hundreds of art history slides with new facts about key artists.

They weren't necessarily *not* deep insights as private notes, but the change in context en-



COURTESY PHOTO

Sarah Nesbitt's 2017 work "Evidence of Existence" is the unassuming key to understanding the artist's first solo show.

ures that while content may stay exactly the same, interpretations of the truth differ wildly.

To borrow from the motif Nesbitt explores in "Evidence of Existence," making the notes

public as an artwork flips the light switch, illuminating her thoughts.

In a group of works that often grapple with a truth distorted by public discourse, that unifying photograph of a forlorn light switch mounted on a wooden post provides a conceptual anchor for the process Nesbitt finds fascinating. It's the unassuming key to her whole endeavor.

If a person is unable to see

something, if the light is off, is that object truly there? If it is, is it any truer in this hidden state, unmolded by public eyes, than it would be when illuminated?

Does it even matter?

Nesbitt seemingly remains mum, choosing to instead discuss the magic of it all in her earnest Midwestern voice punctuated by dropped 'g's and "yannos." But by quietly reveling in the magic of the question, she

tacitly confirms that no, it emphatically doesn't.

With Nesbitt's artistic queries, as with Schrodinger's cat or trees falling in forests or the Heisenberg uncertainty principle, we simply don't know.

And that, in itself, is the fun part.

"Sarah Nesbitt: Making Sense of What We Have" runs through Sept. 3 at the Torpedo Factory's Target Gallery.

BASEBALL FROM | 10

ment on the matter was in response to a Business Journal reporter's question and that he had not discussed the topic with other city elected officials or the team.

He said he asked city economic development staff, as well as City Manager Mark Jinks, to contact the team and gauge interest.

"If there is a scenario where we could bring minor league baseball back to Alexandria, I'd be all for it," he told the Business Journal. "I've asked that our staff explore scenarios that might be feasible."

City Spokesman Craig Fifer wrote in an email that the city manager's office's consideration can only be broad, as it lacks "direction by city council," and that a new ball field is not part of any small area plan.

"Stadium projects are typically very challenging for localities," Fifer wrote. "However, we will remain open-minded as the discussion continues."

Silberberg said she would wait for Jinks' office to provide more information before developing a position on the issue.

While describing herself as an avid baseball fan, Silberberg said the unclear circumstances of the Prince William deal's disintegration gave her pause, as did the specter of a possible sale Silber reluctantly raised in the Business Journal report.

"While all of us would love to have a Minor League Baseball team in Alexandria, it's not as simple as it might appear at first glance," she said.

Jinks' office must look at team financials and ascertain whether reports were accurate that Prince William County residents could have been liable had the team's fiscal fortunes shifted, she said.

"We would want to know much more information from our staff and be cautious," Silberberg said. "We have to be cautious and focus on our city's economic interest."

Silber, the P-Nats owner, said he understood the trepidation but dismissed financial concerns, saying a stadium pact with any locality "is about as riskless a deal as there is."

"It is proper for anyone we're going to talk to to have questions," he said. "It would be our job to properly explain that, so that the community could understand that what we're doing is bringing in a fantastic amenity."

Silber cited statistics on commonplace public funding of sports arenas and touted his team's financials while mentioning that Minor League Baseball has systems in place should teams falter.

Wilson said he would not support putting substantial public funds toward attracting the

SEE **BASEBALL**

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Our View

Berlin is an unusually qualified interim

When someone or something is labeled interim, it heralds a temporary situation: an intervening time period. In music, the interim element is a bridge, connecting sometimes disparate parts into a whole.

Organizations of all kinds, from churches to corporations to sports teams, appoint interim heads while searching for a long-term leader. Sometimes the interim is a candidate for the permanent position, and the temporary time frame is really an audition. City Manager Mark Jinks and outgoing Alexandria City Public Schools Superintendent Alvin Crawley were both initially interim heads.

Other times, the interim leader is explicitly barred from applying for the permanent post. In that instance, a placeholder can sometimes make difficult and necessary decisions, on personnel and other matters, without needing to factor in the long-term personal or political consequences.

It is unclear into which category ACPS Interim Superintendent Lois Berlin falls. Berlin assumes her post on Monday, with Crawley's departure for George Mason University slated for the following week, and her announced tenure is through next January.

Whether auditioning or placeholder, Berlin seems extraordinarily well positioned to make a difference at ACPS between next week and next January — for several reasons.

First, she's familiar with Alexandria and its school system due to her many years here as a teacher and administrator. Though she's been away for 13 years, Berlin brings knowledge of our city, chronic issues

within ACPS and familiarity with many teachers, staff and administrators to her post. People usually say they will hit the ground running. Berlin should actually be able to.

In addition, Berlin most recently was head of an organization that aids in the development of school administrators. She seems to be unusually capable of mentoring Alexandria's six new principals, including Peter Balas at T.C. Williams High School, as they assume their new positions.

The fact that she wasn't here during the last budget cycle, when an emphasis on learning seemed drowned out by the incessant — and divisive — harping on facilities funding, also seems a plus.

That's not to diminish the need for adequate school buildings, but simply an acknowledgement that focusing on a negative often drains positive energy. It's time to redirect that energy to what happens within classrooms.

This is a time of significant transition within ACPS, with changes at the superintendent post, at the helm of Alexandria's lone public high school and at five more city schools. Change definitely brings upheaval.

But with disruption also comes opportunity.

Here's hoping that Alexandria's school board recognizes the advantageous window Berlin's interim posting provides. Instead of merely working to make the proverbial trains run on time, we hope the new superintendent is able to coach the conductors and look at the schedules with fresh eyes.

Just because a tenure is short doesn't mean it has to be inconsequential.

Opinion

"Where the press is free and every man is able to read, all is safe."

- Thomas Jefferson



Your Views

Atlantic Coast Pipeline ruling harms property owners

To the editor:

I am disappointed, although not surprised, by the Virginia Supreme Court rulings regarding surveying for the Atlantic Coast Pipeline. Our personal freedoms and private property rights have been progressively taken away from us in recent years. I am struck by Dominion Spokesman Aaron Ruby's boast in his response to the rulings. He stated that Dominion has revised its survey policy and is now notifying landowners of a specific date that a survey crew will enter upon a landowner's private property. Dominion should have been doing this all along. Instead, it was forced to do so, and only after Virginia citizens were required to expend their money, their time and their peace of mind by challenging Dominion in court.

Ruby's comments regarding Dominion's cooperation with landowners is also a stretch of epic proportions. This isn't a cooperative collaboration. This is a land grab, pure and simple. Dominion isn't cooperating with landowners. My wife and I, and others, have been bullied

and harassed throughout the survey process. We've suffered extensive property damage by an unannounced and unaccompanied survey crew hacking their way through our mountain laurel grove. We've had to fight to receive even incomplete, inaccurate and months-late survey reports for our own property and have been sent deceptive easement agreements cloaked in legal language.

Ruby and Dominion continue to tout the pipeline as vitally important to meet an urgent growing need for cleaner electricity. Not so. The U.S. Energy Information Administration shows that energy use in Virginia and North Carolina has decreased over the past decade and will remain flat through 2030.

We know where the gas is going...overseas. We know as well that natural gas systems are as dirty as coal in greenhouse gas emissions. Any unexpected need for more energy here at home could be filled by truly clean and affordable renewable energy systems.

-William F. Limpert,
Warm Springs, Virginia

States need voting choice, not mandate

To the editor:

Polls show and few would dispute that Americans have a low regard for Congress. A major factor is the winner-take-all structure of U.S. House elections. When one person is elected to represent all the voters of a district, it's hard for the many constituents who did not vote for the winning candidate to feel represented.

Virginia Rep. Don Beyer has introduced the Fair Representation Act to bring those stranded constituents in from the cold. Rather than 51 percent of voters electing one representative, three to five representatives might be elected in larger multimember districts. Using a fair representation voting method, groups comprising 17 to 25 percent of the electorate could elect a preferred candidate.

The problem is the provision requiring states to adopt ranked-choice voting. I was a founding member of FairVote, the national organization that originated the fair representation proposal. Two decades ago, FairVote advanced similar legislation — the Voters' Choice Act — that allowed states to consider various voting methods to achieve fair representation. It was a choice rather than a mandate.

Among those were long-established limited voting and cumulative voting methods that assure fair representation for racial and political minorities and have provided remedies in numerous voting rights cases across the country. The Voters' Choice Act spelled out limited and cumulative voting, along with ranked-choice voting, as options states could consider.

Moving from single- to multi-member elections is essential for making Congress more representative of the American electorate. But technical complications, potentially expensive retrofits and transparency concerns with ranked-choice voting could give political decision-makers a justification to resist reform and stick with the status-quo.

Two-dozen U.S. cities adopted ranked-choice voting in the early- and mid-20th century to counter entrenched political machines. It was eventually repealed in most places, but a single-winner version has been revived in recent years. Ranked-choice voting has proven its utility in local elections, but serious implementation challenges arise when extending it across multiple autonomous jurisdictions that use different voting equipment.

In a conventional election, votes are cast and recorded in their respective locations and totaled at a central location. Ranked votes and transfers have to be correlated and processed through every participating administrative unit. When North Carolina held its first and only statewide ranked-choice election in 2010, election officials had to sort ballots manually for the second and third counts.

"Given the lack of transparency in the process, did all those second- and third-choice votes really get added up right?" asked the Raleigh News & Observer when the election was over. And that was a contest with just one winner. The proposed legislation would mandate that voters be allowed to rank no fewer than six candidates in elections with three to five winners.

Optical scan ballots have the added complication of requiring a row of ovals by each candidate's name to indicate the ranking. A fully loaded election could include president, governor, U.S. Senate, U.S. House, state legislature and executive councils, judges and an array of local offices. With rows of ovals for so many candidates, a folder full of paper ballots could be required to accommodate all the races.

In the earlier era, traditional paper ballots made for a slow but straightforward hand-counting process. It was the automation of elections that made ranked-choice voting less viable and contributed to its demise. The only remaining multi-winner ranked-choice election for a governing council was adopted in 1941.

FairVote's website includes fair representation alternatives that accomplish the same basic goals as ranked-choice voting but get little visibility. Those include open-ticket voting, similar to what's used in Finland; and mixed-member district and at-large elections, as used in Germany, New Zealand and the devolved parliaments of Scotland and Wales. They are simple, easy to understand and require no changes to voting equipment.

To be viable for post-2020 redistricting, reforms need to fit seamlessly into existing election machinery. The Fair Representation Act, while moving in the right direction, should allow states greater flexibility and not impose a particular favored method that is likely to impede reform.

—Lee Mortimer,
Durham, North Carolina



Senior Corner

by Alphonso Westley

When It Might Be Time for Assisted Living

Do you know an aging loved one still living at home and wonder if they may need assisted living?

It's a question most people with a senior family member ask themselves and one that stirs mixed emotions.



Alphonso Westley

However, it's important to prepare yourself for the discussion about a possible transition in advance and spot signs so that you are not making a decision

during a time of crisis.

The first thing to realize is that they may never come to you on their own and say, "I'm ready to move." Try to look for changes in your loved one's physical and emotional health. Here are five signs it may be time to consider assisted living:

Decreased mobility. With aging tends to come less physical mobility and balance, leading to falls that can result in injury. Ask yourself if their current home environment is still safe and whether they've had any recent incidents or close calls.

Difficulty with or lack of interest in basic tasks. Does he or she have a harder time doing everyday tasks, such as laundry, going to the bathroom or keeping track of which medications to take? Are they cooking less? Assisted living communities provide "activities of daily living" services like these, while helping to ensure that residents are able to live as independently as possible.

Isolation. Have they cut back on their hobbies or get-togethers? Withdrawing can also negatively affect seniors' health, sometimes leading to depression and weight loss. Becom-

ing part of an assisted living community that provides social engagement with peers and meaningful activities could help.

Increased care needs for chronic conditions. Progressive memory loss, heart problems, COPD and arthritis, for example, mean your loved one will increasingly need support and attention.

Memory loss. Repeatedly leaving on the stove burner or getting lost while on a routine trip to the store could be signs of cognitive decline.

Likewise, ask yourself, "How am I coping taking care of my loved one?" Caregiving can be a physically and emotionally demanding role. Be mindful of when the stress has become too high to fully care for your beloved family member.

If his or her needs have increased to a point where they require around-the-clock attention, ask yourself these three questions: Are you running low on energy? Are you often overwhelmed? Are you unable to enjoy other aspects of your life that you used to? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then it's time to start having a conversation about assisted living as an option.

While it is normal for anyone to occasionally feel overwhelmed, it's important that family members help their loved ones decide what is the best thing for their health and yours. Quality care in a safe environment that promotes their overall well-being is essential. That may be at home, but it also may be in an assisted living environment.

Additional aging tips, including how to find the right senior living community, is available through The Senior Caregiver podcast (www.TheSeniorCaregiver.com).

The writer is Director of Operations for Sunrise of Alexandria.

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OUT OF THE ATTIC

A gem of a house on Prince Street

One of the most interesting examples of architectural survival in densely populated Alexandria is the dwelling at 517 Prince St., one of the earliest homes in the city and possibly the least-altered 18th-century home in Northern Virginia, which is still used today as a residence. At the time of its construction in 1775, the 1.5 story dwelling was in the rural wilds of western Prince Street, outside the original 1749 town limits that ended between Pitt and Royal streets. When the town was extended further westward in 1763, the new limit ended at the eastern border of the lot, which remained in Fairfax County. The property was finally annexed within Alexandria limits in the 1790s. The house was built by Patrick Murray (also indicated as Murry) in 1775, soon after he had acquired one of three half-acre lots owned by John Alexander Jr. in the block bordered by King, Prince, St. Asaph and Pitt streets. The remaining lot in the block, directly east of Murray's, was acquired by George Washington in 1763 for investment purposes. Washington built a small tenant house on that property, which remains standing today. Folklore has it that as the city continued to grow westward, and Prince Street was graded and paved, the original front entry porch had to be removed due to its intrusion on the sidewalk, and the brick foundation rose high above grade when the street was leveled.

By the mid-1780s, Murray, a local blacksmith, had secured enough funding to construct an addition to his home and his own livery stable to the rear of the house along St. Asaph Street, but his success was short-lived. Within seven years, he had overextended himself financially and in 1792 sold his property to the executors of the estate of Samuel English, to whom he was indebted. For a time, the executors rented the dwelling before it was finally



PHOTO/OFFICE OF HISTORIC ALEXANDRIA

sold in 1794 to Elisha Cullen Dick, the physician who attended Washington at his death.

Although a well-respected doctor in Alexandria, Dick's skills as a heavy real estate speculator in early Alexandria were not as noteworthy. He sold the Prince Street property within two years and moved to 408 Duke St., and in 1801 he went bankrupt, losing his own home and being forced to relocate again to a rental at 211 Prince St.

After Dick, the property was purchased by King Street merchants John Thomas Ricketts and William Newton. By 1801, Ricketts had moved to a three-story dwelling on the northeast corner of King and Columbus streets, and the Prince Street house was used by his business partner. By 1810, the structure was rented to Charles Chapman, a business clerk, and later by William Brown whose son, John Douglas Brown, purchased it outright in 1816, adding an addition to the rear. The house and stable were insured by Brown with the Mutual Assistance Society in 1823.

Although the stable property was later sold off, the dwelling remained in the possession of Brown's descendants for the next 184 years, and the family made very few changes to the structure. Historic building fabric and finishes remain largely intact on both the exterior and interior. In 1936, the structure was recorded for its historic and architectural significance by the U.S. Department of the Interior in the Historic American Buildings Survey.

Despite the relatively small rooms within, the house has been recognized by local historians as a "fascinating microcosm of the complete single-family dwelling, containing in addition to the usual living, dining and bedrooms and kitchen, all necessary, rooms for slaves or servants and storage rooms, all under one roof." In 2014, the current owner was honored to receive the Alexandria Archaeological Commission's Ben Brenman Award for his careful stewardship and preservation of the property.

Out of the Attic is provided by the Office of Historic Alexandria.

Weekly Poll

Last Week

Do you approve or disapprove of the plans to renovate 1604 to 1616 King St.?

65% Approve

35% Disapprove

This Week

Do you favor moving the Potomac Nationals to a new stadium somewhere on Eisenhower Avenue?

A. Yes

Take the poll at alextimes.com

B. No

Obituaries

Martha Dell Desch Brumbaugh

Martha Dell Desch Brumbaugh passed away at home in Old Town Alexandria on July 9. Beloved wife of 42 years to Bob, she is also survived by nieces Karen Thomson and Maggie Rodriguez in northern Virginia and Niki Lynn Burkham and Mandy Niblett in Texas. She was preceded in death by her brother Jon Desch in May. Born in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1940, but moved to Texas as fast she could months later with her parents, the late Douglas Dell and Opal Gertrude (Erickson) Desch. She grew up in Dallas, went to Southern Methodist University and on to UCLA for a Ph.D. In Dallas, she ran the Trade Mart Travel Agency and worked briefly at Scottish Rite hospital in field of childhood learning disabilities, for which she was most proud. In California, she was manager of Tourism Development for Douglas Aircraft, Long Beach, where she authored publications such as "Airlines of Oceania" and was consultant to the State of California Office of Tourism and the Pacific Area Travel Association. In the early '90s, she directed the Arlington County (Virginia) Convention & Visitor Services, then became an artist doing art shows across the country, and in this decade co-owned an art gallery with Lelia



Beall on King Street, Old Town Alexandria. She was known for her love of all things Geography, an appetite whetted on a summer-long trip to Europe in 1954 with family friends, and love of all things Greek as a result of many travels and graduate research in Greece. In recent years, she found another focus, the prehistoric cave paintings of Southwest Europe, which inspired her artwork and visits to many French and Spanish cave paintings. She also very much enjoyed living in Old Town Alexandria for the final third of her life and fellowship with friends at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to King Street Cats, Alexandria, Virginia, Tails High Cat Rescue, Alexandria, Virginia, and Doctors Without Borders. A memorial service will be scheduled at St Paul's in August. Arrangments by DEMAINE FUNERAL HOME, Alexandria, Virginia. www.demainefuneralhomes.com

BASEBALL

FROM | 17

team, citing Alexandria's fiscal needs.

He said he would, instead, want to explore whether a public-private partnership, perhaps in concert with other development in the Port City, could make sense.

The Alexandria Dukes started their run as a Pittsburgh Pirates farm team, according to a 1983 Washington Post article about the Dukes' original move to Prince William County. They also spent one season as the Alexandria Mariners, the Business Journal reported.

Tensions with Alexandria over the Dukes' small home stadium prompted the original move, the Post reported in 1983, as the team's field at Four Mile Run Park, near Cora Kelly Elementary School, could only seat 1,800 people.

Former Alexandria Mayor Frank Mann, for whom the Dukes' former field at Four Mile Run Park was eventually named, panned the move in 1983, according to the Post.

"I worked hard to bring that team to the city," he told the

Post at the time. "To see it go is a very bitter pill to swallow."

The Business Journal reported space near the Van Dorn Street Metro Station on Eisenhower Avenue as a possible Alexandria Stadium site, as well as the site of their original home field at Four Mile Run Park. The Alexandria Aces collegiate summer baseball team currently play at Frank Mann Field.

Aces co-founder Pat

Malone told the Business Journal that Eisenhower Avenue, specifically Hensely Park, would be the best bet.

Wilson expressed optimism about what it would mean to attract the team back to its original home.

"If there's a possibility to bring them back to Alexandria," he said, "let's look at that possibility."

- eberkowitz@alextimes.com

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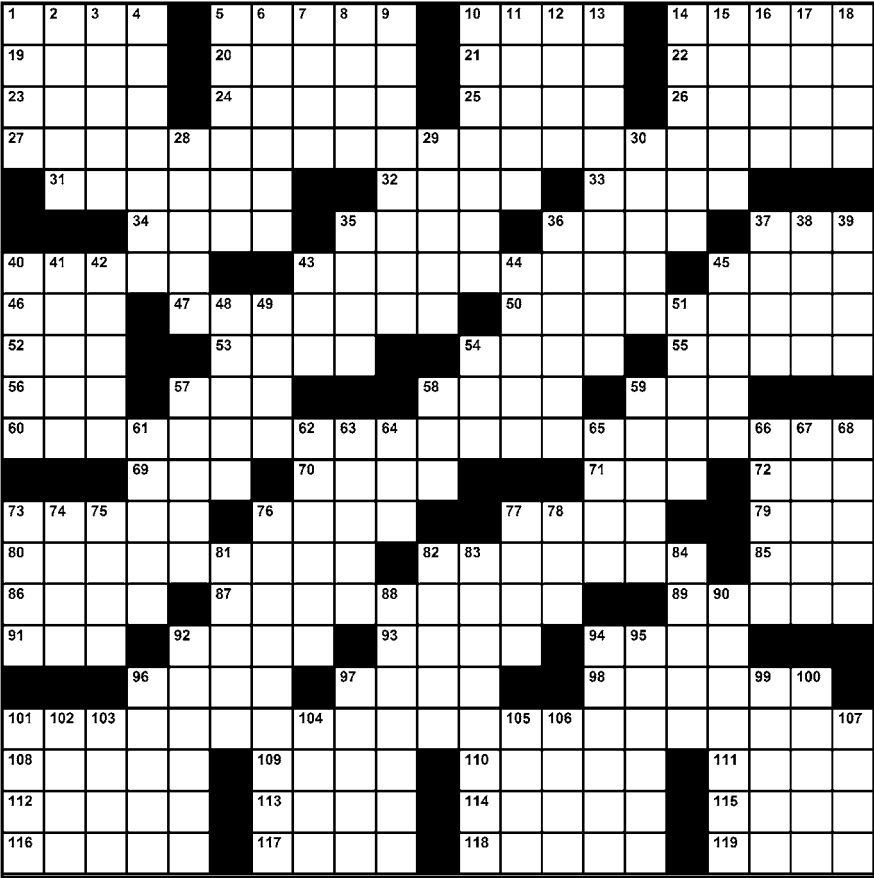
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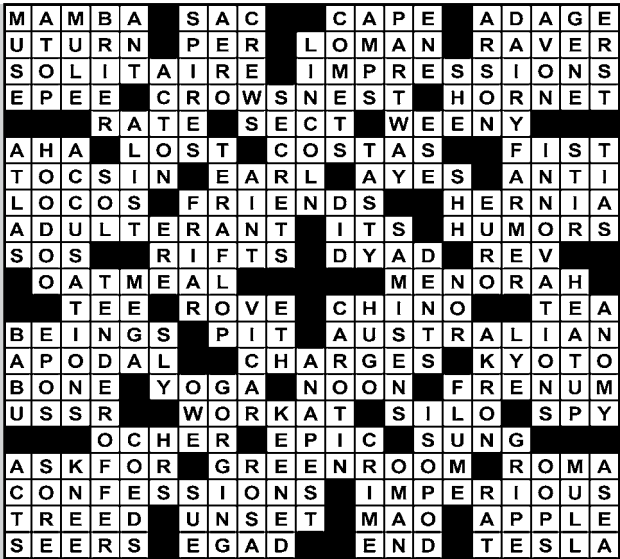
HOW NOT TO APOLOGIZE By Timothy E. Parker

- ACROSS**
1 Snare or floor tom
5 Becomes harder and harder to see
10 Charge alternative
14 Sheriff's shiner
19 Snowman of Tibet
20 Big-time pop singer from Britain
21 Butter alternative
22 Fourth in a series of 12
23 Dark, Stone and middle
24 A Washington city when doubled
25 Sugar unit
26 Iranian monetary units
27 I'm sorry that I'm sorry (Pt. 1)
31 Subject of a property claim
32 Irish miss
33 Brother of Abel
34 Does basic math
35 Some attention-getting words
36 Like many fast-food orders
37 "But I heard him exclaim, ___ he ..."
40 Riyadh native
43 Fritter away
45 Dry as a bone
46 Like some ears or cans
47 Most chichi or Bohemian
50 Producing great profits, as a business
52 CD follower
53 Units of energy or work
54 Mighty partner
55 Roused from slumber
56 Schooner beverage
57 Three, in Milano
58 A good deal, in a Shakespeare title
59 Suffix with "Christ"
60 I'm sorry that I'm sorry (Pt. 2)
69 Hither and ___
- 70 Gumbo veggie
71 A word of cheer
72 "When do we want it?" answer
73 Defiant one without a cause
76 "Lake" of ballet
77 And others, abbreviated
79 NYC's Fifth, for one
80 With sincere intentions
82 NASA or NATO, e.g.
85 Org. with moles
86 Out on the ocean
87 Place for a collection of journalists
89 Poly attachment
91 Source of morning dampness
92 "___ Piper of Hamelin"
93 Cons' opposites
94 Roll up, as a flag
96 Mend socks
97 Applaud
98 Stir up, as rioters
101 I'm sorry that I'm sorry (Pt. 3)
108 Brick of clay
109 Certain woodwind
110 Angry enough to fight
111 Any prince, traditionally
112 Sci-fi, comedy, drama, e.g.
113 ___ Bator, Mongolia
114 Longish work of literature
115 Transgresses
116 Long, drawn-out tales
117 What the sun does daily
118 Twist into deformity
119 Catch one's breath
- DOWN**
1 Set of two
2 Fit for the throne
3 Where babies-to-be be
4 Hoodwink
5 Showed submission or fear
6 "Money isn't everything," and others
7 Sandwich shop
8 Fitzgerald of jazz
9 Smooth, as a transition
10 Behemoths
11 Former students
12 Trucker's rig
13 Child's sidewalk game
14 Certain Spanish-speaking quarter
15 Referring to bees
16 Dull, as clothing
17 Fish organ
18 "Is anyone ___ coming?"
28 Neighbor of Pakistan
29 State, centuries ago
30 Way past ready to go
35 Old-school "moves quickly"
36 Was head of the class?
37 "ChiPs" first name
38 Tear in two
39 Site of a biblical garden
40 Feeding tube?
41 Garlic-flavored mayonnaise
42 Not encountered as yet
43 Appreciate, to hippies
44 Folded part, as skin
45 Do penitence
48 Episode you've seen before
49 Old allowance for damage in transit
51 Up to one's elbows in a flooding
54 "Beg pardon?"
57 Legendary actor Peter O' ___
58 NYC transit org.
59 Country shaped like a boot
61 Wolflike scavenger

DEATH NOTICES

- JOHN D. BRUEN** (86), formerly of Alexandria, July 17, 2017
- BETTY BROWN** (78), formerly of Alexandria, July 11, 2017
- SARA "SALLY" EDWARDS** (63), formerly of Alexandria, July 13, 2017
- MARY ELLEN KANE** (87), formerly of Alexandria, July 17, 2017
- JANET CURTIS**, of Alexandria, July 10, 2017
- WILLIAM COLEMAN JR.** (96), of Alexandria, March 31, 2017
- CAROLE "CARLY" DOUGHERTY** (87), of Alexandria, July 10, 2017
- JAMES EUDY** (91), of Alexandria, July 7, 2017
- ROY "BUTCH" GIBSON**, of Alexandria, July 10, 2017
- BENITA PERALTA** (102), of Alexandria, July 5, 2017
- CLAUDINE MAHIN** (89), of Alexandria, July 9, 2017
- ARZA SMALLEY** (97), of Alexandria, July 6, 2017

Last Week's Solution:



- 62 Sounded like an injured animal
63 Green-lights
64 Mug filler at a banquet
65 Where the city of Qom is
66 Make legal, as a bill
67 Motion picture
68 Say bad words
69 Be literate, in a way
74 State of relaxing comfort
75 Make beer
76 Taxing, as a physical activity
77 Greek god of love
78 Male turkey
81 Former Vice President Agnew
82 Rich, hanging tapestry
83 Electing as a fellow member
84 Paris "Thank you"
88 Large, dark-red oval organs
- 90 Move like a rattler
92 Check endorsers, typically
94 Aquarium feature
95 Ill or not up to par
96 Winger who starred in "Urban Cowboy"
97 Zagreb native
99 "And ___ you have it!"
100 Some wealthy Mideast leaders
101 Fails to keep up (with "behind")
102 Thought that leads to something big
103 King ___
104 Ready, willing and ___
105 Golfer's selection, sometimes
106 Type of groovy lamp
107 Start for "while"

Classifieds

LEGAL NOTICE



ALEXANDRIA PLANNING DEPARTMENT
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

The following request has been received for administrative review and approval.

For information about this application or to comment, visit the City’s website at www.alexandriava.gov/planning or call (703) 746-4666.

Special Use Permit #2017-0080
261 S. Van Dorn Street – Current Business: The Club
Request for a new administrative Special Use Permit for outdoor dining for an existing restaurant; zoned CG/Commercial General Zone.
APPLICANT: Phil J. Chong
PLANNER: Madeleine Sims–madeleine.sims@alexandriava.gov
In accordance with section 11-500 of the zoning ordinance, the above listed request may be approved administratively by the Director of Planning and Zoning. If you have any comments regarding the proposal above, please contact Planning and Zoning staff at 703.746.4666 or email the planner listed no later than August 10, 2017.

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Oblon McClelland Maier & Neustadt has opening in Alexandria, VA for Technical Advisor. Responsible for writing technical specifications for patent applications involving mechanical arts utilizing education and experience in those disciplines; Translating and writing complete technical scientific documents. Master's or equiv + 1yr exp technical writing & analysis. Please apply by going to: <http://www.oblon.com/careers/legal-professional-positions/>. Your application must reference job title and job code: TA-CM.

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ABC NOTICE



Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control
2901 Hermitage Road / P.O. Box 27491, Richmond, VA 23261
www.abc.virginia.gov

RETAIL LICENSE APPLICATION—PART 2 (POSTING AND PUBLISHING)

PUBLISHING NOTICE

Please publish the following item in the legal notice section of your newspaper. Please refer to the instructions provided on page 9.

[Full name(s) of owner(s):] SALVETO LLC
If general partnership, enter partners' names or name of partnership. If LP, LLP, LLC or corporation, enter name as recorded with the State Corporation Commission. If association or tax-exempt private club, enter name. Only if a sole proprietor, enter first, middle and last name.
Trading as: SALVETO LLC (trade name)
6306 B Gravel Ave (exact street address where business will trade)
ALEXANDRIA (city/town)
FAIRFAX Virginia 22310 (county) (state) (zip + 4)

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a WINE WHOLESALER license (type[s] of license[s] applied for)

to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.
DMITRII CURBET - OWNER (name and title of owner/partner/officer authorizing advertisement)

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF LAURENS

Christopher Andrew Suber,
Plaintiff,
v.
Jamie Lynn Keel,
Defendant.

TO THE DEFENDANT(S) ABOVE NAMED:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the Complaint in this action, of which a copy is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your answer to the said Complaint on the subscriber at this office at Post Office Box 35, Anderson, South Carolina, 29622, within thirty (30) days after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to answer the Complaint within the time aforesaid, the Plaintiff(s) in this action will apply to the Court for the said relief demanded in the Complaint.

TO INFANT(S) OVER FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE (AN IMPRISONED PERSON):

You are further summoned and notified to apply for the appointment of a Guardian ad Litem to represent you in this action within thirty (30) days after the service of this Summons and Notice upon you. If you fail to do so, application for such appointment will be made by the Plaintiff(s) herein.

TO INFANT(S) UNDER FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE (INCOMPETENT OR INSANE) AND TO, (GENERAL OR TESTAMENTARY GUARDIAN) (COMMITTEE) WITH WHOM (S)HE/(THEY) RESIDE(S):

You are further summoned and notified to apply for the appointment of a Guardian ad Litem to represent said infant(s) under fourteen years of age (said incompetent or insane person) within thirty (30) days after the service of this Summons and Notice upon you. If you fail to do so, application for such appointment will be made by the Plaintiff(s) herein.

T. Matthew Bradley
T. Matthew Bradley, SC Bar # 73689
HARBIN & BURNETT, LLP
Post Office Box 35
Anderson, SC 29622
(864) 964-0333
(864) 964-0930 Facsimile
Attorneys for Plaintiff

Anderson, South Carolina
December 9, 2016

ABC NOTICE



Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control
2901 Hermitage Road / P.O. Box 27491, Richmond, VA 23261
www.abc.virginia.gov

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Trading as: SALVETO LLC (trade name)
6306 B Gravel Ave (exact street address where business will trade)
ALEXANDRIA (city/town)
FAIRFAX Virginia 22310 (county) (state) (zip + 4)

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a WINE IMPORTER license (type[s] of license[s] applied for)

to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.
DMITRII CURBET - OWNER (name and title of owner/partner/officer authorizing advertisement)

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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