



WMATA expands summer shutdown

Track work to last six days longer than expected

BY MISSY SCHROTT

After promising that the summer shutdown of all Alexandria Metro stations would be complete by Labor Day, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority announced on April 18 that construction has been extended by six days.

The construction involves extensive platform maintenance at the Brad-dock Road, King Street and Eisenhower Avenue Metro stations, and will cause all six stations

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INSIDE

Real Talk

Is owning a vintage home worth it?
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Sports

SSSAS girls' lacrosse team shoots for playoffs.
Page 16



PART 1 OF A SERIES

Scooters bolt into Alexandria

Dockless devices arrive in city, draw concern from residents

BY CODY MELLO-KLEIN

With spring in full bloom, the birds are out and chirping in Alexandria, and joining the flock, to the dismay of many residents, is a new breed of Bird.

Electric and nimble, the tech company Bird's dockless, motorized e-scooters are popping up on every sidewalk and street corner, not to mention the odd flower bed, in Old Town as part of the city's pilot program for the high-tech transportation phenomenon. And Bird is only one of seven flocks that have permits to roost in all parts of Alexandria.

SEE **SCOOTERS** | 10

PHOTO/MISSY SCHROTT

To add or delete

City councilors propose budget cuts to offset new spending

BY MISSY SCHROTT

Council held its preliminary add/delete session for the fiscal year 2020 budget on Tuesday night. During discussion, councilors widely expressed a commitment to finding a delete for every addition in order to maintain the existing tax rate.

The discussion was based on additions councilors have suggested for City Manager Mark Jinks' proposed \$761.1 million budget.

"This is probably the most important part of the budget process here as we work to reconcile amendments that each member of council has made," Mayor Justin Wilson said.

Based on the proposed additions, council will have to cut \$243,000 to balance the budget. While the additions total about \$838,000, the city's revenue in the proposed budget will go up by about \$595,000 from revenue re-estimates, a prisoner agreement from

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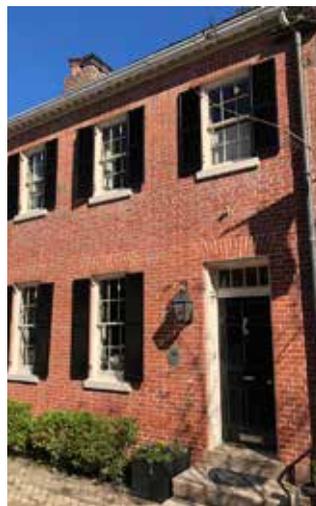
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WEEKLY BRIEFING

Don Hayes named assistant police chief

Don Hayes, a 38-year veteran of the Alexandria Police Department, was selected as the assistant chief of police operations, effective April 20, according to a news release.

“After a national search, Don was chosen for this position based on his extensive operational experience in local law enforcement and his long and valued service to Alexandria,” Alexandria Police Chief Michael Brown said in a statement.

Hayes joined the APD in 1981, was promoted to sergeant in 1996 and was promoted to lieutenant in 2000, according to the release. Throughout his time as lieutenant, Hayes commanded the Special Operations Di-

vision, Information Services Section and Public Services Section. He’s also served as assistant commander of the Patrol Operations Bureau, according to the release.

In 2013, Hayes was promoted to captain and commanded the Traffic, Parking & Special Events Division and a sector of the Patrol Operations Bureau. He also commanded the Community Relations Division, where he served as the department chaplain and has overseen the Community Policing Section, School Resource Officer Unit and School Crossing Guard Unit, according to the release.

Hayes has a master’s degree from Johns Hopkins University and Liberty Uni-



DON HAYES

versity Baptist Theological Seminary and a bachelor’s degree from Bowie State University. He is also a graduate of the FBI National Academy, according to the release.

- hhimes@alextimes.com

Firefighters put out apartment fire

Firefighters responded to a fire on the fourth-floor balcony of an apartment on Wednesday around 7:45 a.m., according to a tweet from

IAFF Local 2141.

The apartment building was in the 100 block of East Reed Avenue. Upon arriving at the scene, firefighters

found light smoke and a fire on the balcony and quickly extinguished the flames, according to the tweet.

- mschrott@alextimes.com

Native Plant Sale returns this weekend

The biannual Northern Virginia Native Plant sale returns to Park-fairfax this Saturday.

Now in its 16th year, the sale gives residents a chance to buy and sell plants native to Northern Virginia. The event takes place in



SCOTT KNUDSEN

the Church of St. Clement parking lot on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission is free.

“My aim is to promote native plant gardening in our area because gardening with natives is better for our watershed, woodlands and

wildlife, especially birds,” the sale’s founder, Scott Knudsen, said in a statement. “Bringing together many growers selling a variety of plants makes it easier for local gardeners to find quality plants and encourages a greater demand for natives in the nursery industry.”

- mschrott@alextimes.com

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PHOTO/CODY MELLO-KLEIN

Beto O'Rourke visits Alexandria

Democratic presidential candidate Beto O'Rourke stopped by Alexandria on April 17 as a part of his nationwide town hall tour. After an introduction by Alexandria City Councilor Canek Aguirre, O'Rourke took the stage at the Crowne Plaza Old Town Hotel to address and hear from his supporters, who packed into the room to see the former Texas congressman.

CRIME

Six convicted for roles in Alexandria motorcycle theft ring

Six people were convicted on charges related to a motorcycle theft and racketeering ring that operated in Alexandria from the spring of 2016 through the summer of 2017, according to a news release from the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney.

Those convicted include Phantha Bounthoung, 43, of Arlington; Austin Bunn, 23, of D.C.; Justin Bunn, 23, of D.C.; Marcellus Burns, 25, of D.C.; Domonique Bussie, 24, of D.C. and Marquis Nabi-

nett, 23, of D.C.

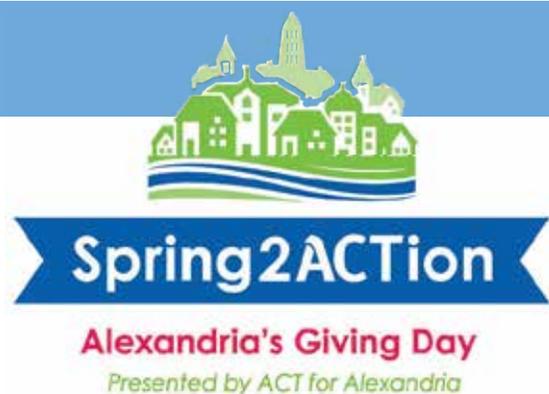
While investigating multiple reports of stolen motorcycles in the Northern Virginia and Maryland region, detectives had noticed a pattern wherein two motorcycles and a van would be stolen from the same area, according to the release. Detectives determined that the van was being used to transport the motorcycles.

In Alexandria alone, it is estimated that the organization is responsible for the

theft of about 30 motorcycles and other vehicles, according to the release.

"A complex racketeering organization that solicits orders for motorcycles and then steals the requested bikes to fill the orders is a serious criminal enterprise," Commonwealth's Attorney Bryan Porter said in a statement. "I would like to specifically commend the excellent investigative work by APD Detective Asonglefac."

- hhimes@alextimes.com



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Walter Densmore, G.W. high school athlete, dies at 79

Former Alexandrian made First Team All-Met, All-State

BY MISSY SCHROTT

Walter Cox Densmore Jr., a George Washington High School record-breaking basketball player, died from cancer on March 15. He was 79.

Densmore grew up in Alexandria, and made his mark on the city through basketball.

During his high school years, he set a single season scoring record of 506 points and a career scoring record of 1,099 points.

His senior year, he led the G.W. varsity basketball team to a first-place ranking in the metropolitan area and third in the state. The same year, Densmore was named First Team All-Met and First Team All-State.

"It was a lot of determination that he had," former



From left to right, former high school teammates Bob Garda, Jerry File and Walter Densmore Jr. at the Old Dominion Boat Club in 2008 after a Northern Virginia basketball reunion.

COURTESY PHOTO

teammate Jerry File said. "He practiced a lot, and ... he just had tremendous perseverance and wanted to make himself into a very good athlete."

Throughout high school, Densmore played alongside

several other talented basketball players, including Doug Yates, Mike Agee, Bob Garda and Mike Delnegro.

In addition to basketball, Densmore lettered for two years in varsity tennis and varsity golf.

"I think those sports helped him develop his coordination and they helped him develop his good footwork and his reflexes. While he was big and bulky, he was a pretty gifted athlete," File said.

Densmore was recognized for his athleticism in 1999, when the Alexandria Sportsman's Club named him one of the city's 100 greatest athletes. He's also been nominated this year for the Alexandria City Public Schools Athletic Hall of Fame. The Athletic Hall of Fame Advisory Committee will vote on nominees in May, and the winners will be inducted in October.

"I think the people of Alexandria, particularly ... a lot of the younger athletes really looked up to him and admired him for his tremendous athletic skills," File said. "He was a very good person to emulate because he was not only a good athlete but he was a good teammate, he was a good student and he was just a very fine person."

In addition to his success

on the court, Densmore excelled in the classroom as an honor roll student and member of the Quill and Scroll national honor society.

After graduating from G.W. in 1957, Densmore went on to play basketball on a full scholarship at the University of Virginia from 1958 to 1961. He spent three years as a starter, since freshman were at that time ineligible to play.

"He averaged around seven, eight, nine points a game while he was there," Densmore's son, Walter Densmore III, said. "The one he never let me forget, I think it was his last game ... at Cameron Indoor [Stadium] against Duke, he had 20 points, so that one, he never quit telling that story."

Upon graduating from UVA in 1961, Densmore served a two-year tour of duty as army commanding officer of the Roanoke Recruiting Station.

While he didn't move back to Alexandria, he returned often to visit his mother and his father, who served as associate director of the Mount Vernon Estate for 41 years.

It was at the Mount Vernon Estate that Densmore proposed to his wife of 58 years, Mary Kate Densmore, whom he had met in a train station during a layover as he was headed to Madison Square Garden for a basketball game.

Densmore spent the majority of his later years in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, where he worked for 27 years as the director of business services at the University of Alabama. He earned several awards and accolades during his time in the

SEE DENSMORE

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DENSMORE

FROM | 6

position, including a Distinguished Service Award from the governor of Alabama.

“He loved working at the university,” Densmore III said. “He was the director of business services at the university. He was the first one to have that title. ... He loved that job and loved the university.”

Densmore III said throughout his life, his father’s passion for basketball never faded.

“I played against him when I was growing up, just some pick-up ball. He liked to shoot the hook shot,” Densmore III said. “I’m not sure I ever beat him in a time test out on our driveway.”

Densmore III said his father continued to incorporate basketball into his life at the University of Alabama, through refereeing high school and college games, as well as playing pick-up games daily.

“He played pick-up ball there at the [Coleman] Coliseum every day at lunch for about an hour, hour and a half, up until he was about 50 years old, which probably led to his hip replacements,

but ... he continued to be pretty good up until he just finally said, ‘Ah, I’ve had enough pick-up basketball,’ Densmore III said.

In his retirement, Densmore was an avid golfer with a single-digit handicap. He served as president of the Country Club of Tuscaloosa and was also member of First Presbyterian Church, Indian Hills Country Club, the University of Alabama Tip Off Club, the Red Elephant Club and Phoenix Club.

Densmore was preceded in death by his parents, Walter and Dorothy Densmore of Whispering Pines, North Carolina. He is survived by his wife, Mary Kate; sister, Mary Lee Martin (Jerry); son, Walt Densmore III (Ann); daughter, Mary Nelson Notaro; grandchildren, Katie Pyle (Chris), Brown McMurray, Hannah Notaro, Rosie Notaro, Mary Jessie Densmore and Will Densmore.

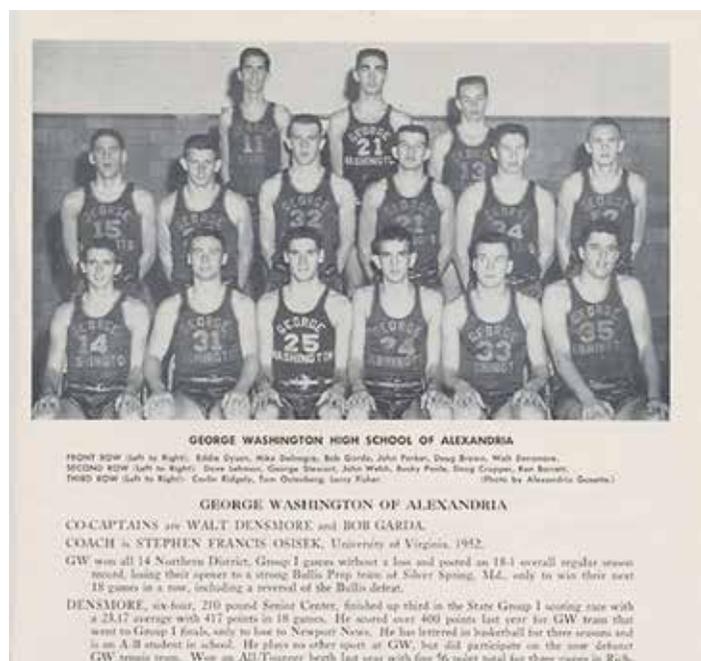
Densmore’s funeral took place last month. The family requests that those who wish to donate give to First Presbyterian Church of Tuscaloosa or the V Foundation for Cancer Research.

-mschrott@alextimes.com



I think the people of Alexandria, particularly ... a lot of the younger athletes really looked up to him and admired him for his tremendous athletic skills. He was a very good person to emulate because he was not only a good athlete but he was a good teammate, he was a good student and he was just a very fine person.”

- Jerry File, former teammate



GEORGE WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL OF ALEXANDRIA

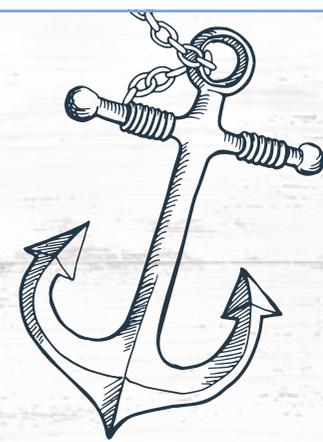
FRONT ROW (left to right): Eddie Sykes, Mike Delinger, Bob Garcia, John Parker, Doug Brown, Walt Densmore.
SECOND ROW (left to right): Dave Johnson, George Stewart, John Walsh, Rocky Pech, Greg Cuppen, Ken Bennett.
THIRD ROW (left to right): Eddie Riggs, Tom Ostendorf, Larry Fisher. (Photo by Alexandria Gazette)

GEORGE WASHINGTON OF ALEXANDRIA

CO-CAPTAINS are WALT DENSMORE and BOB GARCIA.
COACH is STEPHEN FRANCIS OSISEK, University of Virginia, 1952.
GW won all 14 Northern District, Group I games without a loss and posted an 11-1 overall regular season record, losing their opener to a strong Ballis Prep team at Silver Spring, Md., only to win their next 18 games in a row, including a reversal of the Ballis defeat.
DENSMORE, six-foot, 210 pound Senior Center, finished up third in the State Group I scoring race with a 23.17 average with 417 points in 18 games. He scored over 400 points last year for GW team that went to Group I finals, only to lose to Newport News. He has lettered in basketball for three seasons and is an A-B student in school. He plays no other sport at GW, but did participate on the now-defunct GW tennis team. Won an All-Terrace berth last year with four 56 point total for three games in Rich-

COURTESY SCAN

George Washington High School basketball team photo.

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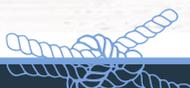


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Alexandria Home and Garden Tour

Alexandria's annual home and garden tour takes place Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. as part of the Garden Club of Virginia's 86th Historic Garden Week, the oldest and largest house and garden tour in the country.

Home and garden enthusiasts will be able to tour five historic homes and gardens in Old Town. All five homes are 200 years or older and two predate the Revolutionary War. Tickets are \$45 in advance and \$55 the day of the tour at either the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., or the Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 323 S. Fairfax St. Tickets can be purchased online at www.vagardenweek.org.

Each tour ticket also includes tea and light refreshments at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. as well as admission to Carlyle House, Lee-Fendall House, the American Horticultural Society at River Farm, Gunston Hall and Mount Vernon.

Proceeds fund the restoration and preservation of more than 40 of Virginia's historic public gardens, a research fellowship program and a Garden Club of Virginia centennial project with Virginia State Parks. Local restoration gardens include Green Spring Gardens and George Washington's Mount Vernon.

-cmelloklein@alextimes.com



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SCOOTERS

FROM | 1

While some residents view the scooters as a convenient way to get to the Metro or work, many are concerned about perceived public safety hazards caused by this disruptive technology and are left questioning the rules and regulations governing this new presence in Alexandria.

“I can honestly say that in all my years living in Old Town, I have never seen an issue ignite such immediate and strong concern as this one has,” Greg Wilson, an Old Town resident, said in an email.

A migrating flock

The city’s scooter pilot program is part of a larger, nationwide movement toward electric, dockless transportation, one that has swept through Virginia rapidly and, at times, unchecked like wildfire.

In August 2018, Bird descended on Richmond with a fleet of unsanctioned scooters. By the time the city



PHOTO / MISSY SCHROTT

Lime, Skip and Bolt are three of the scooter companies participating in the pilot program.

The sudden appearance of hundreds of scooters in Alexandria the last few months has left many residents outraged, while raising questions of accountability and safety. This is the first article in a multi-part series exploring the issue.

government learned of the new presence in its city, people were already riding the scooters.

Richmond officials sent out Department of Public Works employees to collect the scooters, and, by the afternoon of the same day, Bird scooters were off the streets. Richmond’s city council ended up approving a permit program for companies like Bird, which went into effect in March 2019.

A similar unpermitted rollout occurred in Arlington, which adopted its own pilot in October 2018. By that time, however, riders were coming into Alexandria from Arlington and D.C. on scooters that the city government had no way to regulate.

“This is really a story that’s played out across all these disruptive technologies whether it’s food trucks, whether it’s Uber and Lyft. They’re all technologies that kind of show up and force the government to catch up,” Mayor Justin Wilson said. “We said, ‘How do we put some sort of regulatory framework around these to determine whether this is something we want to figure out how to accommodate or just ban?’”

City council approved the pilot program on Nov. 13, 2018 and the first approved scooters began appearing in January 2019.

By this point, scooters were officially a presence in Virginia, and as local municipalities worked to control the flood of e-scooters, state

legislators rushed to craft a bill to regulate the devices. The bill passed through the Virginia General Assembly on Feb. 21, and Gov. Ralph Northam signed the bill in late March.

The bill outlines several regulations pertaining to the maximum speed – 20 miles per hour – and weight – 100 pounds – of the devices, while also mandating that riders use hand signals and yield to pedestrians. Riders must also be 14 years or older to ride a scooter, according to the bill, and are permitted to ride on sidewalks. Notably, the bill provided local governments the freedom to adapt these regulations to suit their particular needs – as well as the ability to ban scooters outright.

Alexandria city officials used that freedom to craft a pilot program that upheld many of the same rules and regulations, while prohibiting scooters on sidewalks. Other changes in Alexandria include a minimum age of 18 years, not 14, and the maximum speed is 15 miles per hour, not 20.

Six of the seven scooter companies permitted in the nine-month pilot program have begun operating in Alexandria. The seven permitted companies are Lime, Lyft, Bird, Bolt, Skip and Spin, which are currently operating, while Jump is permitted but not yet operational, according to Yon Lambert, director of the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services, and Christine Mayeur, Complete Streets Coordinator in T&ES.

Process and procedure

If a company wants to deploy scooters in Alexandria, it needs to fill out an application, provide certificates of insurance and pay both \$5,000 in surety bonds and a \$5,000 permitting fee in

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SCOOTERS FROM | 10

compliance with the Memorandum of Understanding, according to Mayeur. T&ES and its permitting department then reviews and signs the application and issues a permit.

The MOU outlines the rules and regulations that any company must comply with in order to operate in Alexandria.

According to the MOU, companies must respond “promptly,” or within two hours of a report or complaint from a user. The MOU also limits companies to a maximum of 200 devices, although companies can request an additional 25 devices if their 200 devices have been used an average of at least three trips per day. According to data gathered by T&ES, there are an average of 700 to 800 scooters deployed per day in total by all six companies operating in Alexandria.

Mayeur said she monitors the 200-device limit closely.

“Every time I see a number that’s over 200, even if it’s 202, I’m contacting [the company],” Mayeur said.

By design, the bulk of responsibility has been placed on the scooter companies. Per the MOU, the companies are charged with educating riders on parking rules and city and state laws and with providing data to the city.

At Tuesday night’s city council legislative meeting, Lambert talked about difficulties T&ES has encountered so far in enforcing the MOU and said the city has the ability to unilaterally change some aspects of the pilot program. Several changes are in the works, Lambert said, and T&ES employees will soon begin impounding scooters when permitted companies are in violation and non-responsive.

A disruptive technology

While the MOU is designed to keep companies in check, it does not control rider behavior, which remains a concern for many residents.

“I think the way it’s coming here, as it has in many communities, the technology is way ahead of the legislators. There are no regulations,” Mike Doyle, founder of Alexandria Families for Safe Streets, said. “... It’s a tragedy waiting to happen with the way these scooters are being handled by people that are oblivious to road safety rules, that blow through stop signs.”

There has been one reported crash and two minor injuries related to scooters, all of which were due to mechanical issues with the devices themselves, according to Mayeur. Virginia state law doesn’t require bike riders or scooter riders over the age of

14 to wear helmets.

It’s no coincidence that the number of complaints has risen exponentially in the last few months. The majority of the seven permitted companies rolled out scooters in late February and

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“ I think the way it’s coming here, as it has in many communities, the technology is way ahead of the legislators. There are no regulations. ... It’s a tragedy waiting to happen ...”

- Mike Doyle, founder, Alexandria Families for Safe Streets



PHOTO/MISSY SCHROTT

Scooters lie on the sidewalk on King Street.

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HOW THE SCOOTERS GOT TO ALEXANDRIA

A timeline of dockless scooters in D.C., Arlington and Alexandria

SEPTEMBER 2017

Dockless Bikeshare established in Washington D.C. and Montgomery County

MARCH 2018

Dockless scooters come to D.C.; Alexandria first sees dockless bikes



JUNE 2018

Dockless scooters come to Arlington

NOVEMBER 2018

Alexandria City Council approves a dockless scooter pilot program



DECEMBER 2018

Dockless scooter pilot program launches in Alexandria

Dec. 28

Permit issued to Lime

FEBRUARY 2019

Feb. 6

Permit issued to Jump

Feb. 12

Permit issued to Lyft

Feb. 21

Permit issued to Bird

Feb. 22

Permit issued to Bolt

MARCH 2019

Scooter bill signed by Governor Ralph Northam



APRIL 2019

April 3

Permit issued to Skip

April 3

Permit issued to Spin



SCOOTERS

FROM | 11

early March, just as the sun started to shine and flowers started to bloom. Lambert said 79 percent of the 22,000 trips that have been taken over the past four months of the pilot occurred in the last month.

Old Town and Del Ray have been hot spots for scooters, but the sheer number of scooters on Alexandria's streets has drawn intense opposition from residents who are tired of seeing toppled heaps of scooters in front of their doors and blocking sidewalks.

"A couple of weeks ago I came out of my house — I live in the Torpedo Factory apartments on North Union Street — to find two scooters blocking the sidewalk," Diana Banat, an 83-year-old resident, said. "They were too heavy and entangled for me to pick up and as I passed them, I tripped and almost fell."

Other residents believe the haphazardly parked scooters mar Old Town's historic charm.

"The residents here love its charm and the history we inherited," Michael Maibach, an Old Town resident, said in an email. "This is why tourists come here from all over the world. They don't come here to rent scooters, but to walk our sidewalks, enjoy our old homes and tall trees and see where George Washington once lived and gathered our nation's Founders."

Accounts from residents also noted underage riders and scooters barreling down sidewalks at high speeds.

The responsibility of educating riders might fall on the companies, but on-the-ground behavior rarely matches the safety guidelines outlined in an app's terms of agreement. Enforcement still falls on police and the city, and in Alexandria scooters present a new enforcement challenge for police officers

and city officials.

"The difficulty from our perspective sometimes is our ability to capture them. They move rather quickly and disappear rather quickly," Alexandria Police Chief Michael Brown said. "... We are working our way through that in trying to do the enforcement."

The pilot program's emphasis on corporate responsiveness has created a challenge for city staff.

Riders and pedestrians' first course of action should be contacting the company with complaints and reports, especially with parking, Mayeur said.

"They have the contractors, they have the staff on the ground that can come and respond," Mayeur said. "They have two hours per our MOU to respond."

If one of these companies does not respond within two hours, the city can confiscate the scooter in question. The company is then responsible for paying any penalties or fees incurred by illegally parking devices, according to the MOU.

SEE **SCOOTERS**

| 33

“

A couple of weeks ago I came out of my house ... to find two scooters blocking the sidewalk. They were too heavy and entangled for me to pick up and as I passed them, I tripped and almost fell.”

- Diana Banat, an 83-year-old resident of the Torpedo Factory apartments

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APRIL 27, 2019

10 A.M. – 2 P.M.

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Alexandria Fire Station 210
5255 Eisenhower Ave

The Neighborhood Pharmacy of Del Ray
2204 Mt Vernon Avenue

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The Neighborhood Pharmacy of Del Ray and Inova Alexandria Hospital both house permanent prescription drug drop-off boxes.

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- More people die accidentally from prescription drugs each year than all types of illegal drugs combined.
- Combining pain killers or anti-anxiety drugs with alcohol multiplies the effect—your heart or your breathing can stop.
- Drug-induced deaths now exceed deaths from motor vehicle accidents in more than 17 states.
- Most kids who abuse prescription drugs report they get them from their home medicine cabinets or from friends.
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- Convulsions
- Paranoid behavior
- Difficulty breathing
- Drowsiness
- Hallucinations
- Nausea and vomiting
- Non-reactive pupils
- Staggering or unsteady gait
- Sweating or extremely dry, hot skin
- Tremors
- Unconsciousness
- Violent or aggressive behavior

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Visit www.PreventItAlexandria.org to learn more.

Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Opioids for information and help with opioids.

WMATA

FROM | 1

south of Reagan National Airport to be simultaneously closed. WMATA announced the summer closure in May 2018, along with a timeline stating all work would be completed between May 25, 2019 and Sept. 2, 2019.

Now, just a month before work is set to begin, the transit authority has extended the project through Sept. 8. The six additional days are set aside to address longstanding design issues at the Braddock Road Station, according to a WMATA news release.

WMATA representatives attended city council's legislative session on Tuesday evening to discuss the new timeline and the work necessary at the Braddock Road Station. Those representatives found themselves on the receiving end of council's anger.

Mayor Justin Wilson and Councilor John Chapman were especially offended by the shutdown extension and how WMATA handled it.

"The announcement last week really was dumbfounding for us, especially the way it came out without any discussion," Wilson said. "It really erases a lot of the good collaborations that have happened and the good communication that's happened between the two entities."

Chapman said he found out about the extension through Facebook.

"You guys didn't even trust us to tell our staff ahead of time," Chapman said. "We got a public announcement about this. We didn't get an opportunity to talk about how best to situate ourselves with this. I found out on Facebook. ... To me that's unacceptable. To all of us that's unacceptable. To any elected official in this region that's unacceptable."

Wilson asked why WMA-



FILE PHOTO

The King Street Metro Station is one of six stations south of Reagan National Airport that will close for repairs this summer.

TA hadn't known sooner that it would need to do additional work at Braddock Road.

"Why were you not aware of this?" Wilson said. "You came to us [last year] and you said, 'We have a problem at these stations. We want to close to get that problem addressed.' I assumed, naively apparently, that you guys had done the work to determine the scope of that work. What I'm hearing now is that did not happen."

WMATA COO Joe Leader said different consultants have tried to identify what was causing the Braddock Road station's problem, which he described as a hump on the platform. Only recently did WMATA bring in a "great contractor" to do the invasive work required to find a solution to the hump, he said.

Chapman said he was concerned that fixing the problem would take more than six days.

"We're supposed to expect you to do this in six days?" Chapman said. "I'm not going to tell anybody that. ... I have no clue what's going to happen. None of us here do. Nobody in this community does. I'm not willing to go to bat for you. ... This is outrageous."

Faced with council's frustrations, Leader attempted to explain the reasoning behind

the shutdown's timing. He said WMATA had chosen to extend the shutdown an additional week to address the issues at Braddock, rather than closing the station on weekends for the next two months.

"We know it's impactful," Leader said. "Don't get me wrong. There's nobody sitting at this table, there's nobody at Metro that doesn't realize the work that we're doing is impacting this area. We understand that and when we make these decisions, we don't make them lightly. We're trying to do what we can to get this work done."

Despite Leader's and other officials' attempts to explain themselves, the councilors did not appear to be appeased.

"We are now in a bad place as far as explaining what's going on to the community," Wilson said. "We are now extending this shutdown into the worst commuting time of the year in this region, and it is a direct contradiction to what we have explained to the public about the impacts of this closure for a while, and it prompts, quite rightly, very valid questions about whether everything else we're telling the community about this shutdown is true and will meet reality."

-mschrott@alextimes.com

BUDGET

FROM | 1

the U.S. District Court of D.C. and the residential refuse collection fee. The difference in the proposed expenditures and proposed revenue increase leaves council to find \$243,000 in cuts.

Wilson and Councilor Canek Aguirre proposed different variations of budget cuts during the meeting, but council ended the discussion without reaching a consensus. Despite failing to agree on a direction for the cuts, Wilson said he was hopeful that council was on track to make a decision at the final add/delete session on April 29.

Some of the most debated areas of the budget were funding for a C-PACE startup contingency, a Family Unit Due Process Universal Representation Access Program, lights in trees along King Street and an additional \$100,000 for Alexandria City Public Schools.

Councilor Del Pepper proposed adding \$125,000 to the budget to fund the startup costs of C-PACE, a Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Program in Alexandria. The climate change initiative has been implemented in 32 states and is a recommendation in the city's environmental action plan, according to Wilson.

Aguirre and Councilor Mo Seifeldein supported cutting all \$125,000.

"It's not an immediate need as [compared] to others that are listed here," Seifeldein said. "I think the overall objective of the program is good, I don't think it's just ready for us yet."

Wilson said the program was an important step for the city to take toward reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

"I think this is a really good climate change initiative for us," Wilson said. "If we are going to make any progress on reducing green-

house gas emissions, it's going to have to be in existing buildings. We are simply not going to move the needle enough with new construction ... and this is the best thing we know how to do now to make progress on that."

Councilors also had mixed reactions about allocating an additional \$100,000 for ACPS. Jinks' budget proposal already recommends fully funding Superintendent Gregory Hutchings original request of \$232.3 million.

Councilor John Chapman, who proposed the addition, said the funding would help bridge the gap for retaining ACPS' custodial staff. In his budget proposal, Hutchings recommends eliminating the jobs of 30 custodians and replacing them with private contractors. ACPS would allegedly need \$500,000 to sustain all of the positions.

"If we want to turn everything over in our system to contractors, that can of course be the will of some folks, but I don't necessarily think that needs to be the case here," Chapman said. "The scary thing to me is that this signals to where ACPS is going to go with support staff."

Wilson countered that \$100,000 will not solve all of ACPS' needs, which according to a memo from the superintendent, total \$1 million.

"To fix all of that would require \$1 million, so \$100,000 doesn't fix any of that, it just fixes a tiny portion of it," Wilson said. "I don't think \$100,000 goes very far. My view is that ... while it's certainly difficult, this is something that if they want to fix the custodian issue, they can fix it."

Councilors also debated how much funding to set aside for the Family Unit Due Process Universal Representation Access Program, an inclusivity-based program that will reduce the negative impact of child and family sep-

“I think this is a really good climate change initiative for us. If we are going to make any progress on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, it's going to have to be in existing buildings.”

– Mayor Justin Wilson

aration policies, according to the proposal. In his add sheet, Seifeldein proposed \$150,000.

Throughout the session, Pepper advocated for her proposed \$34,800 addition to keep the tree lights on King Street up for 11 months of the year. Currently, the lights stay up for five months.

"It's very inexpensive ... for us to have them for 11 months and that's almost year-round," Pepper said. "I would really appreciate the support for that."

While the councilors spent a lot of time advocating for their various additions, Wilson repeatedly reminded them to exercise discipline and consider cuts as well. Both he and Aguirre proposed various cuts totaling \$275,000 to balance the \$243,000 in additions.

Wilson's proposal involved cutting the \$100,000 ACPS request, \$25,000 from C-PACE, \$50,000 from the Family Unit Due Process Universal Representation Access Program, \$15,000 from the King Street lights, \$25,000 from SNAP outreach and program expansion and \$60,000 in an additional equity city staff member.

"That's the kind of thinking we're going to have to do here to get this done," Wilson said.

Aguirre proposed a few variations of cuts, but his initial suggestion was to cut \$125,000 from C-PACE, \$100,000 from the \$200,000 early childhood capacity expansion proposal and \$50,000 from the Family Unit Due Process Universal Representa-

tion Access Program.

Councilors Amy Jackson and Elizabeth Bennett-Parker said they wanted to propose additional cut combinations before the final add/delete session on Monday.

"We have a couple scenar-

ios that have been stated. I suspect we'll have three more that show up over the next couple of days," Wilson said. "I think folks understand the kind of more disciplined thinking that's required to get to a zero number at the bottom line, and we'll have to hash this out on Monday."

The final add/delete session will take place in council chambers at 7 p.m. on April 29. Public comments will be accepted online until the final session. To submit a comment, visit www.research.net/r/Alexandria-VA-FY20AddDelete.

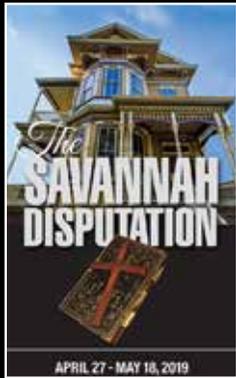
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PHOTO / SSSAS

One of the SSSAS girls' lacrosse senior captains, Kennon Moon, committed to play for Penn State after graduation.

St. Stephen's girls' lacrosse aims for playoffs with purpose

Team lost to rival Bishop Ireton in state championship last year

BY HANNAH HIMES

The St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School varsity girls' lacrosse team's word of the year is "purpose."

One of the team's three senior captains, Alex Burtnett, said it means going into each practice with a goal.

"[It's] striving to make the whole team better so that we can be successful throughout the season and when it really comes down to the nitty-gritty in playoffs," Burtnett said.

Last year, SSSAS went head-to-head against city rival Bishop Ireton in the state championship. B.I. won by just one point in a game that went into four overtimes,

something SSSAS Head Coach Kathy Jenkins said she hadn't seen in her more than 40 years of coaching.

To add insult to injury, most of the team's losses last year had been by one goal, Jenkins said.

"[It was] a little bit hard to take," she said.

This year, SSSAS is off to a successful start with a record of 15-1.

Captain Kennon Moon said the rivalry between SSSAS and B.I. is fun because

many members of each team have been playing against one another on club teams since they were little.

"You're playing against

people that you know and friends that you know, so it's fun to play against them, and it's always a competitive game," Moon said.

Jenkins said B.I. is a good team with a lot of good athletes.

"I think as we get into the tournament time and we play each other, it's always a very tight game and both teams play their hardest and their best," Jenkins said. "It just has built to every year, that

final game, everyone wants to do well and come out on top."



PHOTO/HANNAH HIMES

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SEE SSSAS

SPORTS

SSSAS

FROM | 16

This season, SSSAS has 18 scheduled games, with the possibility of six playoff games.

The team began preparing for the season on Feb. 25. The team doesn't come together to practice until the lacrosse season starts, but since a lot of the girls play in a winter league and several younger players play for club teams, they're still able to gain experience before the team officially starts practices, Jenkins said.

"At least they have a stick in their hand," Jenkins said.

Captain Caroline Burnett said this year, the team's chemistry is "blooming."

"We're all discovering each other's tendencies and stuff like that," Burnett said. "I think a lot of younger players are really stepping up this year. ... As we have like a month left, I'm excited to keep growing as a team and see what we can do."

Moon said she's enjoyed building relationships with underclassmen.

"I think this year we've definitely come together more as a team, both on and off the field," Moon said. "Going through the hallways, no matter what we're always like seeing each oth-

er, we're saying 'hi' to each other. I think it's definitely a team that isn't just on the lacrosse field."

Jenkins said the culture of the team is the mark of a successful season.

"It's not coming down to wins and losses but how you compete and come out and give your best every day," Jenkins said. "At the end of the day, what the girls remember is how much fun that team was to be on and how they were treated."

The team's captains said that lesson has stuck with them.

"It's how satisfied I, as an individual, feel and the team, really, feels at the end of the season about how we played, what we put into the season [and] what our goals were for the beginning of the season," Burnett said.

Burnett said she'll measure her personal success by looking back on the season and knowing she put everything she had into it for her team and her teammates.

"No matter if we win or lose at the end, no matter what our record is, no matter how anything ends up but just that I know personally that I gave everything I could to make the program a better program," Burnett said.

She added that taking the

VISAA title is something the team is striving for, but that they take it day-by-day and game-by-game.

SSSAS plays its next home game against Glenelg High School on Saturday at 11 a.m.

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PHOTO/SSSAS

One of the SSSAS girls' lacrosse senior captains, Caroline Burnett, committed to play lacrosse for Princeton. Additionally, goalie Emma Bradley will play for Rhodes.



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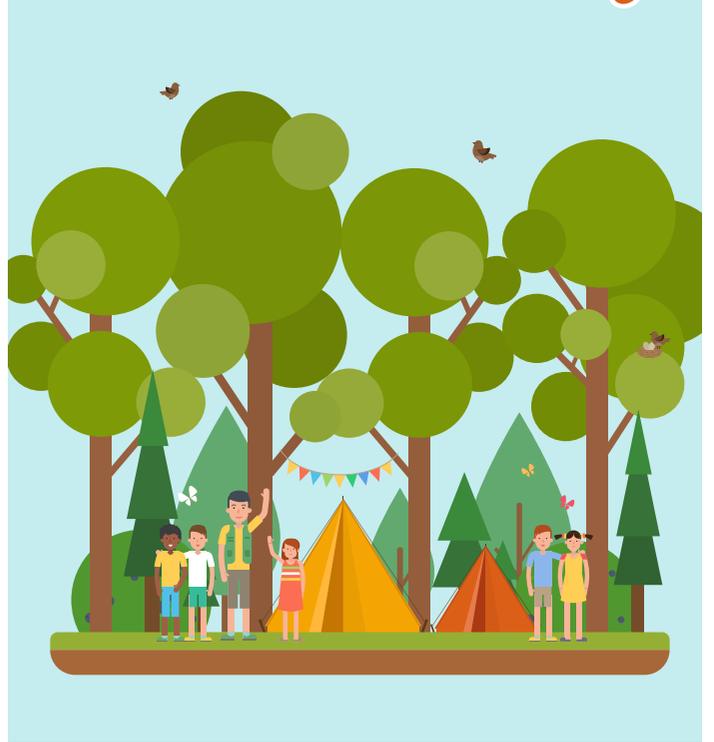


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SPORTS

ALEXANDRIA SPORTS ROUNDUP

The Alexandria Times sports roundup includes records and game results for the prior week in two sports per season for Alexandria's four local high schools: Bishop Ireton, Episcopal, St. Stephen's and St. Agnes and T.C. Williams.

This spring, the sports included are boys' and girls' lacrosse. We will also be running photos with captions from games and encourage readers to send timely photos for submission to newstips@alextimes.com.

GIRLS' LACROSSE

School	Record
Bishop Ireton	10-4
Episcopal	4-9
SSSAS	15-1
T.C. Williams	6-4

Scores the past two weeks:

April 17

B.I. W 9-5 vs. Glenelg

April 18

SSSAS W 13-7 vs. Sacred Heart

April 23

B.I. L 10-8 vs. Bayport-Blue Point

Episcopal L 17-2 vs. Stone Ridge

BOYS' LACROSSE RECORDS

School	Record
Bishop Ireton	7-7
Episcopal	11-4
SSSAS	11-3
T.C. Williams	6-5

Scores the past two weeks:

April 18

Episcopal L 15-9 vs. Bullis

SSSAS W 13-9 vs. St. Albans

April 23

B.I. W 14-2 vs. Maret School

Episcopal W 15-12 vs. Paul VI

Times Living

REAL TALK

Vintage homes are worth the effort

BY DR. DANNY SMITH, PH.D.

Vintage homes exhibit architecture of the past, whether it's measured in centuries, decades or years. They cover a range of styles, but what they all have in common is character. Some people think of vintage homes as properties with the kinks worked out and operating smoothly. Others think of them as a collection of older, and therefore cheaper, components and systems. Whatever your view, if you are thinking about purchasing a vintage home, there are some factors you will want to consider.

Alexandria has requirements that apply to properties in our two historic districts – the Old and Historic Alexandria District and the Parker-Gray Historic District. You need to know whether the property is in one of those districts. Also, there are certain properties



PHOTO/ALEKSANDRA KOCHUROVA

Vintage homes in Alexandria vary in architecture and style but display one commonality – character.

outside the historic districts that are subject to city requirements based, to a large

extent, on their age. Homeowner associations and condominium associations may

also impose requirements. Some properties are subject to deed restrictions, also

known as easements, that SEE **VINTAGE HOMES** | 26



Name: Danny Smith, Ph.D., PE

Company: TTR Sotheby's International Realty

Bio: Smith has worked with TTR Sotheby's International Realty for about four years. He hails from a family of builders who have constructed more than 1,000 homes, mostly in the Southeastern U.S. In addition to being a registered professional engineer, he has also served as a certified residential home inspector. Smith is currently the co-chair of the Historic Alexandria Resources Commission.

THE WELIVED

Misinformation about measles

What is measles? How do you catch it? Should you vaccinate against it? Dr. Vivek Sinha addresses these questions | Page 24

CALENDAR

April and May events

Attend Old Town's first ever Spring Carnival, participate in an Earth Day bike ride, purchase native plants and more | Page 28




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LIFE WELL LIVED

Sorting through misinformation about measles

BY DR. VIVEK SINHA

You've read about it in the papers and seen it on the news. Social media is talking about it. Regardless of how much you read or hear, information and misinformation about measles seems to be prevalent everywhere.

News outlets are reporting that measles is on the rise. What is measles, how do you catch it, and should you vaccinate against it? These are all viable questions and ones that I am often asked by patients and parents. Like most things in healthcare, it is important to start with the facts.

First, measles is a viral illness that causes fever, rash, cough, inflammation of respiratory membranes and a general feeling of discomfort

and pain. The problems with measles are that it can cause significant complications in patients and is highly contagious.

The Centers for Disease Control considers measles one of the most contagious infectious diseases. Respiratory droplets from an infected person can remain airborne for up to two hours. Some studies show that almost 90 percent of people who come in close contact with someone who has the disease will catch it.

Stages

There are four stages of measles that are important to understand: 1) the incubation period, 2) the prodrome period, 3) the exanthem period and 4) the recovery period.



FILE PHOTO

DR. VIVEK SINHA

On average, the incubation period lasts 13 days and usually starts when the

Measles is a viral illness that causes fever, rash, cough, inflammation of respiratory membranes and a general feeling of discomfort and pain.

person breathes in the measles virus. The infected person can spread the infection during this phase, before the person experiences symp-

toms. By the time the person starts to show symptoms, they have potentially been spreading it to others for five to six days.

The prodrome period usually lasts two to four days but can occasionally last as long as eight days. This is when the person starts to develop symptoms. Specifically, the person develops fever – potentially as high as 104 degrees Fahrenheit – a cough, a decrease in appetite and an overall feeling of fatigue. Inflammation of the membranes in the nose and throat, as well as redness of the eyes, also typically occurs.

The exanthema period typically starts two to four days after the onset of the

SEE MEASLES

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LIFE WELL LIVED

MEASLES

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fever. During this period, people develop the stereotypical rash that is associated with measles. The rash usually begins as small flat red spots that can often connect together as they start to spread. Typically, the rash starts on the person's face and spreads downward to involve the neck, upper chest, lower chest and then finally the arms and legs. During this phase, the person's neck glands can become swollen and painful.

The recovery phase can start as early as two days after the appearance of the rash, but the cough can persist for two weeks. Typically, if the fever continues for more than four days after the rash develops, it means that person is developing a complication of measles.

Complications

Complications, along with how easy it is to spread, are what make measles such a significant illness. Complications occur in up to 30 percent of patients, and usually affect one of three organ systems: the gastrointestinal tract, the pulmonary system or the neurologic system. Diarrhea is the most common complication and can become significant if it causes dehydration, especially if the affected person is very young or old.

Lung conditions, specifically pneumonia, cause the most measles deaths.

Neurologic complications of measles usually involve swelling of the brain, a condition known as encephalitis. This extremely serious condition develops in one patient for every 1,000 cases. Symptoms of this include severe headache, vomiting, stiff neck, seizures and coma. The death rate from this complication is high; it must be recognized quickly to give

the patient the best chance of survival.

Diagnosis and treatment

Measles is initially diagnosed clinically and then confirmed by blood tests. Patients who are suspected of having measles should be treated cautiously and avoid contact with others.

Unfortunately, there is no significant treatment for measles. While there has been some improvement in using high doses of Vitamin A and using anti-viral medications in severely ill people, the treatment is mostly supportive. In other words, if someone develops measles, we treat their symptoms. Treating fever, giving fluids, treating secondary infections as they occur and treating respiratory distress are the best options we have.

The best treatment is prevention. Currently there are two types of vaccines available in the United States: MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) and MMRV (measles, mumps, rubella, varicella). The American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Academy of Family Physicians and the Centers for Disease Control currently recommend that all children be vaccinated twice, once between 12 and 15 months of age and once between 4 and 6 years. Certain young adults may also require boosters.

In the past few years, more people have opted to not vaccinate themselves or their children. This is largely due to misinformation about the vaccine's safety and a lack of understanding of the dangers of measles.

In 2018, the CDC reported 17 separate outbreaks of measles, the majority of which occurred among unvaccinated people. The rest were associated with travelers who brought measles back to the U.S. Per the CDC, "As of April

19 2019, 626 individual cases of measles have been confirmed in 22 states."

Numerous medical trials and studies have confirmed that the measles vaccine is a safe, effective method of protection when given at the appropriate and recommend-

ed age ranges. There are people who should not get the vaccine: pregnant women, people with severe allergic reactions to a previous dose or people with significant immunocompromising conditions.

Unless you or your child

fall into one of these categories, talk to your doctor, get informed and get vaccinated.

The writer is the chief medical officer of Bellevue Medical Partners, an office and house call practice based in Old Town.

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REAL TALK

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have been granted, for example, to a preservation organization. Easements vary and may address the interior appearance of the property, the exterior appearance of the property or the open space of the property, among other things. Easements usually limit changes, additions and removals, and buyers of such properties need to understand those limitations.

Generally, tax credits are given when an easement is first granted, and continuing tax relief is offered in the form of reduced appraisals for tax purposes. The Alexandria Historical Restoration and Preservation Commission was created by the General Assembly and holds many of the easements in Alexandria. The Virginia Department of Historic Resources also holds easements in Alexandria, but



PHOTOS/DANNY SMITH

Danny Smith's home in Old Town is more than 200 years old. One side of the house features 18th- and 19th-century "graffiti."

seems to be less sensitive to local input on enforcement of those easements.

Another feature that vintage homes have in common is that major systems and components vary in age and

condition. In the absence of unlimited resources, buyers of vintage homes must evaluate the condition of those systems and components and be prepared to restore, repair or replace as needed. The

watchword for this consideration is inspection. There are many reputable inspection services and individuals who will evaluate systems and features including plumbing, electrical, HVAC, roof, drain-

age and appliances.

A general inspection may reveal clues such as floor cracks, wall cracks and uneven floors that suggest

SEE VINTAGE HOMES | 27



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REAL TALK

VINTAGE HOMES FROM | 26

structural issues. If so, consultation with a reputable structural engineer should be considered. An inspection for wood-destroying insects is essential. Most lenders will require that this inspection be performed not more than a specified number of days prior to closing, and the inspection is usually performed at the expense of the seller.

In this area, many homes have basements, and our geology results in the generation of radioactive radon gas in basements. Radon tests should be performed in un-

derground spaces where significant activity occurs.

With the current dramatically reduced inventory of properties for sale, there may be limited time to perform inspections. Also, making the purchase of a property contingent on an inspection may make the difference in your contract being accepted. That is the time for a pre-inspection. Most buyers will allow a prospective buyer to perform, at the buyer's expense, an inspection prior to making an offer. The pre-inspection typically provides the basis for a go/no-go decision. A post-offer inspection typically provides the basis for negotiating



PHOTO/ALEKSANDRA KOCHUROVA

Often, the effort that goes into owning a vintage home is significant, but being stewards of it and appreciating its character make it worth it, Danny Smith said.

items that will be repaired or replaced prior to closing.

As you refine your evaluation of a property, additional questions may arise about whether all plumbing and wiring is up to code, whether neighbors will be receptive to alterations you plan for your property, whether walls to be removed are load-bearing or whether any prior structural repair has been required.

Yes, the effort is significant, but being stewards of a vintage home and appreciating its character are worth it. My home is more than two centuries old. It speaks to me all the time, and I like what it says.

HOME OF THE WEEK

Rarely available home with waterfront view

This beautiful home is updated with hardwood floors and an open floor plan. The kitchen has granite counters, stainless/black appliances and a breakfast nook with sliding doors to the balcony.

The bath has a modern clear glass sink and custom cabinets for storage, clear glass tub doors and natural color tiles in the tub area. There is a Murphy double bed for overnight guests that is separate from the bedroom – a rare feature in a condo unit.

The building features 24-hour security and a front desk, a large convenience store, fitness center and sauna. Outside, find easy access to a bike and jogging path, an outdoor pool, picnic tables and grills for outdoor cooking.

This fabulous location can't be beat, with shopping and dining nearby, as well as an easily accessible bus stop to the airport and D.C. In addition, there is plenty of parking, all utilities are included in condo fee and pets are allowed.



This condo unit is updated and modern, in the perfect location facing the Potomac. The building has a large convenience store, fitness center and sauna, with an outdoor pool and grills.

COURTESY PHOTOS



AT A GLANCE

Location: 501 Slaters Lane, #921, Alexandria, 22314

Neighborhood:

Marina Towers

Price: \$419,000

Sq. Ft.: 840

Bed: 1

Bath: 1

Year Build: 1970

Contact:

Nora Partlow, Realtor

Eloise Brantley, Realtor

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Alexandria Times' Cause of the Month



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to secure the public policies and financial resources that are critical to provide affordable housing for low and moderate-income households in the City of Alexandria.

Want to learn more or see how you can help?

JOIN HOUSING ADVOCATES AT
WWW.NVAHA.ORG

APRIL 25

PLASTIC INTO PLARN: RE-PURPOSING PROJECT DROP-IN

Calling all do-gooders. The Carefull Knitting group need help to convert plastic bags into knittable and crochet-able plarn (plastic yarn). Plarn made during the drop-in will be used to make waterproof sleeping mats for homeless people. Volunteers will be on hand to help with the process for new and experienced knitters alike.

Time: 2 p.m.

Location: Kate Waller Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St.

Information: alexlibraryva.org

PRESERVING OUR RECENT PAST: CONSERVATION AND THE FUTURE OF TWENTIETH CENTURY BUILDINGS

As part of Architecture Week, Tom Jester, John Matteo, architectural conservator Alfonso Narvaez and others will lead a presentation on renewal of modern architecture, implementing innovative designs for historical properties and the development of conservation treatments for buildings, sculptures and monuments. Admission is free. RSVP at admin@nvfaa.org.

Time: 7 to 9 p.m.

Location: 201 Prince St.

Information: www.nvfaa.org/events-upcoming

KRIS KRISTOFFERSON AT THE BIRCHMERE

Kristoffer "Kris" Kristofferson is an American country music singer, songwriter, musician and film actor and is coming to the Birchmere. He is known for such hits as "Me and Bobby McGee," "For the Good Times," "Sunday Mornin' Comin' Down" and "Help Me Make It Through the Night." Kristofferson is the sole writer of most of his songs, and he has collaborated with various other figures of the Nashville scene and joined fellow country legends Waylon Jennings, Willie Nelson and Johnny Cash to form supergroup The Highwaymen.

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave.

Information: www.birchmere.com

APRIL 26

BUILDING SAFETY MONTH KICK-OFF CELEBRATION

Celebrate building safety and the professionals who help keep us safe. Building Safety Month is a public awareness campaign offered each year to help individuals, families and businesses understand what it takes to build and sustain safe and resilient structures. This year's theme is "No Code. No Confidence." This free event will include a proclamation by Mayor Justin Wilson and remarks by City Manager Mark Jinks, followed by lunch and exhibits from city departments and the local building community.

Time: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., training



PHOTO/NOVAPARKS.COM

APRIL 27

29TH CARLYLE HOUSE GARDEN DAY SALE Stop by the historic Carlyle House during Alexandria Garden Day to enjoy a free tour of the museum, enjoy live music and purchase handmade crafts by local artisans.

Time: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. • **Location:** Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St.
Information: www.carlylehouse.org

session runs from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Location: Market Square, 301 King St.
Information: www.alexandriava.gov/code

APRIL 27

SOPRANESSENCE HOSTS BENEFIT CONCERT FOR ST. JUDE

The ladies of the vocal ensemble Sopranessence will fill the hall of Convergence with melodies celebrating friendship, kinship, sisterhood and even frenemies to raise funds for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The event will feature unique arrangements of music from popular operas and operettas such as "Hansel and Gretel," "The Mikado" and Mozart's "Così fan Tutte;" audience-favorite musicals like "Miss Saigon," "Cinderella," "Wicked" and much more. Sopranessence has set a goal to raise \$1,000 for St. Jude. This fundraising goal will help provide day-to-day necessities for 20 families at St. Jude's short-term housing facility while their young ones receive treatment.

Time: 3 p.m.

Location: 1801 N. Quaker Lane
Information: www.sopranessence.org

86TH ANNUAL ALEXANDRIA HISTORIC HOMES AND GARDEN TOUR

Five of Old Town Alexandria's finest private homes and gardens will open to the public as part of Historic Garden Week in Virginia, the nation's oldest and largest collection of house and garden tours. The homes will feature beautiful floral arrangements created

by the members of the Garden Club of Alexandria and the Hunting Creek Garden Club, the tour's sponsors. This walking tour features private townhomes and secluded gardens located along the tree-lined streets of Alexandria's historic district, plus refreshments and a marketplace at The Athenaeum.

Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Location: Athenaeum, Old Presbyterian Meeting House, Alexandria Visitor Center
Information: www.vagardenweek.org

THE MARKETPLACE AT THE ATHENAEUM

Stop by the Athenaeum as part of a great day touring wonderful gardens and homes in Alexandria. The Hunting Creek Garden Club has curated a fabulous selection of vendors who will display their wares among the beautiful art in the gallery.

Time: 8:45 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Location: 201 Prince St.
Information: www.nvfaa.org/events-upcoming

OLD TOWN SPRING CARNIVAL

Step right up, folks, for the chance to win tons of prizes this spring during Old Town's first ever Spring Carnival. Fifteen of Old Town's finest boutiques are celebrating spring with carnival fun and games. Pick up a carnival ticket in any of the participating stores, then bring it into each store and try to win prizes on good old-fashioned carnival games. Get a ticket punched from all 15 stores and be entered to win the grand prize of a \$100 gift card from each store. Participating stores include Bellacara, Bishop Boutique,

SEE CALENDAR

CALENDAR

CALENDAR

FROM | 28

Hooray for Books!, Monday's Child, Old Town Books, Penny Post, Pink and Brown, Red Barn Mercantile, Stitch Sew Shop, The Dog Park, The Hive, The Shoe Hive and Threadleaf.
Time: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Location: Old Town
Information: www.visitalexandriava.com/events

"THE SAVANNAH DISPUTATION" AT THE LITTLE THEATRE The subject is damnation, but "The Savannah Disputation" is as light and sweet as the iced tea served by the odd-couple sisters in their proper southern home. Sisters quickly lose their southern charm when a young door-to-door evangelist comes knocking to save their souls. This theological comedy with a twist blends sharpness of wit with depth of character while telling a story of a crisis of faith.

Time: 8 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays; 3 p.m. Sundays until May 18

Location: Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St.
Information: thelittletheatre.com

NORTHERN ALEXANDRIA NATIVE PLANT SALE The largest native plant sale in the D.C. Metro area, the Northern Alexandria Native Plant Sale hosts 15 vendors from four states selling a variety of plants ranging from perennials and shrubs to trees for sun or shade. The event is free.

Time: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Location: 1701 N. Quaker Lane
Information: www.parkfairfaxnativeplantsale.org

EARTH DAY BIKE RIDE Bike to see recent or planned infrastructure projects designed to improve Alexandria's water, air and quality of life. This family-friendly ride, organized by Alexandria's Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, begins and ends at Alexandria's Earth Day celebration. This five-mile ride will go through the Potomac Yard and Del Ray neighborhoods.

Time: 9:30 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m.
Location: George Washington Middle School, 1005 Mount Vernon Ave.
Information: alexandriabpac.wordpress.com/about

APRIL 28

ALEXANDRIA LOVE YOUR PET DAY BLOCK PARTY A fun, free event for the whole family celebrating everybody's love of pets. In 2017, a group of West End pet businesses worked with the mayor and city council to declare an annual Alexandria Love Your Pet Day, hosting a block party to commemorate this announcement. Last years' event engaged more than local businesses and a dozen nonprofits and attracted over 600 attendees and their four-legged friends with a variety of food trucks and children's entertainment.

This year's block party looks to be even bigger and better. Well-behaved pets are welcomed on-leash.

Time: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Location: Along Roth and Colvin streets
Information: www.alexandrialoveyourpetday.com

35TH PARKWAY CLASSIC 10 MILE, 5K AND KIDS DASH

The Parkway Classic is Alexandria's hometown race, and so much more, with the Parkway route connecting two of the area's most historic spots. The starting gun fires steps from the picturesque George Washington's Mount Vernon. From there, participants travel down the tree-lined George Washington Memorial Parkway to charming Old Town Alexandria. In addition to the 10-mile distance, a 5K and kid's dash are available. The Parkway Classic supports the Boys and Girls Club of Alexandria.

Time: 8 a.m.
Location: Starting places vary
Information: www.parkwayclassic.com

HOTEL INDIGO BLOCK PARTY FOR GW PARKWAY CLASSIC

The Hotel Indigo Old Town will host a block party for runners and spectators of the Pacers' GW Parkway Classic, complete with a DJ, cheer station, poster making and doughnuts and breakfast sandwiches for sale via the Astro Doughnuts & Fried Chicken food truck. With Sotheby's offering water for runners and a DJ spinning upbeat music, the hotel will offer spectators poster-making supplies to cheer on their loved ones, as well as comfortable furniture on which to cheer runners at the Union Street entrance. Lululemon will be setting up their cheering station, and Pizzeria Paradiso will offer complimentary breakfast biscotti.

Time: Starting at 8 a.m.
Location: 220 S. Union St.
Information: hotelindigoodtownalexandria.com

METROPOLITAN SCHOOL OF THE ARTS SPRING BALLET

Metropolitan School of the Arts will perform its spring ballet, "Coppelia," the story of Swanhilda, a young girl who appears magically to bring a doll to life. The show is geared toward all ages, and families are welcome. Tickets are \$15 per person.

Time: Shows at 12:30 and 3:30 p.m.
Location: 5775 Barclay Drive
Information: www.metropolitanarts.org

CARPENTER'S SHELTER COOK-OFF Come along for the biggest food fight of the year, as some of the area's top-rated local restaurants serve sample-sized portions of their best dishes. Enjoy this culinary tour of Alexandria, bid on hot-ticket items during live and silent auctions, try your luck at raffles and hear live music by the Alpha Dog Blues Band. Tickets are on sale now and proceeds support Carpenter's

Shelter's mission to prevent and end homelessness.

Time: Noon to 3 p.m.
Location: The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave.
Information: www.carpentersshelter.org

APRIL 29

CAREGIVING 101: PRESENTED BY AMY GOYER

Amy Goyer is AARP's family and caregiving expert and author of "Juggling Life, Work and Caregiving." Goyer will share her personal journey caring for her parents, grandparents and sister. Drawing upon 35 years working in the field of aging, she'll share hard-earned practical tips for navigating caregiving and finding strength and resilience while savoring the humorous and joyful moments along the way.

Time: 7 p.m.
Location: Kate Waller Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St.
Information: alexlibraryva.org

APRIL 30

DÍA DE LOS NIÑOS/DÍA DE LOS LIBROS

Celebrate children and books with a bilingual story time in Spanish and English. Food and crafts will be provided. Translators will be on site. All ages are welcome and families are encouraged to come.

Time: 5 p.m.
Location: 2501 Commonwealth Ave.
Information: alexlibraryva.org

MAY 3

CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION AT URBANO 116

Kick off your Cinco de Mayo celebrations with Urbano 116. This event features a special dinner inspired by the Battle of Puebla, a battle that took place on May 5, 1862 during the French-Mexican War. Dinner will feature a special menu by Head Chef Alam Mendez, carefully paired with cocktails by guest bartenders Marco Aurelio Dorantes, World Class Mexico Bartender 2018 and Emilio Valera, a native of Puebla, World Class Mexico finalist 2015 and winner of the Absolut Academy Pro 2014.

Time: 6 to 9:30 p.m.
Location: Urbano 116, 116 King St.
Information: 571-970-5148

FOSTERING THE FUTURE GALA 2019: CAPTAIN'S NIGHT

The Fund for Alexandria's Child hosts its annual Fostering the Future Event — Captain's Night — to support the work of the fund in providing life enriching opportunities for children in foster care and those at risk of abuse and neglect. Come along for a memorable evening with exciting live and silent auction items, an oyster bar, hors d'oeuvres, cocktails, music and dancing.

Time: 7 to 10 p.m.
Location: Hummingbird, 220 S.

Union St.
Information: www.alexandriava.gov/thefundforalexchild

"SACRED FEMININE"

The "Sacred Feminine" art exhibit explores the essence of female energy, the power of life and birth; it connects that energy to ideas, expressions, dreams, life and all of existence. We all have masculine and feminine qualities inside of us. The exhibit is at Del Ray Artisans gallery from May 3 through June 2.

Time: Opening reception from 7 to 9 p.m.
Location: 2704 Mount Vernon Ave.
Information: www.delrayartisans.org

ART ON THE ROCKS Art on the Rocks challenges local mixologists to each create the most artistic cocktail and appetizer pairing, inspired by a piece of art by a local artist, exhibited in The Art League's gallery. Ticket holders will get to sample all of the delicious pairings and vote for their favorite during the event.

A panel of experts will crown the winners of the most creative cocktail, appetizer and artwork pairing and announce the crowd favorite.

Time: 7 to 10 p.m.
Location: 105 N. Union St.
Information: www.theartleague.org

MAY 4

SCHOOL OF ROCK ALEXANDRIA GRAND OPENING

Get ready to throw up the horns and head bang: School of Rock Alexandria, a new music school for aspiring rockers, is celebrating its grand opening. Come out for family fun and kid-friendly events, featuring regional School of Rock house bands performing live as well as a ribbon cutting and guitar smashing ceremony. Free trial lessons will be available alongside a guitar and amp raffle.

Time: Noon to 6 p.m.
Location: School of Rock Alexandria, 3260 Duke St.
Information: alexandria.schoolofrock.com



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Our View

A scooter invasion

There's an old tale, likely an urban legend, that in 1895, when the first two automobiles arrived in an Ohio town, they promptly drove down Main Street and crashed into each other. The new transportation technology was poorly understood and unregulated and, not surprisingly, resulted in disaster.

True or not, that story is analogous to what's currently happening in Alexandria with motorized scooters.

In January, scooters started popping up all over Alexandria, mostly in Old Town and Del Ray, to no fanfare and with little warning. During the past few months, more and more scooters have appeared bearing the names of six separate companies, with a seventh approved but not yet operational.

Under a nine-month pilot program approved last November, more than 1,400 scooters can potentially, and legally, roam city streets and be deposited on sidewalks throughout Alexandria.

In a multi-part series that begins today on page one with the story, "Scooters bolt into Alexandria," the Times will explore various aspects of the scooter issue. We will do likewise on our opinion pages, both in editorials and in letters from readers.

As council began discussing the issue near the end of Tuesday night's marathon budget work session/legislative meeting, Mayor Justin Wilson jokingly said, despite the public outcry, if scooters are the biggest problem facing Alexandria, then our city is clearly in good shape.

While the mayor is technically right – scooters don't pose an existential threat to our city – it's also difficult to recall an issue that caused as much disruption in such a short time in Alexandria.

There are many facets to this topic. Like many technological innovations, dockless scooters have sprung up seemingly overnight and spread like kudzu through a southern field. Cities have been left playing catch up, as across the country, e-scooter operators have set up shop first and asked for permission later, and then only when they were forced to do so.

So our pilot program is a reaction to an existing reality. Which is not to say that scooters can't be rounded up and expelled if Alexandrians decide we don't want them.

Our chief concern right now is with the process. Why didn't we ban the unauthorized scooters when they cropped up last year and have a discussion about whether they're wanted or appropriate in Alexandria before launching a pilot?

Pilot programs, when advocated by city staff as this one appears to be, quickly become fait accomplis. "Success" is measured by usage data, without a city-wide discussion about whether such usage is even desirable.

Put another way, not every technological innovation is a step forward. We are reminded of the old Steve Martin movie, "The Jerk," in which Martin's character invents a new form of eyeglasses, that, unfortunately, result in vision problems for wearers. A millionaire after the innovation, Martin winds up broke and homeless after being sued.

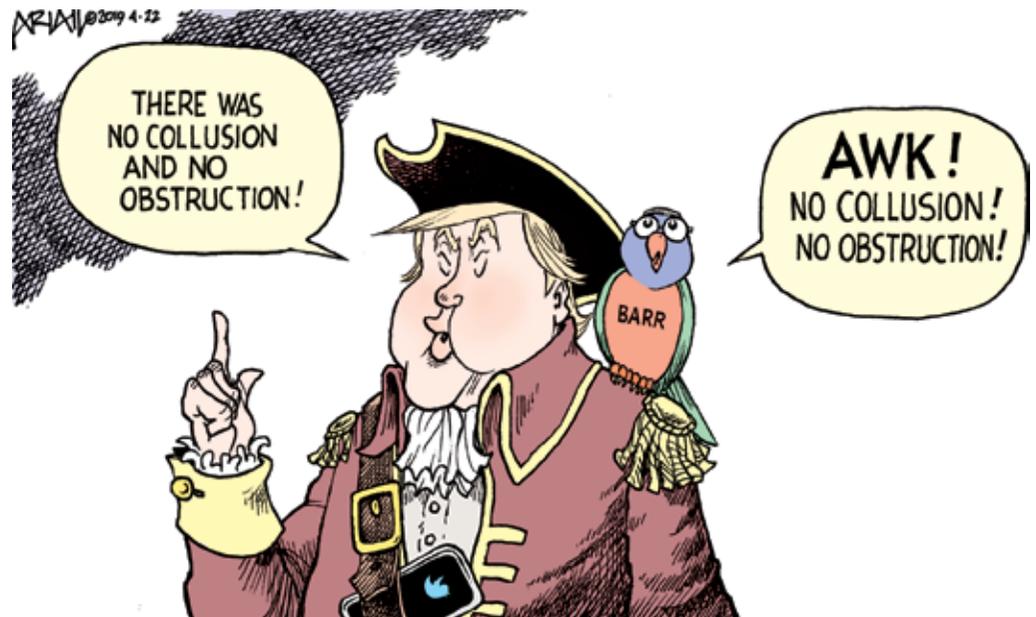
And so we ask, would scooters be a net gain for Alexandria? What are the potential benefits and do they counteract the obvious drawbacks in safety and aesthetics?

Like city council members, we have been hearing from

Opinion

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

- Thomas Jefferson



Your Views

Public safety must be budget priority

To the editor:

City council is engaged in what I believe is their most challenging annual task: finalizing the city's budget. Because budget dollars are a finite resource, they must prioritize between competing requirements that are all important.

That said, it is my opinion that public safety must always be the highest priority. Without it as a foundation for life in the city, all else that might be provided in any budget is rendered moot.

With that as perspective, I am writing to bring visibility to two critical public safety issues, both within the Alexandria Fire Department: compensation and placing four firefighters instead of three on all AFD engines, per federal guidelines. It would by no means break the budget to correct them both, and I believe strongly that we should.

To compare compensation, Alexandria lags behind all other Northern Virginia

jurisdictions in compensation for all classification titles and has the lowest starting salary in the region. Our non-competitive salaries hurt recruitment and retention. More than half of our EMTs and firefighters have less than 10 years of service and experience, and one-third has less than five years.

It costs more than \$100,000 to train and equip one firefighter, and more than \$8,000 for one paramedic certification. By lagging behind in both starting and career compensation in the AFD, the city is truly being pennywise and pound foolish. We simply cannot afford the loss of personnel and the investment we've made in their training. We must stem the bleeding in both recruitment and retention.

With respect to engine manning, federal research and field experiments established the four-person engine crew as the

Your Views

Why do we accept mediocrity?

To the editor:

My wife and I are long-time residents of Alexandria and have lived in Old Town for the last 24 years. We love the city for its charm, history and character. We appreciate the standards that the city maintains to ensure that the historic fabric of the city is retained. Therefore, it saddens me to see that mediocrity, or a lesser standard for the quality of road and sidewalk reparations by the gas company appears to be acceptable.

We are lucky enough to be able to spend several months of the year in a small village in a commune where quality of life is paramount, and where the commune ensures that the inhabitants get the full benefit of the taxes and the services that are promised. The concern extends, to among many other services, road construction and repair.

In the 15 years of our residence in the commune, the roadways have been well constructed and maintained. Yes, it goes below freezing from time to time and with few exceptions, even the tiny rural roads are smooth and not pock-marked. Where there is a repair, one can see the outline of the work but barely feel the bump as one drives over it.

That brings me to the problem I have with the work that is being done by the gas company as they perform maintenance on the gas lines throughout the city. I focus on Old Town because I can't help but notice the work being done and what is left behind when they are finished. I accept that the work needs to be done, and I accept the inconvenience that it entails for the drivers

and pedestrians. What I cannot accept is the condition of the road or sidewalk that remains when they have finished the job.

The work done in the streets or in small areas on the sidewalk is a disgrace. Sometimes the work goes up public driveways and into alleys. In those cases, their past presence can't be missed because their work leaves uneven patches or ruts in the streets and asphalt patches where there once were neatly aligned bricks or smooth concrete. Instead of replacing the bricks that are removed to perform the work, the bricks are laid aside or on top of the asphalt patch.

This work is less than mediocre. The city should strive for a much higher quality of repair. City leaders should demand that streets, sidewalks and driveways be restored to what pre-existed, or to a level of quality that makes clear to the drivers on the streets and to the many pedestrians that safety and appearance of the city is the priority.

Consider the tens of thousands of gas fixtures that need to be maintained. Imagine the ugly patchwork of uneven, rutted streets and sidewalks that would be created if the gas company is allowed to continue with their slap-dash fill-ins to their excavations. The City of Alexandria must raise the bar in their contracts for the restoration of the places which are disturbed by the work the gas company performs. It is the least that the residents of Alexandria deserve.

*-Erick Chiang,
Alexandria*

OUR VIEW

FROM | 30

people all over town who have observed unsafe use of the scooters and who are outraged that they've been dumped throughout our historic city like trash.

A Rosemont resident reported that a scooter was left in a flower bed in her yard on a side street. An Old Town resident said she saw someone "surfing" down King Street, helmetless, with one foot on an electric scooter and the other on a rolling chair.

We are hard pressed to see the benefits of e-scooters in Alexandria. While

some people may commute on them, our non-scientific observation is that the vast majority of users in Alexandria are joy-riders, many under-age, going down city streets – or sidewalks – without helmets.

We think their presence in Old Town detracts from the experience of visitors who come to see our history. We know they detract from the livability of residents, like the 83-year-old woman who tripped on scooters sprawled on the sidewalk in front of her condo.

Before being blinded by twigs, we need to step back and consider the forest.

Fully fund our firefighters

To the editor:

I am the president of the Alexandria Fire Fighters Local 2141 and am writing this letter on behalf of more than 255 active and retired members of the Alexandria Fire Department.

Local 2141 members understand that budget dollars are finite. There are many different competing interests and council must make decisions based on the best interests of the citizens. This forces council members to prioritize between competing interests that are all important and valued.

That said, we believe the safety of the citizens and providing them with a safe city in which to reside must be the highest priority of city council.

We urge your support on two critical public safety issues. Both are within the Alexandria Fire Department, and we believe both can be corrected in the budget. They are: compensation and finally meeting the federal standard of manning all Alexandria Fire engines with four firefighters rather than three.

Alexandria Fire and EMS personnel remain behind all other local jurisdictions in compensation when salary has been normalized for hours worked. In other words, the firefighters and paramedics in Alexandria work a 56-hour week. Not all fire departments in the Northern Virginia and D.C. region work a 56-hour week – many work far less. When salaries are adjusted for hours worked, Alexandria is the lowest paid department in this region.

The Alexandria Fire Department has the lowest starting salary of all nearby localities, including Loudoun, Prince William, Fairfax and Arlington counties. The next lowest, Arlington, will be compensated more than \$6,500 higher than Alexandria firefighters and

paramedics in fiscal year 2020.

When looking at the average starting salary across all the localities, Alexandria will be more than 14 percent lower than that average. Our poor recruitment and retention reflect the importance of fair compensation. The Alexandria Fire Department loses a significant portion of our candidates in each class and during the recruitment process because they opt to work for other, better paying departments.

In the last three years, we have lost an average of 6.5 firefighters and paramedics to other departments. Since July 1, 2018, we have lost three firefighters to neighboring jurisdictions and a total of 12 firefighters and paramedics overall.

It takes years to hone the crafts of firefighting and paramedicine, not to mention learn the ins and outs of the city we serve. We cannot continue to lose highly qualified and well-trained firefighters and paramedics.

Council needs to request that the city manager present a budget in November 2019 that compensates our fire and EMS personnel 100 percent of the average of the region.

In addition, federal studies have proven that four firefighters on engines is the safest, most efficient staffing model. There is no excuse for Alexandria to not meet the federal standard for optimum fire suppression staffing. It is a matter of life and death.

We can achieve this minimum standard in the Alexandria Fire Department with a SAFER grant. I am writing to implore you to accept and fund nine firefighter SAFER grants in FY20.

*-Megan Ellzy,
president,
Alexandria Fire Fighters
Inc. Local 2141*

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OUT OF THE ATTIC

Alexandria's Union Station, a historic hub

One of Alexandria's latest entries on the National Register of Historic Places is Union Station. Still very much in use, the station is a reminder of the golden era of rail travel. Built in 1905, the colonial revival architecture stands out as the only of this style among Alexandria's public buildings.

While its official address is Callahan Drive, the site was chosen for its proximity to Duke and King streets, which brought cattle and agricultural produce from the western parts of Virginia along Little River Turnpike and Leesburg Pike. Like other stations with the same name, Union Station was so named as it was used by a number of different railroads. Alexandria's station served three railroads: The Chesapeake and Ohio, Washington Southern Railway and the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railway.



PHOTO/OFFICE OF HISTORIC ALEXANDRIA

There are two interesting facts about the station we'd like to highlight. The first is that the name of the original architect has been lost to history. The blueprints for the station that are available list the architect as the Office of the Chief Engineer of the Pennsylvania Railroad in Philadelphia.

Those blueprints reflect their segregated times, with separate waiting rooms and

restrooms, which have long since been integrated. This historic building, which is unique to us, was just one of many built from these blueprints at the time of its construction.

Second is the fact that while Union Station is part of Old Town now, it was originally in Arlington County. Alexandria didn't annex the land until 1915.

The decline of rail travel in Northern Virginia

has a multitude of causes. The Great Depression, the rise of personal automobiles and the construction of George Washington Memorial Parkway in 1932 all played a role in the loss of importance of passenger railroads.

The station was taken over by Amtrak in 1971, and after the construction of the King Street Metro station next door in the 1980s, the City of Alexandria restored Union Station in 1997. Modifications that had been done in the name of utility were reversed to restore the building's aesthetic charm.

The station still operates today, and has regained its place as a passenger hub for commuters. In 2016, it was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

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

SAFETY

FROM | 30

best staffing model, including one advanced life support provider on the engine. In trials, all tasks were completed more efficiently, less time was spent on scene and injury potential to fire per-

sonnel was reduced.

Specifically, as compared to three-person crews, four-person crews completed trauma tasks more than two minutes faster, fire suppression tasks more than five minutes faster and high-rise fire suppression

tasks 12 minutes faster.

AFD does not currently have four-person crew manning across all of its engines, and it can be a matter of life and death.

If you agree that fixing these critical public safety issues in the budget is a pri-

ority, I urge you to please consider reaching out to all members of the council through "Call.Click.Connect" and request that they do so. Time is of the essence, as lives are potentially at stake.

*-Dan Koslov,
 Alexandria*

Weekly Poll

Last Week

What do you think about the city's decision to allow 100 seats at the new Del Ray Gardens restaurant?

- 39%** - They should have been allowed to have the maximum number code currently allows, 155.
- 29%** - They should have been limited to the original number of seats, 64, approved in September.
- 21%** - Council's compromise seems about right.
- 12%** - I don't know.

This Week

[Take the poll at alextimes.com](#)

What's the most important aspect of the budget add/delete process?

- A) To fully fund public safety.**
- B) To add the requested \$100,000 to city schools spending.**
- C) To offset every add with a delete rather than raise taxes.**
- D) All of the above.**
- E) None of the above.**

SCOOTERS FROM | 12

“One thing that we can certainly do is impound vehicles,” Lambert said. “That’s one area where we’re looking at whether we might need to start doing a little more frequently because of the concerns with improper parking.”

T&ES staff will more aggressively patrol hot spots like Old Town and Del Ray for violations during the duration of the pilot, according to Lambert.

In the most extreme cases, if an operator does not correct a violation of the MOU within one week, the city can suspend or revoke its permit with the operator, although T&ES has not yet taken this action. In response to a question from Councilor John Chapman at Tuesday’s legislative meeting, Lambert also confirmed that the city has the right to unilaterally end the pilot at any time.

Four months into the pilot program, city staff is facing tremendous pushback from the public on a program that is, by pure statistical usage metrics, a success.

“We think people are using them and using them properly to get to transit, but we’re also seeing things that give us pause,” Lambert said. “We are seeing a lot of scooters that are being improperly parked and they’re being parked where they are blocking ramps or entrances and exits to businesses. We have lots of concerns about safety.”

More than 100 city residents signed a letter addressed to the mayor, members of city council and the city attorney that urged staff to cancel the pilot. Meanwhile, the numbers indicate that the program is popular with riders.

Moving forward in the pilot, T&ES staff, alongside police, are trying to adapt to and accommodate a disruptive new presence, Lambert said.



Left: A young woman rides a Bird scooter on King Street.



Right: Bolt and Lime scooters parked in front of la Madeleine at the corner of King and Pitt streets.

PHOTOS/MISSY SCHROTT

The APD aims to start conducting targeted enforcement efforts on weekends to tackle the highest volume of scooter-related traffic violations, Brown said, and T&ES is exploring ways to mitigate the parking issues that plague the program.

“We have been looking at where it wouldn’t impact parking and where we have

the space on the street to designate some spaces for the scooters to either be staged or parked by users and then asking that the vendors reflect that in their apps,” Mayeur said.

According to Lambert, T&ES is also looking at ways to work with operators to geofence certain areas in Alexandria so that the apps

prohibit riders from parking in those areas.

The pilot program is still in a fledgling state, even as riders rush to take flight and city officials, police officers and residents try to adapt and wrestle with a disruptive technology.

“I think we need to come up with a set of rules that works for Alexandria. If

that means [scooters are] not part of the future, that’s certainly fine. If there’s some way to come up with a set of rules that makes sense, then that works too,” Wilson said. “... The question is, ‘Is this something that’s like [Uber] or is this something that’s not able to be accommodated?’”

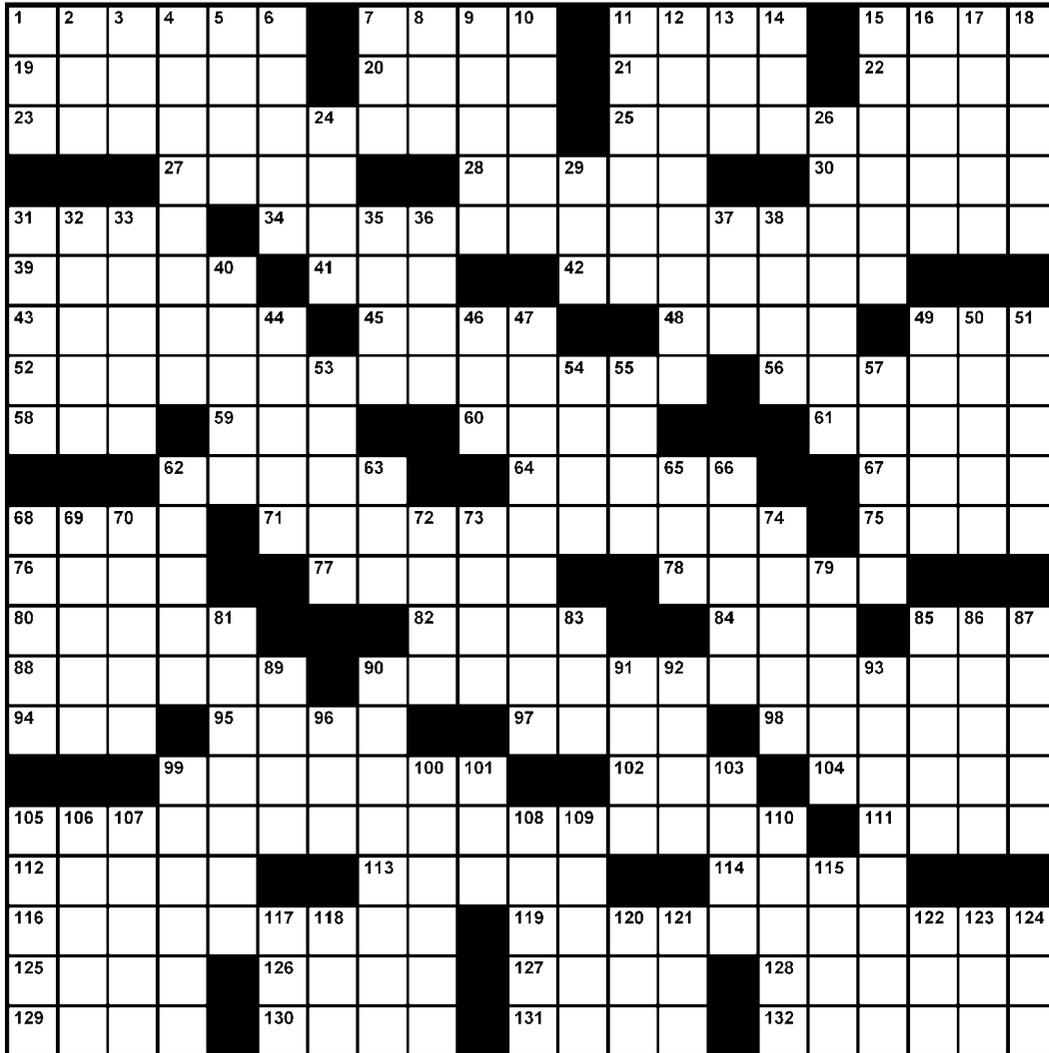
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Weekly Words



JUST SOLVE DA PUZZLE! by Anne Flinchbaugh and Erik Agard, edited by David Steinberg

ACROSS

- 1. Foal house
- 7. Prefix with mount or sail
- 11. Single item
- 15. Easter entrees
- 19. Headache relief brand
- 20. Bistro name word
- 21. In pain after the gym
- 22. Bachelor before Colton
- 23. Like a hungry fish?
- 25. Fibula-foot connector
- 27. City in northwestern France
- 28. Canis, for a dog
- 30. Performed with gestures
- 31. College math course, for short
- 34. Organizer of pickets?
- 39. ___ a kind
- 41. Relay segment
- 42. Ice and deer, for drivers
- 43. Milano's home
- 45. Malek of "Bohemian Rhapsody"
- 48. Carry a tune
- 49. School fundraising grp.
- 52. Coexisting with crocodiles and hippos?
- 56. Four-square game?
- 58. Dallas-to-Houston dir.
- 59. Officer
- 60. It's passed down to you
- 61. Plumbers' concerns
- 62. Intense spasm
- 64. Eco-friendly greeting

- 67. Garfield's dopey friend
- 68. Money in hand
- 71. Accept new podiatry patients?
- 75. Period after Mardi Gras
- 76. Low female voice
- 77. Ancient Buddhist text
- 78. Comment after tripping
- 80. "My bad!"
- 82. Actor's delivery
- 84. Prime number factor
- 85. Uncle seeking recruits
- 88. What year to ring in
- 90. Keeping dust off a gripping tool?
- 94. Toothed tool
- 95. Cry to a fly
- 97. Mexican coin
- 98. L.A.'s WNBA team
- 99. Punch a timecard
- 102. "It's cold!"
- 104. Forest makeup
- 105. Radioactive origami?
- 111. ___ 500
- 112. Pitch-black
- 113. Time divisions
- 114. "Odyssey," for one
- 116. Unfastens, as a coin purse
- 119. Prepare a cheese shop display?
- 125. Musician Puente
- 126. One saving the day
- 127. Perfect Olympic scores

- 128. Divvies up
- 129. Word indicating a read text
- 130. Connery or McAvoy
- 131. Huffly state
- 132. Unhelpful RSVPs

DOWN

- 1. Univ. in Dallas
- 2. T-shirt or blouse
- 3. DOJ division
- 4. Heads of supermarkets?
- 5. Former Italian currency
- 6. Started rolling credits, say
- 7. Banned pollutant initials
- 8. "I've found it!"
- 9. Govern the kingdom
- 10. Ancient Mexican empire
- 11. American fan's chant
- 12. Mumbo-jumbo
- 13. Bother
- 14. ___ Aviv
- 15. Nail-biting and others
- 16. Evidence of freshly baked cookies
- 17. Worker with a pick
- 18. Like a pumpkin's innards
- 24. Nitpicky to a fault
- 26. Came into view
- 29. Homer's neighbor
- 31. Prepares to strike, as a snake
- 32. Those against
- 33. Check out of a hotel

DEATH NOTICES

- ROBERT "BOB" CUSHMAC** (44), of Alexandria, April 16, 2019
- THOMAS DONABEDIAN** (72), of Alexandria, April 10, 2019
- RONALD M. MCLEOD**, of Alexandria, April 20, 2019
- HELEN M. MOFFETT** (91), formerly of Alexandria, April 2, 2019
- KENNETH L. MOORE** (48), of Alexandria, April 18, 2019
- ROSIE A. MULLINS** (92), of Alexandria, April 15, 2019
- SAMUEL P. ROBINSON** (18), of Alexandria, April 18, 2019
- NANCY K. WARDINSKI** (89), of Alexandria, April 17, 2019
- JACOB "SHELDON" WEIL** (88), of Alexandria, April 15, 2019
- DARLENE FARRAN-YOUNG** (70), of Alexandria, April 2019

Solutions from last week



- 35. Plant with spores
- 36. "Goodness gracious!"
- 37. Movie explosion tech.
- 38. Apartment fee
- 40. Fictional lawyer Atticus
- 44. Greek marketplace
- 46. Time or People, for short
- 47. Declaration after an all-nighter
- 49. Self-centered sin
- 50. Easy basket
- 51. Valuable quality
- 53. They can carry tunes
- 54. Peruvian native
- 55. Rake target
- 57. Internet troublemaker
- 62. Piercing rose part
- 63. Down Under bird
- 65. Camping gear retailer
- 66. Clear, as a windshield
- 68. Signable arm covers
- 69. Hello or goodbye, in Hawaii
- 70. Scatter about
- 72. "___ cost ya!"
- 73. Hermione, Harry and Ron, e.g.
- 74. Is inclined (to)
- 79. Jumped
- 81. "I'm down if you are"
- 83. Barely manage, with "out"
- 85. Loud warning to pull over
- 86. Sought answers
- 87. Like hands after eating barbecue
- 89. "Hold your horses!"
- 90. Diet Pepsi competitor
- 91. Book ID
- 92. Sushi seaweed
- 93. In an inconsistent way
- 96. Trick-or-treating mo.
- 99. Earring option
- 100. Emphatic denial
- 101. "Sister Act" occupation
- 103. Cunning plan
- 105. Cleans unused furniture
- 106. "Tomorrow" musical
- 107. A lot on one's ___
- 108. Takes a break
- 109. Colorado ski resort
- 110. Formal female address
- 115. Type of apple
- 117. Sounds of surprise
- 118. Bench press muscle, briefly
- 120. "I'll buy ___, Pat"
- 121. Chicago winter hrs.
- 122. Steal from
- 123. Mineral ending
- 124. Curvy letter

Classifieds

AUCTIONS

ATTN. AUCTIONEERS: Advertise your upcoming auctions statewide or in other states. Affordable Print and Digital Solutions reaching your target audiences. Call this paper or Landon Clark at Virginia Press Services 804-521-7576, landonc@vpa.net

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LEGAL NOTICES



The Alexandria City School Board will hold a public hearing on the FY 2020 Combined Funds and FY 2020-2029 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) budgets during the regular School Board Meeting held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 9, 2019, in the School Board Meeting Room located at 1340 Braddock Place, Alexandria. For more information or to register to speak at the public hearing, please contact the Clerk of the Board at 703-619-8316 or email boardclerk@acps.k12.va.us.



BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW DESIGN GUIDELINES COMMITTEE MEETING MAY 2, 2019

The City of Alexandria Board of Architectural Review (BAR) Design Guidelines Committee will hold a meeting on the date and time listed below to update the graphics of the 1993 BAR Design Guidelines and to create new guidelines to illustrate the policies adopted by the Parker-Gray district in 2013. This meeting is open to the public; however, no public testimony or comment will be received.

DATE: THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2019

TIME: 8:00 to 9:00 AM

PLACE: ALEXANDRIA CITY HALL
PLANNING & ZONING LIBRARY

301 KING STREET, ROOM 2100
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314

For further information, contact the Department of Planning & Zoning at 703-746-4666.

For reasonable disability accommodation, contact Graciela.

Moreno@alexandriava.gov or 703.746.3808, Virginia Relay 711.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON AN APPEAL OF A DECISION OF THE BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW

A public hearing will be held by the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, on Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at 6:00 PM (closed session), regular docket items start at 7:00 PM, in Council Chambers, second floor of City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia on the following application:

BAR #2018-00410 & BAR #2018-00411

Public hearing and consideration of an appeal of the Board of Architectural Review's (BAR) February 6, 2019 decision to approve a Permit to Partially Demolish & Capsulate and a Certificate of Appropriateness for additions and alterations at 619 South Lee Street.

APPLICANT: Vowell LLC c/o Michael Harrington
APPELLANT: Various appellants

This appeal is being held pursuant to Section 10-107 of the Zoning Ordinance for the Board of Architectural Review of the City of Alexandria.

For reasonable disability accommodation, contact Graciela. Moreno@alexandriava.gov or 703.746.3808, Virginia Relay 711.

Information about the above item(s) may be obtained from the Department of Planning and Zoning, City Hall, 301 King Street, Room 2100, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, telephone: (703) 746-4666.



Board of Architectural Review LEGAL NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held by the Board of Architectural Review on WEDNESDAY, May 15, 2019 beginning at 7:00 PM in the City Hall Council Chambers, second floor of City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria, Virgin-

ia on the following applications:

BAR #2019-00037 OHAD

Request for partial demolition/capsulation at 605 Prince Street
Applicant: Billy Klipstein, LLC

BAR #2019-00038 OHAD

Request for addition, alterations and rooftop HVAC waiver at 605 Prince Street
Applicant: Billy Klipstein, LLC

BAR #2019-00143 OHAD

Request for partial demolition/capsulation at 615 South Royal Street
Applicants: Scott & Cornelia Turyn

BAR #2019-00144 OHAD

Request for addition at 615 South Royal Street
Applicants: Scott & Cornelia Turyn

BAR #2019-00146 PG

Request for partial demolition/capsulation at 328 North Patrick Street
Applicant: Metro Fine Properties, LLC

BAR #2019-00147 PG

Request for addition and alterations at 328 North Patrick Street
Applicant: Metro Fine Properties, LLC

BAR #2019-00148 OHAD

Request for partial demolition/capsulation at 118 North Saint Asaph Street
Applicant: Saint Asaph Ventures, LLC

BAR #2019-00149 OHAD

Request for addition and alterations at 118 North Saint Asaph Street

Applicant: Saint Asaph Ventures, LLC

BAR #2019-00151 OHAD

Request for alterations at 721 South Alfred Street
Applicants: Garret Reinhart & Jeffery Rohlmann

BAR #2019-00155 OHAD

Request for alterations at 703 South Lee Street
Applicants: Norma & Kevin Kuntz

BAR #2019-00156 OHAD

Request for partial demolition/capsulation at 605 & 615 Slaters Lane
Applicant: The Salvation Army

BAR #2019-00157 OHAD

Request for addition at 605 & 615 Slaters Lane
Applicant: The Salvation Army

BAR #2019-00164 OHAD

Request for alterations to previously approved Certificate of Appropriateness at 211 Strand Street
Applicant: IDI Strand, L.C.

Old and Historic Alexandria District (OHAD); Parker - Gray District (PG)

For reasonable disability accommodation, contact Graciela. Moreno@alexandriava.gov or 703.746.3808, Virginia Relay 711.

Information about the above item(s) may be obtained from the Department of Planning & Zoning, City Hall, 301 King Street Room 2100, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, or at www.alexandriava.gov/dockets.

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 <p>SOLD</p> <p>8302 Fox Harrow Lane Wakefield Chapel Est 22003 \$675,000</p>	 <p>SOLD</p> <p>8020 Candlewood Drive Kirk 22306 \$615,000</p>	 <p>SOLD</p> <p>8916 Colesbury Place Ridgelea Estates 22031 \$775,000</p>	 <p>SOLD</p> <p>4415 Holborn Avenue Wakefield Chapel Est 22003 \$675,000</p>	 <p>SOLD</p> <p>6702 Queens Road Groveton Heights 22306 \$524,900</p>



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