PART 8 OF A SERIES

The future of e-scooters in Alexandria

City releases phase two pilot proposals to mixed response
BY CODY MELLO-KLEIN

Are scooters a vibrant new part of Alexandria’s transportation puzzle or a dangerous eyesore? That’s the question, and city residents have five more days, until Oct. 15, to weigh in on city staff’s recommendations for a phase two e-scooter pilot program.

City staff presented a set of draft recommendations for the phase two scooter pilot to city council on Oct. 2, bringing the program’s future to the forefront of the conversation.

As the city’s controversial, yet highly used, scooter pilot program nears the end of its initial ride, city staff, council and the community have begun to ask, “What is the future of scooters in Alexandria?” Staff’s recommended changes for a phase two pilot, and the window for resident input, come ahead of city council’s scheduled vote on the program in November and the end of the original pilot on Dec. 31, 2019.

For the past nine months, Alexandria’s city staff and city council – like others around the country – have wrestled with how to regulate fleets of dockless scooters. The city initiated a pilot program in January 2019, with the first permitted scooter company, Lime, deploying its fleet that month.

See Scooters | 16

‘Ramblin’ Boy’

Tom Paxton reflects on the ’60s, songwriting and a decades-spanning career
BY CODY MELLO-KLEIN

When he was 15 years old, Grammy-nominated folk singer-songwriter Tom Paxton pulled a guitar out of his aunt’s closet in her Chicago home. It was dusty and beat-up, with signs of a life that began before Paxton, but it still had stories to tell.

Paxton, 81, has taken his songs across the world, from the Gaslight in Greenwich Village and Newport, Rhode Island, to the Gaslight in Greenwich Village and Newport, Rhode Island.

See Paxton | 8

Tom Paxton grew up with folk music in his head, fondly recalling listening to a rancher perform “cowboy songs” at the dude ranch in Arizona that his family lived at for three months.

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Christine Roland Garner
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Augie’s Mussel House and Beer Garden reopens

Augie’s Mussel House and Beer Garden reopened on Tuesday with an inside/outside bar, 35 taps and a heated outdoor patio.

The restaurant, located at 1106 King St., comes from Common Plate Hospitality, the team behind Urbano 116, Mason Social and Catch on the Ave. The team gave Alexandria a taste of Augie’s last summer, operating a pop-up, patio-only restaurant for a few months before closing down for renovations.

Now, the restaurant and beer garden’s transformation is complete with outdoor patio seating for 75 and two floors of indoor seating with room for 140, according to a news release.

The restaurant’s design combines modern, industrial elements with historic materials, according to the release. Decor includes a mahogany wood beam that was salvaged from the banks of the Potomac River, epoxy panels with recycled beer bottles from Mason Social and an Alexandria Marine sign from the 1940s, according to the release.

The kitchen will be led by Chad Sparrow, partner with Common Plate Hospitality, and Alam Méndez Florián, the chef from Oaxaca, Mexico who runs Urbano 116.

The menu features a variety of appetizers, sandwiches and salads, as well as 10 mussel options. Augie’s is now open for lunch and dinner. Hours are 11 a.m. to midnight Sunday through Wednesday and 11 to 1 a.m. Thursday through Saturday. For more information, visit eataugies.com.

- mschrott@alextimes.com

Alexandria Choral Society opens new season, celebrates 50 years

The Alexandria Choral Society is celebrating 50 years with the opening of its fall season program “The Spheres” on Oct. 19, according to a news release.

The ACS is one of the oldest choral societies in the region, Maurisa Potts, a public relations representative for ACS, said. This year’s lineup is the largest its ever had, with more than 100 singers.

“The Spheres,” led by artistic director Brian Isaac, will feature choral and string pieces composed by Gabriel Fauré, Ola Gjeilo and Alexandria’s own Jonathan Kolm. The program aims to lead audiences on a journey “from the heavens to earth,” according to the release.

ACS’ 50th season opens in the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, 4915 E. Campus Drive on Oct. 19 at 7:30 p.m. The full slate of performances will take place on Dec. 14, March 7 and May 9, according to the release. Tickets are available at www.alexandriachoralssociety.org.

-cmelloklein@alextimes.com
ACPS honors athletes at 2019 Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony

Alexandria City Public Schools inducted notable athletes, coaches and athletic staff into the Athletic Hall of Fame at a ceremony on Oct. 4, according to an ACPS news release.

The ceremony, which marked the sixth hall of fame induction since the hall of fame launched in 2014, welcomed Alexandria athletes from 1957 to 2007 into the hall of fame.

Among this year’s inductees were Julius Campbell, captain of the 1971 T.C. Williams High School football team that won a state championship the year the school integrated.

The 1957 Parker-Gray School boys basketball team was also honored for its contribution to the civil rights movement.

Other inductees were Walter Densmore, basketball, class of 1957; Tanya Galloway-White, track and field, class of 1988; Rick Garcia, track and field, class of 1979; Cavanaugh Hagen, basketball, class of 2001; Frank Holloway, basketball, class of 1977; Samella Koroma, track and field, class of 2007; Arnold Thurmond, basketball coach; and Glenn Williams, basketball and football, class of 1984.

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Chamber hosts 2019 Best in Business Awards ceremony

The Alexandria Chamber of Commerce held its annual Best in Business Awards, presented by Burke & Herbert Bank, at The Westin Alexandria on Oct. 3 to recognize and celebrate the city’s top businesses.

Stephanie Landrum, president and chief executive officer of the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership was awarded Business Leader of the Year. Landrum was an instrumental member of the team that worked to attract Amazon and Virginia Tech to the region.

The Overall Business of the Year was The Goodhart Group, a family-run real estate firm whose leaders have been selling homes in the Alexandria and D.C. area for more than 27 years.

Other winners were:

- Tartan Properties Commercial as Small Business of the Year, Daniel O’Connell’s Irish Restaurant & Bar as Medium Business of the Year, Brandywine Living at Alexandria as Large Business of the Year, Del Ray Business Association Business of the Year, Threadleaf as Rising Star Business of the Year.

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Opal Music Studio celebrates 10 years

Opal Music Studio, a local music business, celebrated its 10th anniversary in September, according to founder Hannah Williams.

Over the years, the studio has grown from three students to more than 200, Williams said. At its 10-year anniversary celebration last month, students of all levels gathered for a night of music, games, prizes and snacks.

Molly Orlando and Williams started Opal 10 years ago. Orlando was a performing soloist, collaborator and teacher looking to grow her teaching studio. Williams was an Old Town mom of three looking to create a space in Old Town for kids to take piano lessons.

In addition to lessons, Opal offers various events designed to help students and parents connect with other young musicians, themed recitals and collaborative studio craft-based projects, according to Williams.

- mschrott@alextimes.com

Students at Opal Music Studio’s 10th anniversary celebration last month.
American Horticultural Society holds annual fundraising gala

The American Horticultural Society held its 26th annual gala on Sept. 21, according to Erika Christ, AHS’ manager of communications and marketing. This year’s gala was held in order to support stewardship of the AHS’ historic River Farm headquarters and the organization’s educational programs.

The gala included a cocktail reception in the River Farm garden, a silent auction, dinner, live music and a live auction, Christ said in an email. The event was based around the themes of harvest, health and happiness, in order to “encourage reflection on the natural world around us and appreciation for the richness that gardens – in all their diversity – bring to our lives,” Christ said in an email.

AHS’ online auction begins at noon today and runs through 3 p.m. on Oct. 24. More info is available at www.ahsgardening.org/online-auction.

At Home in Alexandria celebrates annual fall fundraiser

At Home in Alexandria, a nonprofit that supports Alexandrians ages 55 and up, held its annual fundraiser on Sunday, according to a news release. The event, which took place at Belle Haven Country Club, featured dinner, a silent auction and a performance from acoustic guitarist Christopher Wyton, according to the release. Hosted by Vicki and Fabrice Vasques, this year’s fall fundraiser marked nine years for AHA.

Cele Garrett, Eileen O’Brien, former Mayor Allison Silberberg and Dara Surratt at the gala.
Lisa Maddox takes genealogy beyond the family tree

BY MISSY SCHROTT

Lisa Maddox, a former Central Intelligence Agency analyst, has big plans to give ancestry.com a run for its money.

With a passion for genealogy and a background in intel, Maddox established family history business Narratio Vitae about a year ago.

Narratio Vitae is Latin for “life story.” A one-woman operation, Maddox builds the life stories of her clients and their ancestors, often starting with only snippets of unverified and sometimes inaccurate information.

Unlike ancestry.com and other popular genealogy sites, Maddox goes beyond names and dates to create dynamic, engaging family histories.

“You have people that have their photo albums and their scrapbooks, and then you’ve got the ancestry.com people that love the research and are digging into the details,” Maddox said. “My services can kind of bring those things together and complete the loop in a way.”

Maddox packages her final product as a private website that clients can share with their families. Each family history is unique, composed of a collection of timelines, family trees and text. Maddox writes the narratives herself, focusing on whatever ancestors or time periods her clients request. With the website format, Maddox is able to create a multi-media history with photos, newspaper clips, audio clips and hyperlinks.

“Most people who say they’re going to do genealogy for you build you the tree, but that to me is where Lisa starts,” Maddox’s father-in-law, David Maddox, said. “She builds the tree, but [she adds] the stories, the insights, the understanding of your family that’s related to that tree, and I think she does a great job doing that.”

Before launching Narratio Vitae, Lisa Maddox spent about 15 years in the intelligence world, seven at the CIA and the remaining divided between the U.S. Department of State, the Naval Criminal Investigative Service and the Defense Intelligence Agency.

Maddox spent most of her intel career working in counterterrorism, motivated after witnessing the Sept. 11, 2001 attack against the Pentagon during her first week of graduate studies at Georgetown University.

“[At the] CIA, I was an analyst and an analytical manager there for all those years, working on a variety of issues, but it was kind of the skills that I gained there, just the research, the
writing, argumentation, identifying leads and going after them, always verifying information, attention to sourcing, detail, pulling together tons of data into a concise story ... those skills, I’ve actually been able to apply to this new business,” Maddox said.

Maddox began working on Narratio Vitae before she left government. She was inspired, she said, by her family. “I have two daughters that are eight and nine, and after having them, your perspective kind of changes,” Maddox said. “I started to really think about legacy and caring about family and them knowing my story and knowing my family story and my husband’s family story and making sure that wasn’t lost on them.”

Maddox was also inspired by her mother and grandfather, both of whom had been diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease. “Firsthand, watching them lose their memories – and when you have those questions, they can’t answer them anymore – had a big impact,” Maddox said.

Since she began Narratio Vitae about a year ago, Maddox said she’s had between 15 and 20 clients. Each project is different, and Maddox works with her clients to determine exactly what they want to find out.

“We’ll scope a project with a client and it’s all dependent on what kind of information is out there,” Maddox said. “… I don’t need much to start usually, so I need to understand what the client wants. Do they really want to learn about just their father’s side? Do they want a broad brush of both sides of the family? And I’ll typically go back three generations, but if I find an interesting story – and I usually do; every family has one buried – my goal is to really dig it up.”

Maddox has traced families back to Plymouth Colony, George Washington and the founders of the U.S. Navy. Taking her clients’ requests and initial information, Maddox uses books, search databases, immigration lists and old newspaper articles to fill in the gaps. She’s also tracked down and interviewed some of the family members to add a personal touch.

“I had a client come to me and go, ‘So [my] grandfather’s name was John Jones, [my] great grandfather’s name was John Jones. They’re from Ireland. Here’s a couple birthdates.’ And I was like, ‘Oh my gosh, are you serious?’ But I found it. … I think because of my former intel and targeting work I kind of have good techniques to suss out information and figure out the story,” Maddox said.

Maddox said she makes a special effort to include details and family stories that are left out of other geneal-
Island’s Newport Folk Festival to London and China. He’s racked up accolades, including four Grammy nominations and a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award. And his songs have been performed by Johnny Cash, Neil Diamond and his personal hero Pete Seeger.

After more than 60 years as a singer, songwriter and performer, Paxton’s guitars might be newer, but his stories remain the same timeless tales of love and loss, societal injustices and childhood joy. Reflecting back on his career, Paxton said he sees a common thread that has grown longer and more complex over time.

“I think I’m the same performer and writer that I was on day one,” Paxton said. “I hope I’ve grown and deepened, but I haven’t changed. I really feel like a farmer plowing the same field every year. ... We’ll see what next year’s crop will bring.”

On Friday, Paxton returns to The Birchmere, this time as part of a trio, performing alongside the Don Juans duo – Jon Vezner and Don Henry.

Born on Oct. 31, 1937 in Chicago, Paxton and his family moved to Bristow, Oklahoma when he was 11, after a brief stint on a dude ranch in Arizona.

By the time his family moved to Oklahoma, folk music was already a part of Paxton’s life, he said. Paxton recalled hearing Burl Ives’ 1947 recording of the traditional folk tune “Blue Tail Fly.” And, although the family only spent three months in Arizona, Paxton fondly remembered one cool Arizona night when a local rancher came by and sang some “cowboy songs.”

Traditional folk songs – plucked on an acoustic guitar and filled with history – had an almost instant appeal for Paxton.

“They were like fairy tales almost,” Paxton said. “You could sing them, and they were funny and they were sad. They just spoke to me of other times and other people who had sung these songs hundreds of years before.”

By the time Paxton took the guitar out of his aunt’s closet, he knew he wanted to learn how to sing and play these old-world tunes. He started to learn the music of Ives and Harry Belafonte, and upon entering the University of Oklahoma in 1955, Paxton purchased his “first decent guitar,” an acoustic Gibson Sunburst.

Paxton entered the drama school, a fact that surprises many people, Paxton said.

“I tell people that I started out wanting to be an actor, but, in the end, I settled for the security of folk music,” Paxton laughed.

At the University of Oklahoma, Paxton found students who shared his love for folk music and, more importantly, exposed him to new artists, like Pete Seeger.

One day during his junior year, Paxton was at a friend’s house when his friend, like a record store guru, said those magic words: “Listen to this.”

“He put the needle down on an LP and out came Pete Seeger’s banjo introduction and the album was ‘The Weavers at Carnegie Hall,’ which they recorded Christmas Eve 1955,” Paxton said. “I subsequently had a chance to tell each one of The Weavers that by the time that album ended I had become someone who not only loved this stuff but had to do it.”

Seeger set Paxton on “this path,” he said, and has served as a guiding light ever since.

“He didn’t tutor me; he just was a living example for me of how important this music can be in the life of a country,” Paxton said. “... Pete’s integrity, his dedication to the music and to people and to the causes he believed in were all just right upfront for me. They were a model for me.”

Years later, Seeger performed Paxton’s song “Ramblin’ Boy” during a Weavers reunion concert at Carnegie Hall. Paxton described the moment as “surreal.”

“It was so thrilling that this man liked my songs well enough to sing them in Carnegie Hall,” Paxton said. “Talk about validation. I guess I must have made the right choice.”

Like so many young people, Paxton was drawn into the cultural vortex of New York City’s Greenwich Village in the early ’60s.

Paxton had joined the army after graduating from college and was stationed at Fort Dix in New Jersey. On weekends, Paxton went to the Village and visited the coffee houses and folk clubs like the famous Gaslight, listening to the rising beat of a countercultural movement through the words of beat poets and folk singers.

“You couldn’t get in the Gaslight on weekends,” Paxton said. “It was exciting. This was all against the backdrop of the civil rights movement that was getting bigger every year. You had [New York University] right there, so students coming every night to hear the songs.”

By the time he got out of the army in 1960, Paxton was a mainstay at the Gaslight. The stage was a second home. He even met his wife, Margaret “Midge” Cummings, at the Gaslight in 1962. They married the next year.

Soon enough, Bob Dylan, Phil Ochs and Eric Anderson were on the Gaslight stage, while record company representatives started coming down to the Village to scout talent. The Village was officially a fixture in the cultural – and countercultural – consciousness.

Almost every night, Paxton performed traditional folk songs, and in an unprecedented move for folk musicians at the time, his own original songs.

Even before picking up the guitar, Paxton loved the stage, Paxton said.

“When I was in second grade in Chicago … I was in a play, and I was Uncle Sam, with the suit and the top hat and a cotton goatee. And they applauded and I thought, ‘Wow, I like that. I’ll have some more of that.’”

See Paxton
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Never flush medication down the toilet or place down the sink! Unsafe disposal of drugs can harm the environment.

Drug Take Back Day Drop off Locations

Alexandria Police Headquarters
3600 Wheeler Avenue

Neighborhood Pharmacy
Pharmacy of Del Ray
2204 Mount Vernon Avenue
204 Mount Vernon Avenue

First Baptist Church
2923 King Street

Alexandria Fire Station 210
5255 Eisenhower Avenue

Can’t make it to Drug Take Back Day? Drop off medications year-round at one of these permanent drug drop box locations!

Neighborhood Pharmacy
2204 Mount Vernon Avenue
Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Sunday: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Inova Alexandria Hospital
4220 Seminary Road
Visitor’s Lobby
Next to the cashier’s window
Daily: 5 a.m. - 9 p.m.

No needles accepted please

Lisa Maddox, founder and owner of Narratio Vitae, works on a project at her kitchen table.

MADDOX FROM | 7

ogy services.

“I don’t just capture their huge accomplishments,” Maddox said. “Like, what was their family life like? And the women are often forgotten in genealogy, so I make an extra point of researching who the wives were and what they went through and where they came from, and if I find something interesting up their family line, you betcha I’m going to go research it and pull it out.”

David Million, a client who won Maddox’s services at an auction, had Maddox focus on his family’s ties to wars.

“I specifically asked her to focus on the big war events: War of 1812, Revolutionary War, Civil War,” Million said. “A lot of my ancestors, there’s some really neat stuff. I have ancestors that go back to the Colony of Virginia. ... It’s really kind of a crapshoot how lucky you get with these archives, what you can find, [but] she provided a lot more detail than I thought she would.”

Million said the website prompted discussion in his family.

“It started the ball rolling for some of my other family members of what they could find,” Million said. “... Eventually we’re going to probably use her services to go a little deeper and find some of these characters in my family tree.”

Another one of Maddox’s clients, Mary Ann Meigs, hired Maddox because of a longtime fascination with one of her husband’s ancestors. Maddox tracked down the relative, then traced that person’s story to present day.

See MADDOX | 12
theirs,” Paxton said. My voice didn’t blend with for the third slot because trio, Paxton was passed over wouldn’t be joining the trio musical director Milton Okun career-defining moment. Mitchell Trio turned into a opportunity with the Chad fall of 1960 when a missed zines including Broadside, songs in folk music maga - He published several of his to Elektra Records in 1964. he was signed as a performer ing, he said. Audiences didn’t car if he had written the material, Paxton said, just as long as it was entertaining. Paxton has never been a flashy performer, his long - time agent and founder of Fleming Artists Jim Fleming said. His shows are subtle. Emotion is laced through the words Paxton sings, the simple acoustic arrangements amplifying the impact of ev - ery word and silence. “It’s just very subtle and by the end of it you just go, ‘Oh wow, that was a great show,’” Fleming said. Paxton found early suc cess as a songwriter before he was signed as a performer to Elektra Records in 1964. He published several of his songs in folk music maga - zines including Broadside, but his big break came in the fall of 1960 when a missed opportunity with the Chad Mitchell Trio turned into a career-defining moment. After auditioning for the trio, Paxton was passed over for the third slot because “my voice didn’t blend with theirs,” Paxton said. Mu - sical director Milton Okun informed Paxton that he wouldn’t be joining the trio but that the group liked “The Marvelous Toy,” a song he had performed during a break in the audition. The Chad Mitchell Trio went on to record the song, with Okun publishing it. Paxton was the first songwriter signed to Okun’s Cherry Lane Music Publishing, and several of his songs were recorded by the likes of Peter, Paul and Mary and Johnny Cash. Even after hearing his songs covered by countless musicians, including his mu - sical heroes, Paxton is still sometimes overwhelmed by hearing others retell his sto - ries, he said. “Not too long ago I came across on YouTube Dol - ly Parton and Doc Watson backstage at MerleFest sing - ing ["The Last Thing on My Mind"]. ... I almost cried,” Paxton said. “It was the first hit that Dolly had when she was with Porter Wagoner. ... But here she was singing it with Doc at much more like the tempo I used, and it was just so beautiful.” Over the years, Paxton’s passion for songwriting hasn’t diminished. Although he doesn’t write as much as he used to, he now teaches song - writing to aspiring musicians at events and camps across the country. He also mentors artists on the Fleming Artists roster, including singer-songwriter Ani DiFranco. “He was one of the first ones to embrace [DiFranco], and that was really important to her, and I know they remain friends to this day because of that,” Fleming said. “Tom has done that so much over the years.” Paxton teaches his students that songwriting is a craft that rewards time, attention and hard work, and that “you have to kiss a lot of frogs to get a prince,” Paxton said. “Someone came to me at a club one night and sang me a song and I said, ‘That’s a pretty good song. Now, write a hundred of ‘em,’” Paxton said. The breadth of Paxton’s songwriting is staggering, even as he’s never wavered from acoustic folk as a stylist - ic backdrop. Like Seeger and his traditional folk forbears, Paxton wrote everything from children’s lullabies to intensely political songs about racial injustice, the Vietnam War, the environment and labor rights. “When something really gets under my skin, eventually it’s gonna come out in a song,” Paxton said. “The difference is I’m not a preacher. I’m not a political orator. These songs matter as much to me as any songs I write, and I try to make them good songs. I don’t want people to applaud because they agree with me. I want them to be moved.” “First and foremost, he tells the truth,” Fleming said. “I think one of the roles of the artist is to be able to express things in a way that people can’t necessarily ex - press. And I think that’s very empowering for people.” After his early success in the 60s, Paxton hit his com - mercial peak in 1971 with the release of “How Come the Sun.” The album reached the number 120 spot on the charts, the highest any of Paxton’s albums ever chart - ed. After living in London for four years with his wife and two daughters, Paxton moved to Long Island, New York, then eventually the

During the 1960s, Paxton was a mainstay at the Gaslight in Green - wich Village.

PAXTON FROM | 8

Onstage, Paxton found a joy that was completely different than the hard, but satisfying, work of songwriting, he said. Audiences didn’t care if he had written the material, Paxton said, just as long as it was entertaining.

“Not too long ago I came across on YouTube Dolly Parton and Doc Watson backstage at MerleFest singing ["The Last Thing on My Mind"]; ... I almost cried,” Paxton said. “It was the first hit that Dolly had when she was with Porter Wagoner. ... But here she was singing it with Doc at much more like the tempo I used, and it was just so beautiful.”

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SEE PAXTON

**Burial includes basic services of the funeral director and transfer of remains to the funeral establishment. Crematory fee is included. Charges may vary depending on selections.**

**Burial includes basic services of the funeral director and transfer of remains to the funeral establishment, and transportation of remains to cemetery. Price quoted does not include any merchandise, such as casket, or cemetery property or services. Prices may vary based on selections.**
“It was just a wonderful thing that she created,” Meigs said. “I look forward to getting other family members involved and adding pictures to it because everyone has a little bit of information, and they have letters and pictures, and it’s kind of spread across the U.S. It’d be nice to get it in one website.”

Because Maddox packages the histories on websites, the narrative doesn’t end when she delivers a final product to her clients, and families are able to edit and add to their sites over time.

“It’s a blog, so you expect family members to keep the conversation going,” Maddox said. “They can add to it, which is where that scrapbook might have ended. So, as stories of the grandchildren come up and you want to preserve them as part of the family story and the legacy, you can just add to them. It’s very easy to do, so it promotes the discussion basically, which is the exciting thing about genealogy.”

Still in the early stages of the business, Maddox spends two to three weeks on each project, doing everything from client consultations and website design to research and writing. Maddox said once she gets Narratio Vitae off the ground, she hopes to expand.

“I am, at this point, pretty much a one-person shop, and I’d love to scale up if I get enough clientele,” Maddox said. “I’d love to hire researchers and kind of build this out because I do think it’s a really cool and viable idea.”

While some questioned Maddox’s decision to leave a successful intel career and start her own business, Maddox said she’s proud of what she’s begun.

“I love how it’s made people excited about their family histories and sparked those discussions, and I’ve seen it bring together family,” Maddox said. “It’s really gratifying and cool to be able to do that.”

To learn more about Narratio Vitae, visit narratiovitae.com.

-Mschrott@alextimes.com

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**Top: 428 N Peyton Street | Old Town Alexandria | 3 Bed | 2.5 Bath | $895,000**

New to market and recently renovated, this beautiful light-filled home is adorned with fabulous outdoor entertaining spaces, pretty kitchen, a lovely lower level, and a luxurious upstairs bathroom. Close to fine dining, shopping and Lyles Crouch school.

**Bottom: 823 Church Street | Old Town Alexandria | 2 Bed | 2 Bath | $725,000**

Extraordinary Listings

**BY NANCY PERKINS**

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Robert C. Odle Jr., prominent lawyer and public official, dies at 75

BY MISSY SCHROTT

Robert C. Odle Jr., a lawyer, White House staffer and assistant secretary of the Department of Energy, died from cancer on Oct. 2. He was 75.

Odle began his career working at President Richard Nixon's campaign offices in New York while still in law school. Upon graduating, Odle joined the staff of the White House director of communications. He served as director of administration for Nixon's Committee to Re-Elect the President from 1971 to 1973.

Because of his role in the re-election campaign, Odle was the first witness to testify at the Watergate hearings, where he was asked to describe the organization of the committee.

Odle served as deputy assistant secretary for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development starting in 1973, then went on to work at International Paper from 1976 to 1981.

In 1981, President Ronald Reagan nominated, and the Senate confirmed, Odle as assistant secretary of the Department of Energy. In the role, Odle was responsible for the DOE's legislative, public, intergovernmental and consumer affairs programs; DOE's Office of Competition; and the environmental, health and safety compliance of DOE facilities.

In 1985, Odle joined the Weil, Gotshal & Manges law firm and became a partner. After 30 years with the firm, he retired in 2015.

Odle married his wife of 50 years, Lydia Ann (Karpen) Odle, in 1969. The couple adopted their son, John Paul, from Russia in 1994.

The Odles have lived in Old Town since 1972 in houses on St. Asaph, Lee and Union streets.

“Rob liked Alexandria because he liked the feel of a small town, where people knew each other and cared about each other,” Lydia Odle said. “When you saw someone or went into the bank, they called you Mr. Odle or Mrs. Odle, or you went over to City Hall, and they recognized your name. He liked that, even if he had to pay parking tickets.”

“Those who knew Odle described him as selfless, positive and productive. “When you’re dealing with a person who is pure integrity, a person who wants to do good things for his country without the thought of promoting himself, you’re dealing with the best America has to offer in the way of public servants,” Jeff Donfeld, Odle’s lifelong friend and colleague, said. “His service in government was exemplary, and he just loved the country and loved service. He was a very, very giving, generous person to his friends and acquaintances.”

Donfeld met Odle while working at the White House during Nixon’s tenure. Friends ever since, Donfeld said he witnessed Odle’s generosity throughout his life.

“He was a unique individual,” Donfeld said. “The world would be a lot better if we could replicate Rob Odles.”

Lydia Odle said one of the things her husband was most proud of was the work he did as a lawyer for the Baltic-American Enterprise Fund, which was established in 1994 to help promote economic growth in newly liberated Eastern European countries that were formerly part of the Soviet Union.

“There are people who get headlines and people who get things done,” Kim Davis, a friend and colleague who worked with Odle on the fund, said. “Rob was someone who studiously avoided headlines, but was very focused on getting stuff done, so he was a very quiet, very determined, very low-key but very effective advocate for what he believed in. And he was a passionate believer in...
The work he did was not only work that was consistent with his professional background but also consistent with his belief system.”

Davis described Odle as a professional through and through.

“Rob was the kind of person who it would be really hard for him to show up in business casual,” Davis laughed. “He understood grey suits, white shirts and nice ties.

“Sometimes, I think that there are people who do incredibly good work for a long period of time and just almost by definition, just never raise their hand and get credit,” Davis said. “If there’s anything I would like to see, ... [it’s] that he be properly recognized for the incredible efforts he made over a long period of time on issues that I think are important to the United States. He really was a soldier for freedom and democracy.”

Odle converted to Catholicism at age 18. For 42 years, he was an active parishioner at the Basilica of Saint Mary in Old Town. In 2014, he donated a statue of Saint Thomas More to the church. In recent years, he volunteered to bring Holy Communion to sick and homebound parishioners.

“Rob was a letter writer. You know, most people don’t write letters any more, but Rob wrote letters to people,” Lydia Odle said. “He corresponded with people all over the world. He especially like to write letters to young people giving them advice and giving them support.”

In addition to reading, writing and public service, Odle loved travel, cars and, above all, his family, Lydia Odle said.

“He loved his family,” Lydia Odle said. “That was his biggest thing. He just loved his family.”

Robert C. Odle Jr. was born in Port Huron, Michigan on Feb. 15, 1944 to Robert Charles and Elizabeth Dagmar (Lassen) Odle.

He earned his bachelor’s degree from Wayne State University in 1966 and his juris doctorate degree from the Detroit College of Law, now the Michigan State University College of Law, in 1969. Michigan State gave Odle an honorary doctor of law degree in 1992, the same year he delivered a commencement address at the school.

Odle is survived by his wife Lydia and his son John Paul.

There will be a funeral service at the Basilica of Saint Mary, 310 S. Royal St., on Oct. 19 at noon. Odle will be buried with his family in Port Huron, Michigan at a later date.

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To enter the program and deploy scooters in Alexandria, each of the city’s seven permitted scooter companies had to pay a $5,000 fee and sign a memorandum of understanding, agreeing to certain city rules and regulations.

A rocky start

The scooter program has been fiercely contested by some community members since its inception. Those who oppose the program have expressed concern about pedestrian safety due to scooters riding and parking on sidewalks, the seeming lack of enforcement by police and city staff and the failure of scooter companies to timely respond to reports of improperly parked scooters.

At the same time, many Alexandrians and visitors have found the scooters useful for last mile connections to public transit and joyrides. Between January and August there were 201,340 scooter trips, according to data presented to council during the Oct. 2 legislative meeting by Department of Transportation and Environmental Services staff. In that same time frame, 114,510 total active users have travelled 195,017 miles.

T&ES made mid-pilot adjustments in order to address certain concerns. Staff implemented scooter corrals and geofencing to keep scooters off sidewalks and from starting and stopping rides in certain areas. The city also gave scooter companies hang tags with educational safety messages and contact information to place on their devices.

For some, the mid-pilot changes failed to address equity, safety and enforcement issues. City Councilor Mo Seifeldein went so far as to call for the suspension of the program in June based on these concerns.

Phase two pilot

The draft recommendations proposed by T&ES aim to lay out a road map for a potential permanent scooter program. The proposed changes would be implemented in a phase two pilot, which, if approved by council in November, would last for the entirety of 2020.

In the draft recommendations, staff proposed reducing the speed limit on streets from 20 to 15 miles per hour, requiring anyone under the age of 14 to wear a helmet, establishing an ad hoc scooter task force and crafting a stricter MOU with potentially higher permit fees to cover the cost of the program.

The proposed change garnering the most attention from the community would allow scooters, like bicycles, to ride on sidewalks unless they’re explicitly banned from doing so. Bikes are permitted to ride on sidewalks except on King Street and two blocks on Union Street, Hillary Orr, deputy director of T&ES, said.

Despite the changes proposed for a phase two pilot, some city councilors and community members remain skeptical about the program’s future.

“I’m not particularly sold on scooters quite yet,” Vice Mayor Elizabeth Bennett-Parker said at the Oct. 2 legislative meeting. “While I appreciate the opportunity to address the [last] mile problem with public transportation, I do share many of the concerns that we’ve heard from the community.”

“… You are brewing a [recipe] for pedestrians’, bicyclists’ [and] scooterists’ road rage,” Danko Kramar, an Old Town resident, said. “... Why have tax dollars gone into making bicycle lanes on the street?”

In the draft recommendations, staff proposed a speed limit of 6 to 8 miles per hour on sidewalks, but Orr said the department is still working with the police department to determine what’s best.

“The speed limit on the sidewalk, we’re still working with police to figure out if that’s even feasible,” Orr said. “So, that might change by the time we have a final recommendation. We just want to get some feedback on...”
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SCOOTERS

It doesn’t currently disable scooters that are brought into these areas from other locations from operating.

Staff is exploring potential no-ride zones as well, Orr said.

“We’re trying to get the technology to do is drop down to about three miles per hour when you enter a zone,” Orr said. “And again, the GPS is not that accurate, so we couldn’t do a sidewalk. It would have to be a park or a bigger area. But it would drop down to a speed limit where effectively you can’t balance, so you would have to walk it.”

Geofencing has been an underused resource, Chapman said.

“I think there’s a lot of opportunity there that has not been realized,” Chapman said. “We have a technical opportunity to put boundaries around where people can place scooters, and we haven’t done that. I think we leave a lot open to folks in terms of where they can place things.”

Equitable access

The most pressing issue for many on the dais remains the ongoing lack of equitable distribution of scooters throughout the city. For Seifeldein, equity is a make or break issue, one that he feels hasn’t been addressed at all in the current pilot.

“The city is on the verge of implementing a policy that widens the equity gap,” Seifeldein said in an emailed statement. “As a general matter, City polices must be set to serve the best interest of all residents.”

Orr clarified that staff doesn’t have a full data set that details where scooters are being deployed and ridden, which would help in determining where the equity gaps are. A July 23 staff memo identified that a significant majority of scooter usage – 65 percent – occurred in Old Town.

“I don’t think that’s something that we should allow because our job is to ensure that this business meets its bottom-line quota and returns of income,” Chapman said. “It’s to ensure that all our residents have an opportunity at all of the options for transit.”

One of staff’s proposed changes would require companies to deploy or rebalance their fleets in different neighborhoods and participate in income-based discount programs, according to the staff presentation.

Both Seifeldein and Chapman remained unconvinced and questioned whether staff has implemented changes quickly enough in the past.

On board

Meanwhile, some community members, especially riders, are optimistic about the changes.

“I feel the new revisions are a perfect example of the city learning and listening from the original pilot program,” Ethan McAfee, an Old Town resident and scooter rider, said. “It is clear by the over 200,000 rides that there is a clear demand for the service and that the city is doing its part to increase public transportation options and lower parking and traffic issues.”

Even opponents of the program expressed hesitant praise for some of staff’s proposed changes, particularly the ad hoc scooter task force, which was originally proposed by local civic associations.

“The ad hoc scooter task force, I’m very glad for that. I wish it’d been done sooner,” Callahan said. “…Depending on who the city manager puts on there, it could be quite good.”

“We would try to get an equitable composition to represent as many groups as possible,” Orr said.

The path forward

Staff’s proposed changes have not entirely addressed the concerns expressed by...
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Bennett-Parker suggested creating a competitive points-based process for determining which companies can participate in the program. Staff is also looking into the potential of establishing a fee-per-scooter in order to create more strict measures for companies and possibly reduce the number of companies participating in the program, Orr said.

“I know staff is working on changes that would create higher bars for scooter companies, including higher fees that would cover our costs and that would serve to reduce the number of companies operating,” Bennett-Parker said in an email.

But the path forward is uncertain for many cities struggling to adapt to the rapidly evolving micro-mobility industry.

New companies, such as Charge, a company focused on providing infrastructure and building space-sized charging stations, have sprung up around the industry. Charge aims to save companies money — and communities the headache — by confining e-scooters to defined city infrastructure.

“Our thesis is by corraling them in a series of smart city type approaches with our virtual docks, our physical docks ... you’re able to actually keep your city streets and sidewalks compliant with everything from [the Americans with Disabilities Act] to normal common-sense quality of life,” Charge Chief Executive Officer Andrew Fox said.

With all this change, staff and council members and the community continue to question whether the micro-mobility revolution can be a vital, feasible part of the city.

“I think [scooters] have the ability to be meaningful,” Chapman said. “I just think we have to regulate them properly.”

The Transportation Commission will hold a public hearing on the proposed changes at its Oct. 16 meeting, according to the city’s website. City council will vote on the pilot program’s future later this fall.

The public can provide feedback on the recommended changes through an online feedback form through Oct. 15: www.research.net/r/AlexandriaVa-ScooterPilot-DraftRecs.

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Paxton moved from record company to record company before opening his own record label, Pax Records, in 1987.

Through it all, Paxton has maintained a strong core audience, one that has connected to Paxton’s words in truly moving ways, Fleming said.

“I had someone write me recently from England and [say] that they just wanted to let Tom know something,” Fleming said. “In this email, they told me what it was and it was that their mother, who had just recently passed away, told me what it was and it was that their mother, who had just recently passed away, when she was literally on her death bed she asked them if they could please bring a couple of ... Tom’s songs for her. It gave her great comfort.”

Paxton has seen a level of success that most musicians can only dream of achieving. He’s performed at some of the biggest music festivals in the world, been nominated for four Grammy awards, received a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award and hung out with legendary musicians.

He recalled how, upon getting the call informing him that he would receive a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award in 2009, he “immediately teared up.” Thinking back on the surreal experience of attending the Grammy nominees party, Paxton couldn’t help but smile and laugh in disbelief.

In 2018, Paxton finally achieved his lifetime goal of playing that are fun to have,” Paxton said. “It’s a more interesting experience for me than my own damn voice. I’ve had many years of that.”

Now, Paxton is content to end his career doing what he loves: singing his songs and telling his stories. Folk will never die, he said. The next generation will find folk music in the back of an aunt’s closet, just like he did.

“The great thing about folk music is that it’s timeless, which allows old farts like me to still perform,” Paxton said.

“Folks make it. ... It’s easy music to get into. Three chords and a capo. As long as people pick up a guitar and sing ‘You Are My Sunshine’, we’ll have folk music.”

Tom Paxton will perform at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave., on Oct. 11 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available at www.birchmere.com.

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ALEXANDRIA SPORTS ROUNDPUP

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. Records will be presented alphabetically, while results will be listed by date.

This fall, the sports included are boys' football and girls' volleyball. We will also be running photos with captions from games and encourage readers to send timely photos for submission to mschrott@alextimes.com. We will also continue covering games from various sports, as well as running sports features about Alexandria athletes.

BOYS' FOOTBALL

School | Record
--- | ---
Bishop Ireton | 3-2
Episcopal | 3-1
SSSAS | 3-3
T.C. Williams | 4-2

Scores this week:
Oct. 4
T.C. Williams W 35-14 vs. Fairfax
Oct. 5
B.I. W 45-7 vs. John Paul the Great
Episcopal W 24-14 @ SSSAS

GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL

School | Record
--- | ---
Bishop Ireton | 14-6
Episcopal | 9-7
SSSAS | 4-10-1
T.C. Williams | 8-11

Scores this week:
Oct. 1
B.I. W 3-0 vs. Bishop Mc Namara
Episcopal L 3-2 @ Madeira School
SSSAS W 3-1 vs. Connelly School of the Holy Child
Oct. 2
T.C. Williams L 4-1 @ West Potomac
T.C. Williams W 1-0 @ Mount Vernon
T.C. Williams L 3-0 @ Bishop Denis J. O’Connell
Episcopal W 3-2 vs. SSSAS
Oct. 7
B.I. W 3-0 vs. Archbishop Carroll
SSSAS L 3-0 @ Holton-Arms
T.C. Williams W 3-0 vs. Annandale
Oct. 8
Episcopal W 3-0 vs. Stone Ridge
Like most teenagers, T.C. Williams High School seniors Andesha Zafar and Athena Salomons get hungry—often. And like most teenagers with busy schedules, they sometimes leave the house at the last moment without breakfast.

Now, thanks to new morning opening hours at the redesigned Titan Express Café, they have somewhere appealing to go grab a quick bite during advisory. The café’s Second Chance Breakfast service launched in September and will now offer breakfast from 9:28 to 9:55 a.m.

Over the summer break, the space underwent a major redesign, turning it from a dull space into a red, white and blue themed snack bar with a more adult feel.

“It’s a huge difference. It looks so much better. Everything is much more organized. And it is much, much quicker to get served here,” Zafar said.

The new venture was made possible in part with more than $4,000 in grant funding from No Kid Hungry, a nationwide nonprofit that is working to end child hunger in the U.S.

Lucy Ruetiman from ACPS School Nutrition Services was one of the driving forces behind the new initiative.

“Sometimes, you don’t want to eat immediately after getting up in the morning,” Ruetiman said. “We see this as giving a second chance breakfast after first period. It gives us another venue to serve our à la carte menu items and it provides students with a quick grab and go meal where they don’t have to wait in long lines. We wanted to create a more adult space, that looks like a store, rather than a classroom. Before the redesign, if you didn’t know it was there, you would have walked straight by it.”

The café is also open during lunch, and for an after-school dinner program from 3:15 to 3:45 p.m.

In addition to the café re-vamp, ACPS Nutrition Services is working on a number of other new initiatives this academic year, including eliminating artificial food coloring, artificial flavors and high fructose corn syrup from regular menus; continuing kitchen modernization in a number of schools; and increasing the availability of plant-based and vegetarian entrees on regular menus.
Students are the scientists at Commonwealth Academy

Science teachers at Commonwealth Academy are using the Argument-Driven Inquiry instructional approach in their curriculum this year.

Focused on discovery, exploration and collaboration, ADI gives students opportunities to actively engage in project-based labs and activities designed to promote discussion around the whys and the hows of science and deepen critical thinking and deductive reasoning skills. ADI calls for students to guide the experiments and come up with the procedures.

During a recent ADI lab in physics, students determined which variables affected the hang time of a launched projectile by launching marbles with a small catapult. Students decided, as scientists, to use various marbles with different masses, change the launch angle and alter the initial velocity of their catapult to see how each change affected the projectile hang time.

In a biochemistry ADI stoichiometry lab, students determined an equation for the decomposition of sodium bicarbonate and then, in an argument session with classmates, defended their equation as correct based on weight and composition.
Nationally recognized math specialist Shelly DuBose recently spent time at Alexandria Country Day School to work with teachers on the Math in Focus curriculum, the American version of Singapore Math. Over the course of two full days, teachers were able to observe DuBose teach math lessons to students in kindergarten through seventh grade. Teachers also had the opportunity to allow DuBose to observe them teach. Each teacher met with DuBose prior to each lesson to discuss its goals and afterward to debrief.

“It was incredibly valuable to get to witness Ms. DuBose bring our math curriculum to life with our kids,” fourth grade teacher Evan Jackson said. “I learned new ways to incorporate hands-on learning into the lesson, and I am already incorporating that, along with other things I learned, into my teaching.”

In 2013, ACDS was one of the first schools in the area to adopt the Math in Focus curriculum, an internationally recognized and celebrated program that sets the bar high for students while striking a balance between traditional algorithms and visual representations that help build critical thinking skills. Over the last seven years, ACDS has worked closely with DuBose, bringing her to campus once or twice each year, to ensure teachers are highly trained in the delivery of this curriculum.

Grace Episcopal School is a co-ed independent school in Alexandria for preschool students through grade five. A small school by design, Grace is rich in tradition and supported by a tight-knit community. Focusing on the formative years of education, its size and philosophy enable the faculty and staff to develop the individual potential of each student's mind, body and spirit in a loving, nurturing environment. Grace students learn to be independent, innovative thinkers and successful problem solvers, eager to explore the world around them and confident in their abilities to do so.

The early childhood program features child-centered, hands-on activities, focusing on students’ needs through a developmentally designed and implemented program. As the students move into first grade and beyond, teachers stress individual attention throughout the academically challenging curriculum. Grace students develop strong skills in language arts, mathematics, science and social studies, creating a solid foundation for lifelong learning. Their understanding of the world is broadened through working with the visual arts, music, computer and technology, religion and Spanish language instruction. The school's unique focus on the primary years of learning and character growth enables its students to leave fully prepared for the challenges of middle school and beyond.

This is advertorial content.
Browne Academy hits the great outdoors

Browne Academy’s middle school students in fifth through eighth grade recently traveled to the Horizons Outdoor Learning Center in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

During their three-day stay at “mountain campus,” each grade level participated in activities, including day hikes, rock climbing, canoeing, repelling, caving, high ropes course, field games and an overnight hike.

Besides being fun and often challenging, these activities encouraged team building and provided opportunities for individual growth. One student said she was proud of completing a six-mile hike and then spending the night camping for the first time.

The Burgundy Fall Fair returns

Once a year, Burgundy Farm Country Day School hosts a free family-friendly event that includes games, crafts, food, live music and lots of fun — the Burgundy Fall Fair.

The fall fair is one of the school’s signature events, and it attracts hundreds of people every year. Join the seasonal celebration on Oct. 19 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

All net proceeds benefit Burgundy’s financial aid program. For more information and event details, visit burgundyfarm.org/community/special-events/fall-fair-2019/.

SSSAS seniors bond at special retreat

Seniors and members of the Upper School faculty recently spent time bonding as a class during a favorite St. Stephen’s and St. Agnes School tradition.

They enjoyed two days together at Shrine Mont, an Episcopal Diocese of Virginia conference center, in Orkney Springs, Virginia. This special excursion created lasting memories for the senior class and encouraged class spirit.

Through games, social activities and teamwork exercises, the retreat gave students the opportunity to grow as leaders of the Upper School and to build relationships with teachers and administrators in a fun and relaxed environment.

“BE WHO YOU ARE and be that well.”

-St. Francis de Sales

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Immanuel Lutheran School holds kindergarten coronation ceremony

Kindergarten kings and queens were crowned in a coronation ceremony at Immanuel Lutheran School on Sept. 27.

Immanuel’s kindergarten students have commenced the year exploring the United Kingdom. They’ve learned about King James, the translation of the Bible into English, the Black Plague and King James’ disappointing coronation. At the conclusion of their study, students made their own crowns and participated in a lively coronation ceremony, where each student was declared king or queen of kindergarten.

Third grade students, who have been studying Guy Fawkes in history, were invited to participate in the ceremony, which gave them an opportunity to spend time with younger ILS classmates. The third grade students were excellent audience members, supporting and applauding each of the newly crowned kings and queens.

“The kindergarten history course at Immanuel develops a sense of where students are in the world and in history through a study of maps and engaging narratives,” kindergarten teacher Grace Egger said. “Students begin the year in units discovering the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Russia, China and India. They spend time exploring new lands with Marco Polo, Christopher Columbus and Amerigo Vespucci, which leads them to conclude the year in America and finally land in Virginia.”

This fall, Bishop Ireton Theater Arts will present Louisa May Alcott’s classic story “Little Women” on stage in the Garwood Whaley Auditorium. The show, adapted from Alcott’s novel by Scott Davidson and produced by special arrangement with Pioneer Drama Service, opens on Nov. 15 at 7 p.m.

Rehearsals are well underway and the cast includes Dagny Scannell as Jo, Sophie de Waal as Meg, Samantha Fisher as Beth, Melanie Becker as Amy and Owen Peters as Laurie, among many other talented students.

A production of “Little Women” was staged and produced in 1948 at St. Mary’s Academy, which was later integrated into Bishop Ireton upon its closing in 1990.

Performances will be on Nov. 15, 16, 22 and 23 at 7 p.m. and on Nov. 17 at 2 p.m. For tickets, go to www.bishopireton.org/tickets.
For some people, fall means pumpkin patches, apple picking and changing leaves. In my family, it means football season and chicken wing dip. Granted, we eat chicken wing dip at family gatherings year-round, but it’s just a little bit better served from a card table in a parking lot at a tailgate.

When my grandma came across this chicken wing dip recipe and shared it with my mom about 15 years ago, it quickly became my mom’s go-to contribution for every holiday party, game night and pot-luck dinner. After 15 years, it’s become her claim to fame.

My cousins expect the dip at every family gathering. Friends’ eyes light up when they see the dip on the kitchen counter. There are plenty of good buff chick dips out there, but this one’s to-die-for. And I’m not just saying that because it’s my mom’s.

With big chunks of shredded chicken, not-too-hot buffalo sauce and all the cheesy goodness you could dream of, chicken wing dip has the perfect combination of flavor and consistency.

While anything that involves a couple of blocks of cream cheese and a whole jar of blue cheese dressing might be bad for your heart, it’s oh-so-good for your soul.

There are a few ways to prep the chicken that goes in the dip. We’ve found that boiling and shredding it works best, but you could also bake it or use shredded rotisserie chicken for some added flavor.

The recipe calls for half a bottle of hot wing sauce. We’ve experimented with a few varieties but found that some can make the dip too spicy or too greasy. Frank’s RedHot gives it a great buffalo flavor without that too-spicy kick.

One ingredient that is a must is the blue cheese dressing. Even if you’re on Team Ranch – trust me, I am too – this recipe works best with Marzetti’s chunky blue cheese dressing. The flavor isn’t overwhelming, and the dip has been known to convert even the most stubborn blue cheese haters.

When it comes to serving the dip, not all tortilla chips are created equal. Tostitos Scoops are our go-to for a sturdy chip that can handle the dip’s hearty consistency. Pro tip: Try celery as a low-carb alternative to tortilla chips. A few chopped up stalks of celery go into the dip itself, so there’s usually plenty left over to use for dipping.

With football season in full swing and holiday entertaining around the corner, give this recipe a try for an appetizer. Your friends and family will thank you. My only word of advice is to try to go slow – it’s a little too easy to fill up on chicken wing dip and spoil your dinner.

The writer is editor of the Alexandria Times.

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**THE ULTIMATE PARTY FOOD: CHICKEN WING DIP**

**RECIPE Mrs. Schrott’s chicken wing dip**

**Ingredients**
- 3 or 4 boneless skinless chicken breasts, cooked and shredded
- ½ bottle hot wing sauce
- 2 stalks of celery, chopped
- 1 jar of Marzetti’s chunky blue cheese dressing
- 8 oz. bag of shredded Mexican cheese
- 2 8 oz. packs of cream cheese

**Directions**
1. Preheat oven to 350º F.
2. Combine all ingredients, leaving a bit of shredded cheese.
3. Bake for 25 to 30 minutes.
4. Sprinkle remaining shredded cheese and let melt
5. Serve with tortilla chips.
Spring is not just a promise when you’re holding a handful of tulip bulbs: It’s a bright and colorful guarantee. Each tulip bulb contains the germ of at least one cheerful flower. Planting them now, in the fall, sets your garden up for a lovely springtime display of flowers.

Big public displays of tulips often involve sweeping mass plantings of a single tulip variety. Such a bold splash of color will certainly stop traffic, but tulips are versatile flowers, and there are many ways to use them in gardens of any size or style. They’re graceful, stately performers within the clipped hedges of a formal garden, add style to cottage gardens and bring a winter-weary perennial garden to life. They’re handsome companions for evergreen and spring-blooming shrubs. In pots, they put spring color at your fingertips.

“They’re amongst my favorite spring-flowering bulbs,” said Jacqueline van der Kloet, a Dutch garden designer with planting designs at the Lurie Garden in Chicago’s Millennium Park, the Battery Gardens in Manhattan and New York Botanical Garden.

Van der Kloet is inspired by the colors, shapes, heights and flowering times of tulips, she said. Her book, “A Year in My Garden,” explores many of her favorite pairings.

“It has become a game for me to keep coming up with new combinations,” Van der Kloet said.

It can be hard to choose. Officially, there are more than 3,000 tulip varieties, from tiny, wispy species flowers to big doubles that look almost like peonies. Bulb specialists narrow down the selection for their customers, but they still list dozens of tulips in their catalogs every fall, alongside daffodils, hyacinths, crocus and other bulbs.

It’s a dizzying selection, but choosing will be easier if you give some thought in advance to what colors you like, when in the spring you want your tulips to bloom and how tall they should be. If you choose a range of tulips with early, mid and late-season bloom times, you can expect tulips to be in bloom in your garden for a month or more. If you’re going for a really bold show of color, you might stick to mid-season Darwin and Triumph tulips. You’re still likely to have blooms for up to two weeks.

Catalogs such as Colorblends make it easy to be an expert tulip gardener. Tim Schipper, the owner, and his team experiment with combinations of different tulip varieties...
Lee Street home on Augustine Washington-owned plat

This brick, free-standing home with a private side garden, carriage house and additional buildable lot stands on one of the original 31 lots offered for sale in Alexandria in 1749, on a plat originally owned by George Washington’s half-brother, Augustine Washington Jr.

Built in 1812 and renovated in the 1850s to add Victorian details, the home is surrounded by gardens with mature evergreens, boxwood, hellebore, hydrangea and roses. It also features the original carriage house with a full kitchen and bath that can be used as a separate apartment, artist’s studio, office or guest suite.

The house is representative of the traditional historic Alexandria townhouse, having a rectangular form with an entrance hall at the side and two adjacent formal rooms. The entry reveals a glass interior door that opens to a hall with heart pine floors and formal living and dining rooms. The dining room features built-ins and French doors that open to the garden terrace.

An eat-in kitchen with a gas fireplace has custom cabinetry, stainless appliances and an enameled French range with six burners, a simmer plate and two ovens. Shuttered triple-hung windows and French doors open onto a private garden with a fountain and rose trellis.

Beyond the kitchen is a family room with arched windows, a coffered ceiling, heart pine heated floors, a gas fireplace, built-in bookshelves and space for lounging.

The second level offers 11-foot ceilings, windows on all sides and several private retreats. The property is located a block from the restaurants and shops along King Street and two blocks from the Potomac River with three off-street parking spaces.
Art on the Avenue, Del Ray's annual multicultural arts festival, drew more than 50,000 visitors on Saturday. The 24th annual festival featured more than 350 area artists and craftspeople, international food, four stages of live music, free children's craft activities and entertainment, a pie-baking contest and more.

Top left: Irish dancers from the Boyle School of Dance perform with the Irish Breakfast Band.
Middle left: Goodies Frozen Custard makes its Art on the Avenue debut in the food truck area. Goodies also is opening a permanent location in Alexandria.
Bottom left: A young artist works on painting pumpkins at the kids art corner. Local nonprofits hosted free art activities for children as part of Art on the Avenue.
Circle: The annual Pie Baking Contest honored the longtime Pie Crew leader and beloved volunteer Pam Fitzgerald. All proceeds from the competition were donated to the Vola Lawson Breast Cancer Fund, which underwrites mammograms for Alexandrians who are uninsured.
Top right: "Rainbow Lady" Kate Moran and Patty Moran prepare to judge the 15th annual Pie Baking contest. Mary Jane Candaux's Crust Lover's Apple Pie won the adult contest, and Zoe Young's Princess Pecan Pie won in the kids' division.
Middle right: Del Ray's own Irish Breakfast Band kicks off the Art on the Avenue festival.
Bottom right: Ginger Reuling of Fly Home Bird Houses talks with a customer at Art on the Avenue. This was Reuling's 19th year at Art on the Avenue.
OCTOBER 11

HIGHLAND ECHOES ALEXANDRIA PERFORMANCE This two-hour dance and music extravaganza contains a wealth of talent derived from all areas of Scottish life. The show includes a cast of Highland dancers, a step dancer, live musicians, Gaelic and English female vocals, bagpipes and fiddle tunes. The 2019 tour features new music, more dancing and new costumes to reflect both the traditional and modern use of the tartan. This mix of traditional and contemporary arts marries the present and the ancient. As part of its community outreach, the Highland Echoes will give more than 250 tickets to local schools for the performance and will invite local Scottish dance schools, pipe bands and organizations to be represented at the show.

Time: 7:30 p.m.
Location: Schlesinger Concert Hall, 4915 E. Campus Drive
Information: highlandechoesalexandria.eventbrite.com

OCTOBER 12

GEORGE WASHINGTON’S ALEXANDRIA TOUR Explore historic Old Town Alexandria as George Washington knew it. This 90-minute guided walking tour will explore sites associated with Washington and his closest colleagues, including John Fitzgerald’s warehouse, Captain’s Row, Gentry Row, the Apothecary shop, Ramsay House, Market Square, the Carlyle House, Wise’s Tavern, Duval Tavern, Gadsby’s Tavern and Washington’s townhouse. The tour is free and no reservations are required.

Time: 2 to 3:30 p.m.
Location: Tour starts at 101 N. Union St.
Information: suej020924@gmail.com

PORTSIDE IN OLD TOWN FESTIVAL Enjoy a day of live music, maritime history, nautical demonstrations and children’s activities on the Old Town Alexandria waterfront. Savour local food, beer and wine while experiencing boat building demonstrations from Alexandria Seaport Foundation Apprentices and knot tying from sail ship Providence.

Time: All day
Location: Waterfront Park, 1 King St.
Information: www.visitalexandria.com

MEET AND GREET WITH BROOKE ADDAMS OF FULLY SPUN YARNS Head to fibre space to shop the yarns of local dyer Brooke Addams of Fully Spun Yarn. Meet the artist in person at this fun meet and greet as she drops off the store’s closest colleagues, including John Fitzgerald’s warehouse, Captain’s Row, Gentry Row, the Apothecary shop, Ramsay House, Market Square, the Carlyle House, Wise’s Tavern, Duval Tavern, Gadsby’s Tavern and Washington’s townhouse. The tour is free and no reservations are required.

Time: 2 to 3:30 p.m.
Location: Tour starts at 101 N. Union St.
Information: suej020924@gmail.com

WALKING TOUR OF NORTH OLD TOWN Curious about the history of North Old Town and the surrounding neighborhood? Enjoy a group walk? In conjunction with North Old Town Citizen’s Association, Mike Kenny is providing a two-hour free informative and fun tour on both Oct. 5 and 12 that will cover 400 years of local history. There is no cost for the tour.

Time: 10 a.m.
Location: Onoroco Bay Park, 100 Addison St.
Information: GITRMSG@gmail.com

OCTOBER 19

HOLLIN HALL SENIOR CENTER ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR The Hollin Hall Senior Center, a nonprofit senior center, is holding its annual fundraising bazaar and craft fair. This year’s event will include more than 30 crafters, a silent auction, a bake sale and door prizes. Admission is free and open to the public.

Time: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Location: 1500 Shenandoah Road
Information: www.hollinlhallseniorcenter.org

SPECIALTY TAVERN TOUR: DEATH AT THE CITY HOTEL Gadsby’s Tavern has been the site of many historic events — but also of macabre ones. This special tour explores the stories of the people who breathed their last at the hotel and the scenes surrounding them. Bring friends and raise a glass — drink provided by the tour — to those who have come before, from a famous actress to Civil War soldiers.

Time: 7 to 9 p.m.
Location: Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St.
Information: gadsbystown.tavern.org

OCTOBER 20

FEMALE STRANGER BEER DINNER WITH PORT CITY BREWING COMPANY Join Port City Brewing Company and Gadsby’s Tavern Museum in honoring the anniversary of the Female Stranger’s death with her specialty beer and a beer dinner. Enjoy a four-course meal alongside four Port City beers including the Long Black Veil. This special craft beer was inspired by the famous tale of the Female Stranger, who died at the tavern on Oct. 14, 1816. Tickets are $85 per person and reservations are required. A vegetarian entrée option is available with advance notice.

Time: 7 to 11 p.m.
Location: Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St.
Information: gadsbystown.tavern.org

AMERICAN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY FALL HARVEST AND MARKET Celebrate the turning of the seasons at Pumpkins & Pollinators, the American Horticultural Society’s family-friendly fall harvest festival. Learn about the vital connection between people, plants and pollinators, while enjoying nature-based crafts for children and adults, face painting, apple cider sales, food trucks, beekeeping and horticultural demonstrations and live music. Pick up a pumpkin to take home, and browse a marketplace of plant, food and craft vendors.

Time: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Location: River Farm, 7933 E. Boulevard Drive
Information: www.ahsgardening.org

CARLYLE HOUSE’S NIGHTMARE As night falls, Carlyle House will be taking on the more sinister movies created by Tim Burton. Participate in a Burton-themed scavenger hunt around the grounds of the house. The team with the quickest completion time will walk away with a Burton-themed prize. During the evening, there will be Burton films playing on the back terrace. The event is $10 per person.

Time: 7 to 10 p.m.
Location: Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St.
Information: www.novaparks.com

HISTORIC CEMETARY TOUR Enjoy a guided tour through several of Alexandria’s historic cemeteries. Learn about Alexandria’s famous residents, including those who fought in the Revolutionary War, Mexican War and Civil War.

Time: 5 p.m.
Location: The corner of Wilkes and South Payne streets
Information: discoveralexva.com

23RD ANNUAL DEL RAY HALLOWEEN PARADE Children, pets and strollers in costumes will march and show off their finest and scariest Halloween garb during Del Ray’s annual Halloween parade. Follow the parade, awards are given for Best Pet Costume, Best Decorated Business, Best Decorated Home and Best Decorated Stroller during a brief ceremony.

Time: 2 to 4 p.m.
Location: Mount Vernon Avenue
Information: www.visitdelray.com

OCTOBER 25

CANINE HALLOWEEN CRUISE Dog owners can bring their costumed canine and cruise along the Potomac River to some Halloween tunes. Halloween treats will be provided on board.

Time: 6:30 to 8 p.m.
Location: Alexandria City Marina, 1 Cameron St.
Information: www.potomacriverboatco.com

OCTOBER 26

HALLOWEEN PUMPKIN HUNT The Lee-Fendall House sixth annual Halloween Pumpkin Hunt returns to Alexandria. Alexandria’s ghosts and goblins will fill the museum’s garden with hundreds of colorful toy-filled Halloween pumpkins for local children to discover. Other activities include crafts, refreshments, spooky stories and a costume parade. Every participating child will receive a toy pumpkin.

Time: Hunts set for 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.
Location: 614 Oronoco St.
Information: www.leefendallhouse.org

HISTORIC CEMETARY TOUR Explore Old Town’s historic cemeteries. Learn about Alexandria’s famous residents, including those who fought in the Revolutionary War, Mexican War and Civil War.

Time: 5 p.m.
Location: The corner of Wilkes and South Payne streets
Information: discoveralexva.com

23RD ANNUAL DEL RAY HALLOWEEN PARADE Children, pets and strollers in costumes will march and show off their finest and scariest Halloween garb during Del Ray’s annual Halloween parade. Follow the parade, awards are given for Best Pet Costume, Best Decorated Business, Best Decorated Home and Best Decorated Stroller during a brief ceremony.

Time: 2 to 4 p.m.
Location: Mount Vernon Avenue
Information: www.visitdelray.com

OCTOBER 27

23RD ANNUAL DEL RAY HALLOWEEN PARADE Children, pets and strollers in costumes will march and show off their finest and scariest Halloween garb during Del Ray’s annual Halloween parade. Follow the parade, awards are given for Best Pet Costume, Best Decorated Business, Best Decorated Home and Best Decorated Stroller during a brief ceremony.

Time: 2 to 4 p.m.
Location: Mount Vernon Avenue
Information: www.visitdelray.com

THE HUNTING OF THE HILL HOUSE No one ever visits Hill House, especially not after dark. When three strangers are invited to join the mysterious Dr. Montague at the eerie house on the hill, not even their darkest dreams could have prepared them for what awaits. Based on the 1959 gothic horror novel by Shirley Jackson, this story is a chilling and mystifying study in mounting terror. Come join us — if you dare.

Buy tickets early at our box office or online!
Our View

Should the e-scooter pilot continue?

There are two basic questions in the decision tree regarding the future of commercial e-scooters in Alexandria: Should they exist? And if so, how should restrictions on their use be enforced?

Everything else flows from those two questions – one existential and the other practical.

When a city considers whether a new technology is worth the disruption, the key factor is whether the benefits outweigh the drawbacks. One of the posited benefits to scooters is their use in commuting the last mile to the Metro or to work. An examination of the data on scooters, however, would seem to indicate that usage is not particularly widespread.

In today’s Alexandria Times page 1 story, “The future of scooters,” the data reveals that while 201,340 scooter trips took place between Jan. 1 and Aug. 31 in Alexandria, there were 114,510 separate users.

This averages to fewer than two rides per user, meaning a significant majority of the users were joyriders who only took one ride – or at most a few rides – not vast numbers of commuters who rely on the scooters for daily transportation.

Most people who have ridden the e-scooters say they’re fun. Most people who have ridden ponies also say they’re fun. Who didn’t secretly want an e-scooter, pony or motorized mini-bike while growing up? But is that reason enough for the city to spend our tax dollars and disrupt the life and endanger the safety of residents, mainly in Old Town – where 65 percent of the rides have taken place – while essentially playing the part of fairy godmother?

Anyone who seriously wants to use an e-scooter on a regular basis to commute to and from work or the Metro would be much better off financially and safety-wise buying their own scooter and helmet.

Safety is the other main reason Alexandria would be better off saying “no” to commercial e-scooters. It’s simply not safe for e-scooters to operate either in the roadway or on sidewalks in a city as dense and with roads as narrow as those in Alexandria.

Scooter riders, mostly without helmets since they’re not required, are unsafe on the streets. And pedestrians and their dogs, particularly in Old Town, are at great risk from scooters if they’re allowed on sidewalks.

If city council decides to allow a second e-scooter pilot – and make no mistake, if there’s a second year-long pilot then scooter are here to stay – any specific provisions in the pilot are meaningless without effective enforcement mechanisms.

Effective enforcement mechanisms do not exist in the current pilot, nor in the phase two proposal, which renders this draft recommendation moot on arrival. As Old Town Civic Association Vice President Yvonne Callahan said, enforcement needs to be legal and not civil. Meaning the onus should not fall to residents to “police” this program, but on the city and scooter companies.

There are many reasons why scooters shouldn’t be allowed on sidewalks, but a key one is that there’s no way in this proposal to enforce the 6-mph speed limit. If the scooters are programmed with a 15-mph cap, the allowed speed on roads, then nothing is going to prevent riders from going that fast on sidewalks. And they will be a menace to every pedestrian and dog in their path at anything close to 15 mph.

If the city is serious about enforcement, then the onus must be on scooter companies to ensure compliance with requirements. And the only way to make that happen is to hit the companies hard in the pocketbook. A few possibilities are to fine the scooter company $250 each time:

1. If there’s traffic waiting at a four-way stop, be courteous and allow the vehicle a chance to go through. Speeding through a four-way stop on a scoot-

See Our View | 32

Opinion

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

- Thomas Jefferson

Your Views

A different perspective on scooters

To the editor:

As someone who relies on their e-scooter regularly to get to and from the Metro – I’m the one with the pink helmet and purple Mohawk – I recognize that at this point there are two types of people in Old Town: those that ride scooters and those that hate scooters. There have already been some well-written pieces highlighting safety issues and the lack of guidance and regulation of e-scooters in Old Town.

That being said, lack of guidance continues to be an issue impacting motorists, scooter riders and pedestrians. In fact, pretty much the only actual scooter laws regulate operator age and not riding on sidewalks. Yes, even helmets are not required by law. However, with a little courtesy exercised by both motorists and scooter riders, the issues resulting from lack of formal guidance can be minimized.

First off, let’s be real. A scooter is essentially a bicycle when it comes to street riding. The speeds are commensurate, and the rider is in an equally bad position if they get hit by a car. Therefore, I have to believe that if we have made bikes work, we can make scooters work.

What motorists should understand about scooter riders:

1. On Alexandria’s narrower streets, there is insufficient room to pass a scooter rider if there are cars parked along the street. Accept that you may be stuck behind a slightly slower moving scooter for a short period rather than attempt a risky pass that pushes the scooter rider into parked vehicles.

2. Some of Old Town’s streets are so rutted out that scootering on the far right portion of the road is not feasible. Again, exercise some patience and caution.

3. Please stop yelling at us to ride on the sidewalk. That is pretty much the only thing we aren’t allowed to do.

Scooter rider responsibilities:

1. If there’s traffic waiting at a four-way stop, be courteous and allow the-
Scooters are a recipe for disaster

To the editor:

It seems that the Capitol Hill Police have sent warning letters to the eight dockless commercial scooter companies operating in the District of Columbia advising them that scooters are now banned on the Capitol grounds.

Additionally, the Senate Appropriations Committee has inserted language into its FY 2020 Appropriations Bill directing the police to keep these scooters off the Capitol grounds. In all likelihood, the House will duplicate this language in its version of the bill. Bottom line is that our national lawmakers have identified scooters as a public safety concern.

Unfortunately, Alexandria’s scooter pilot program has been extended by city council until the end of the year, at which time a decision will be made as to whether or not to allow the scooters to operate indefinitely as is or with a revised pilot program.

In the meantime, there are a number of safety concerns that must be addressed prior to allowing these scooters to run rampant throughout the Old and Historic District. If this is permitted, I for one think that our City Fathers will be spinning in their graves. Considering the lack of traffic enforcement in the Old and Historic District, it will continue to be a recipe for disaster.

-Townsend A. ‘Van’ Van Fleet, Alexandria

PERSPECTIVE

er as if there is no other traffic is not courteous and is potentially dangerous.

2. If conditions allow, move over to the right to allow faster moving vehicles to pass. However, do not sacrifice your own safety to do so, if road conditions or obstacles like parked cars prevent adequate clearance.

3. If you must cross a sidewalk with your scooter, do not engage the motor function. It is much slower and more controllable when used as a regular scooter, as well as much less of a hazard to pedestrians.

4. Helmets are not required by law but a good idea. I think I’m the only person I’ve seen scooter with a helmet. It will probably only take one death to greatly accelerate the push for an all-out scooter ban.

5. Park your scooter in accordance with city regulations and in scooter parking areas where available. Old Town is a great walking city. Don’t ruin it.

In conclusion, scooters are new and going through growing pains. Still, speed and capability wise they are similar enough to bikes that they should be able to assimilate into our local transportation system. I, like others, am frustrated by the lack of guidance and bike lanes. But if we all exercise some common sense and patience we can make it work without official government guidance.

-Phil Shapiro, Alexandria

The exciting times are just beginning

These are exciting times for Alexandria City Public Schools. In the past two weeks, we announced that all schools within ACPS are fully accredited for the 2019-20 academic year for the first time in 20 years, forged a way forward as a city with one high school – T.C. Williams – and watched one of our Titans become the 200 meters World Champion.

This kind of success doesn’t happen by chance, nor does it happen overnight. It happens through planning, preparation and dedication. It has taken the hard work and commitment of a team of staff, students, parents and coaches, as well as six superintendents over the course of 20 years, to get ACPS to where it is today.

Across the Commonwealth of Virginia there are few other school divisions that moved from an 82 percent accreditation rate to 100 percent within a year, despite the accreditation rate across the state remaining the same at 92 percent overall. Jefferson-Houston PreK-8 IB School will be fully accredited for the first time since 2008. T.C. Williams High School, which has missed accreditation benchmarks in recent years, will also now be fully accredited.

And there is no other school division that is taking such an innovative approach to its high school education. This was a decision that was made with one question at the forefront: “What is going to be best for our students?” Our students tell us diversity is our greatest gift. Having one high school will allow us to support and celebrate the opportunities that come with the diversity in an even more robust way.

Today, there is no other high school in America that has two athletes – Tynita Butts in the finals of the high jump and Noah Lyles who won the 200-meter race – competing in the World Track and Field Championships. These athletes represent our Titan spirit and have demonstrated first hand not only great determination but also the values for which T.C. Williams stands.

There is one common factor throughout each of these success stories. That is the commitment by ACPS to tackle head-on the inequalities that have been at the heart of our school system since its early days. Our goal is for all students to experience success regardless of their life circumstances. Our goal is to see every student in every classroom and on every playground have the opportunity to learn so that our future Titans will experience equity in each of our schools every day.

These successes are not the end, but the beginning. The work to ensure all our students have access to the opportunities at T.C. Williams and at our elementary and middle schools has only just begun.

Despite the fact our Hispanic students are the largest student population in our schools, our graduation rate tells us we are not yet serving our Hispanic students as well as they deserve. ACPS continues to see achievement gaps within math and English among Hispanic students, Black students, economically disadvantaged students and students with disabilities. However, we can learn a lot from some of our schools that are making a difference for our students of color as well as economically disadvantaged students such as Cora Kelly STEM School, Patrick Henry K-8 School and Francis C. Hammond Middle School.

Our students tell us that modern-day segregation exists within T.C. Williams High School and we must do better to afford them an integrated learning experience. We cannot stand still. We want T.C. Williams High School to be known for so much more than “Remember the Titans.” This is our opportunity to ensure all students are engaged in a high-quality educational experience in ACPS and enter the world with the life skills necessary to thrive.

The work should be deliberate and intentional and involve all schools, departments, staff, parents, students, the City and the Alexandria community. Together, we should continue to work toward removing barriers for students and providing them with the necessary support to achieve within ACPS and beyond.

We are delighted to see the progress of our work validated. But the work to transform ACPS into a premier school division that serves all students equitably has only just begun. The time is now.

DR. GREGORY HUTCHINGS, ED.D

The writer is superintendent of Alexandria City Public Schools.
OUT OF THE ATTIC

The Sun Fire Company

While the Friendship Fire Company was Alexandria’s first firefighting company and stays in our memory through the Friendship Firehouse Museum on South Alfred Street, there were other fire companies in early Alexandria. The Sun Fire Company is the second fire company that we have written records for. While there is some disagreement as to the exact date of the company’s formation, we know that there are minutes of its March 1775 meeting. It’s safe to say that the company was founded in 1774 or early 1775.

The March 1775 meeting minutes tell us a lot about the company. First, they limited the membership to 45 persons. Absent members were to be fined one shilling three pence. Members were to receive two buckets, a linen bag containing at least four yards of material and a wicker basket as close to their admittance as possible.

The Revolutionary War required the services of many of the Sun Fire Company’s members during the late 1770s and early 1780s, including Captains Valentine Peirs and John Allison and Colonel John Fitzgerald. The Sun Company participated in Alexandria’s first fire alarm system by having its members light candles in their front windows the moment they heard of a fire.

In 1795, the Sun Fire Company, unsatisfied with its single English engine that had been delivered in 1785, bought three from a Mr. Mason of Philadelphia. The three engines were able to hold 190, 170 and 160 gallons of water, which theydispersed in 90 seconds when they were operated by a full complement of 18 to 24 men.

The redundancy of having three fire companies in town was causing confusion at fires. In 1796, there was a summit between the three companies, where they agreed to have three commanders, one from each company, who would act one at a time to control engines, fire hooks and ladders. Each commander asserted his authority by yelling through a speaking trumpet, much like the one seen in the image to the left, which is on display at the Friendship Firehouse Museum.

Fire Prevention Week is Oct. 6 to 12 in the United States, the timing of which commemorates the Great Fire of Chicago of 1871. Fire Prevention Week is meant to draw attention to the prevention of future fires. It also provides an opportunity to marvel at the evolution of firefighting techniques and technology throughout Alexandria’s past, and to honor firefighters – past and present.

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

OUR VIEW

FROM | 30

• someone is caught riding a scooter in a disallowed area, such as Market Square or Waterfront Park;
• a scooter is found deposited somewhere other than in a corral;
• a scooter rider runs a red light or stop sign; or
• a scooter is caught going more than 6 mph on a sidewalk.

These fines would bring in significant revenue, meaning the city could pay for dedicated police officers to be posted seven days a week in Old Town to enforce the rules. It is clear that without financial pain to scooter companies and the active involvement of city police, there will be no meaningful enforcement of a second pilot.

City residents shouldn’t have to co-exist with this invasive species. But if our elected leaders decide to plow ahead, it’s vital that they do so with effective enforcement mechanisms in place.

Weekly Poll

Last Week

What do you think about the school board's 6-3 vote to establish a one-school, connected high school rather than two high schools?

61% I still think Alexandria needs more than one high school.
32% I think it was the right decision.
7% I’m not sure.

This Week

What are your views on e-scooters in Alexandria?

A) I love them. Bring on the second pilot.
B) I hate them. Ban them.
C) The program has potential, but significant changes should be part of a second pilot.
D) I’m not sure.

Take the poll at alextimes.com
Weekly Words

ACROSS
1. ___ eagle
5. Take a trip?
9. Skating venue
13. Reebok alternative
19. Second-smallest Great Lake
20. Cupid equivalent
21. Cube of dos
22. Shaken instrument
23. Realtor's private swampland pitch?
26. Lead role in "Pose"
27. Ending for elephant
28. Baby Archie's buggy
29. Sheared female
30. "The very ___!"
32. Young grizzly
33. Mystical Hindu text
35. Wavy trig function
37. They control pupils
39. An angel plays it
41. Some fruit snacks
45. Org. with greenhouse gas data
46. Shelter for wild hogs?
47. Lead role in "Pose"
48. Worship from ___
50. Advice to a feline fancier's suitor?
54. The lowdown
55. Baby sharks
57. German article
58. Kind of acid in a lime
59. Photographer Arbus
61. Assists with a heist
63. Common sunburn spot
65. Org. in the Volunteer State
66. Watch online
67. Merch
70. In-flight stats
71. Currency in Kyoto
72. Superhero creator Lee in boot camp?
76. British inc.
78. Words to an old chap
80. German sausage
81. "This ____ what I signed up for."
82. Surname akin to Rivers
83. Letter closing
84. Criticize harshly
85. Go in a curved path
86. "Kids ___ days!"
88. Add to the mix
90. Northern Sri Lankan people
92. British inc.
93. Geraldine who ran with Mondale
94. She dated Michael on "The Office"
96. "Flawless"
97. Grunts of mealtime satisfaction
98. Part of an underground network
99. Syria neighbor
101. Was a tributary of
102. Demonstrations of outrage
103. ___ Mahal
104. Tennis period since 1968
105. Easternmost state
106. Scandinavian country
107. Flawless

DOWN
1. uit
2. Venue for concerts
3. Bedding and such
4. "Fo sho"
5. Geraldine who ran with Mondale
6. Robb Stark's youngest sister
7. Vases
8. Kite
9. "Au contraire!"
10. Berkeley's first
11. "Can we get some AC?!
12. Aquatic animals
13. Surname prefix with "gerald"
14. ___ Lama
15. Financial planning initiatives
16. Function where you show off your moves
17. Case for direct objects
18. Sad-sounding car
19. "Can't stress this enough...
20. "Kids ___ days!"
21. Surnames
22. "Put a ___ on it!"
23. Maui music makers, briefly
24. Taqueria freebie
25. University of Nevada city
26. Make a signal
27. Burger chain
28. "Chopped" creation
29. "Flawless"
30. Queensland's capital
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REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

ATTN. REALTORS: Advertise your listings regionally or statewide. Affordable Print and Digital Solutions to reach truck drivers. Call Landon Clark at Virginia Press Services 804-521-7576, landonc@vpa.net

SERVICES


HELP WANTED

John C. Flood Inc.
6430 General Green Way
Alexandria, VA 22312
Seeking experienced/skilled plumber.
Job Duties: Managing excavation & installation of main sewer laterals and water mains inside and outside of residential dwellings and commercial properties including determining elevation, calculating slope, trenching, bedding, pipe installation, backfill and regrading.
Qualifications/Experience: Apprenticeship in plumbing, must have 48 months experience in plumbing. Must have supervisory experience in Plumbing and be bilingual in English and Spanish. Able to work extended hours including weekends. Must be able to travel in/around Washington D.C., Maryland and Virginia. Compensation: D.O.E

HELP WANTED

W.E. Brooks Law Firm
101 Washington Boulevard
Laurel, MD 20707
info@webrooksllp.com

Position: Legal Specialist.
Job duties: Responsible for working with Firms’ Venezuelan employment and investor visa clients. Responsible for drafting necessary pleadings, forms, obtaining documents from governmental agencies and entities in Venezuela. Also responsible for assisting attorneys with Immigration Court pleadings and proceedings and clients/cases. Must have knowledge of Venezuelan societal/cultural customs and political conditions and linguistic characteristics. Must have knowledge and experience in the areas of Venezuelan civil, commercial and employment law.
Special Requirements: Must be fluent in English and Spanish (reading, writing, speaking). Must be willing to work in and travel in Northern Virginia (Alexandria/Arlington), Maryland (including Metro D.C.) and Southern Pennsylvania (York, Philadelphia). Must be a licensed attorney in Venezuela. Must have at least 10 years experience in Civil, Commercial and Employment Law.

LEGAL NOTICE

ALEXANDRIA PLANNING & ZONING DEPARTMENT
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

The following requests have been received for administrative review and approval.

For information on the following applications or to comment, visit the City’s website at www.alexandriava.gov/planning or call 703.746.4666.

Special Use Permit #2019-0085
200 Commerce Street
Administrative review of Special Use Permit request for a new use for a restaurant; zoned: CL/Commercial Low Zone.
APPLICANT: Brandon Byrd
PLANNER: Max Ewart – Max.Ewart@alexandriava.gov

Special Use Permit #2019-0086
501 Seminary Road
Administrative review of Special Use Permit request for a new use for a restaurant; zoned: CDD #21/Coordinated Development District #21
APPLICANT: Alemsged B. Gebreyesus
PLANNER: Max Ewart – Max.Ewart@alexandriava.gov

In accordance with section 11-500 of the zoning ordinance, the above listed request may be approved administratively by the Director of Planning & Zoning. If you have any comments regarding the proposal above, please contact Planning & Zoning staff at 703.746.4666 or email the planner listed no later than November 6, 2019.

Classifieds

POWER DESIGN NOW HIRING ELECTRICAL APPRENTICES OF ALL SKILL LEVELS!

about the position... Do you love working with your hands? Are you interested in construction and in becoming an electrician? Then the electrical apprentice position could be perfect for you! Electrical apprentices are able to earn a paycheck and full benefits while learning the trade through firsthand experience.

what we’re looking for... Motivated D.C. residents who want to learn the electrical trade and have a high school diploma or GED as well as reliable transportation.

a little bit about us... Power Design is one of the top electrical contractors in the U.S., committed to our values, to training and to giving back to the communities in which we live and work.

more details... Visit powerdesigninc.us/careers or email careers@powerdesigninc.us!

PUPPIES FOR SALE

AKC Lab Puppies, Chocolate and Black $675
(434) 324-7506
Pamela Sue Fitzgerald (Pam) passed away after a courageous battle with cancer at her home in Alexandria, VA on September 7th, 2019 at the age of 51 years old.

Pam is survived by her father Bob Fitzgerald of Alexandria VA, her brother Rob Fitzgerald, his wife Elizabeth Fitzgerald, their daughter and Pam’s niece Vivian Fitzgerald of Austin Texas, her uncle David Fitzgerald of Juno Beach FL, aunt and uncle Geraldine and Mario Messina of New York City NY, her aunt and uncle Susan and Stephen Blair of Chesapeake VA, her great aunts Dorothy Hennerty of Albany NY and Helen Buonviri of Punta Gorda FL, as well as numerous cousins and extended family.

Pam was born in Portsmouth, VA on January 3rd, 1968. She graduated from Great Bridge High School in 1986 and Virginia Commonwealth University in 1991. After college Pam stayed in Richmond working in the hospitality and event industry. She lived in Atlanta, GA and Rockville, MD before moving to Alexandria, VA in 2007, joining the community of Del Ray which quickly became a second family. Pam was the VP of marketing for a national association until her mother, Diane Fitzgerald, became ill with cancer. She was her mother’s constant companion, caregiver and biggest champion. They unfortunately had to battle cancer together until Diane’s death in 2015.

Pam was beautiful, incredibly smart, witty and generous with her creative goody bags and silly gag gifts. She was the first to try anything fun - from jumping out of a plane, to traveling the world, to eating cake for breakfast with her beloved niece, Vivian.

As one friend said, “Her smile and her gigantic heart were endless, always helping the less fortunate.” Even while battling cancer for the last 5 years, she was organizing breakfasts at the Carpenter’s Shelter, raising funds at Art on the Avenue at her favorite Pie Contest, and helping the Bellefonte Wizards.

Bob, Pam’s dad, was a constant at her side especially these last few years. He was an extraordinary caregiver and amazing father to her. Pam will be deeply missed by her loving family and many close friends.

A celebration of life is scheduled for Saturday, October 12th at 2:00pm at Mount Vernon Recreation Center, 2701 Commonwealth Ave Alexandria, VA 22305.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to:
Bellefonte Wizards: c/o Kelly Cares Foundation http://www.kellycares.org
Carpenter’s Shelter: https://carpentershelter.org/give/
Lost Dog & Cat Rescue Foundation: https://lostdogrescue.org/donate-now/in-recognition-in-memorial-card/

Classifieds
For an exceptional real estate experience...
Call HayesWood Homes at McEnearney Associates

Check out the Coming Soon Listing extravaganza below. Every listing needs some preparation before going on the market. Some need staging. Some need a general sprucing up. Some need extensive work. This is precisely why home sellers choose HayesWood Homes and their “best contractor list in the business” to decide how to get their house ready for prime time, to sell quicker, for more money. HayesWood Homes has a proven plan that will reduce your stress, knowing they care about you and your biggest asset.

“I have worked with HayesWood Homes three separate times to buy and sell homes. Why? They are dedicated experts with a unique ability to make us feel as though we were their only clients. They listened and knew just how to position us to make a sale or secure the house we wanted. It is rare to find people who have been in the real estate business this long and are still just as passionate and enthusiastic.” – Sara and Ansel S.