

Jinks proposes 2-cent tax rate hike

FY2021 budget proposal includes full funding for schools

BY CODY MELLO-KLEIN

City Manager Mark Jinks presented his Fiscal Year 2021 budget proposal, which includes a 2-cent real estate tax increase, to city council on Tuesday.

The proposed operating budget for FY2021 totals \$799.9 million, a 4.5 percent increase over last year's adjusted \$765.4 million operating budget. In addition to the tax rate hike, the proposal

SEE **BUDGET**

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T.C. Williams student charged in double homicide

Mohamed Aly was arrested at the high school last week

BY CODY MELLO-KLEIN

Virginia State Police arrested a T.C. Williams High School student at the school on Feb. 13 in connection with a double homicide that took place in Halifax County, Virginia, according to a news release.

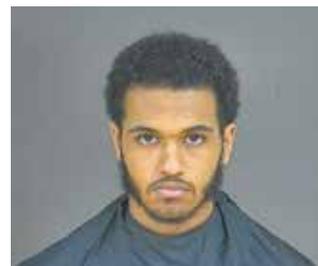
Mohamed Aly, 18, a player on the T.C. Williams varsity football team, was charged with two counts of first-degree murder and two counts of use of a firearm in the commission of a felony, according to the release.

The state police found Ntombo Joel Bianda, 21, of

Alexandria, and Ayanna Munne Maertens Griffin, 19, of Germantown, Maryland, dead on the morning of Feb. 8. The couple was outside of Bianda's silver Nissan Maxima on a particularly isolated stretch of Route 58 in southern Virginia. They had both suffered gunshot wounds, according to the release.

According to a GoFundMe page set up by Bianda's sister to raise money for her brother's funeral, which raised \$10,557 in nine days, the two were dating and died 16 days after Bianda's 21st birthday.

An investigation by state police, the FBI Field Office in Richmond and local law enforcement agencies re-



PHOTO/HALIFAX COUNTY ADULT DETENTION CENTER

Mohamed Aly.

sulted in Aly's arrest at T.C. Williams last week.

T.C. Williams Principal Peter Balas sent an email to parents and families around 5 p.m. on the day of the arrest.

"This situation was handled today according to protocol, and the safety and security of our students and staff were never at risk,"

Balas wrote. "Protecting members of our school community is always our top priority, and we take any matter relating to the safety of our schools very seriously."

In the email, Balas also expressed the need "to be supportive and encourage an open expression of emotions" and said that counselors would be available to support students for a few days after the arrest.

The investigation is ongoing. Those with information on the incident are encouraged to contact state police at 434-352-7128 or questions@vsp.virginia.gov. State police accept anonymous calls.

-cmelloklein@alextimes.com

INSIDE

Tying the Knot



PHOTO/LOUISE KRAFFT

Sheriff Dana Lawhorne and his wife Linda share their hometown love story.

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Seminary Road

AFD leaders respond to controversial FOIA documents.

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City Creatives

Art League teacher Patrick Kirwin makes his mark on the community.

Page 17



PHOTO/MISSY SCHROTT

Fire in the hole

First Virginia Regiment reenactors take a ceremonial shot at the George Washington Birthday Parade.

See more photos of the parade on page 10.

Suing the city

The Times delves into data on lawsuits filed against the city

BY CODY MELLO-KLEIN

T.C. lights. The Hugo Black House. Ask most Alexandrians, and they'll be able to recite the details of these controversial, high-profile lawsuits against the city by heart.

But the city regularly faces lawsuits that don't attract as much media or public attention. Some cases are dismissed, some go to trial and some are settled with a city payout. Even more cases are resolved in conversations and never see the courtroom.

SEE **LAWSUIT**

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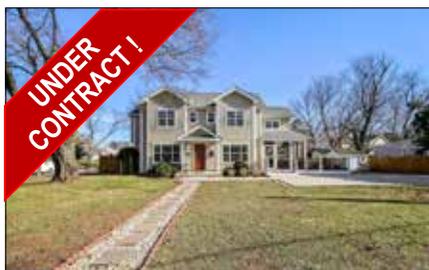
\$ 2,350,000 224 W. WINDSOR AVE. Custom brick 6,450 SF Georgian on .46 private acre, 6BR / 6.5BA. Open plan—10' ceilings, chef's kitchen, LR, DR, FR, mudrm, mahogany library, butler's pantry, screened porch. MBR sun/sitting rm, spa BA, 2 huge closets. Walk-out LL. Backyard to die for! **Owner Agent / Diane Field 703.915.4236**



\$ 1,150,000 HOLLIN HILLS ONE-OF-A-KIND living in the great outdoors on a private treed lot. Open ML w/LR, DR, top-of-line gourmet kitchen, 2 HBA & European style Master en-suite. LL has original slate floor, FR, 2BR/1.5BA, laundry, wrap-around deck. 2 wood-burning frpls. **Heidi Kohler 703.609.7367 Elke Kohler 703.967.7633**



\$ 725,000 MT VERNON TRIANGLE 2B/2BA, garage parking, 1,134sf. Unbeatable floor plan, and not an inch wasted! Open concept kitchen with a huge island/breakfast bar, glass subway tile backsplash, SS appliances, quartz counters. Abundant light from south-facing wall of windows; fully-tiled baths. **McCormick & Lusk Group 202.412.8885**



\$ 685,000 BEL AIR Beautiful 2-story home on corner lot offers 4BR/3.5BA including main level bedroom/full bath. Master suite has custom closet/large bath. New carpet in 2nd level bedrooms. Entire interior recently painted. Screened-in porch with Trex deck off kitchen perfect for entertaining. EZ commuting. **Jenna Gallant 860.227.4241**



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WEEKLY BRIEFING

Crash around light pole leaves driver seriously injured

A car crashed into a light pole on King Street early Wednesday morning, crushing the vehicle and trapping the driver inside.

King Street near Chesterfield Road. Alexandria, Arlington and Fairfax County units responded to the crash, according to a tweet from IAFF Local 2141. First responders

extricated the driver, who had serious injuries, and transported him to an area trauma center, according to the tweet.

-mschrott@alextimes.com

Heart of Del Ray award goes to local 7-Eleven

The Del Ray Business Association presented Preeti Patel's 7-Eleven on Mount Vernon Avenue with the 2020 Heart of Del Ray award on Feb. 13, according to a news release.

of Del Ray, according to the release. The winner is determined by an online vote.

Patel has owned and operated the 7-Eleven, located at 2108 Mount Vernon Ave. for 10 years and is known for supporting events and causes in Del Ray, according to the release.

-mschrott@alextimes.com



COURTESY PHOTO

CORRECTION:

City Manager Mark Jinks' My View column, "Key facts about Seminary Road" in the Feb. 13 edition of the Times was edited to remove the reference to city council's adoption of the Complete Streets policy and to incorrectly state that city council adopted the subsequent Complete Streets guidelines. To clarify, city council adopted the Complete Streets policy in 2011, while city staff adopted the Complete Streets guidelines in 2016. The Times regrets the error.

New sushi and cocktail bar opens on King Street

The Handover and King's Ransom, a dual-concept sushi and cocktail bar, opened at 728 King St. on Tuesday, according to a news release. The space was formerly occupied by Eamonn's, an Irish pub, and PX, a speak-easy-style bar.

cuisine at Alexandria's Flying Fish. In addition to sushi and sashimi, the menu features non-seafood and vegetarian options as well.

On the first floor, the Handover is a bright, minimalist space where customers can order temaki and sashimi, handed over the counter directly from the chef. The King's Ransom upstairs offers a darker, more elegant ambience where patrons can enjoy Japanese cocktails.

Beverage director Jon Schott, well known for his cocktails at The People's Drug, has developed a diverse, seasonal drink menu that focuses on Japanese whiskeys and rare spirits. The bar will also have a Toki highball machine that uses water with three times the carbonation of champagne to make whiskey highballs, according to the release. The machine is produced by a Japanese distillery and is currently the only one in Virginia.

The Handover offers a rotating menu managed by Chef Melvin Urrutia, former chef de

-landerson@alextimes.com



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LAWSUIT FROM | 1

Between 2014 and 2019, 101 lawsuits were filed against the city, and 20 of those cases are still active, according to data the Alexandria Times acquired through the city.

Each of these cases tells its own story, with widely ranging claims, alleged damages and effort and cost put in by both parties. This article is a quantitative analysis of qualitative data points, a bird's eye view of the forest, not the trees. The Times will be delving deeper into individual cases in later entries of this series.

Over the last six years, the city has faced 37 claims cases, 20 land-use cases, 15 civil rights cases, 12 employment cases, 11 real estate assessment cases, two FOIA cases, two mandamus cases and two procurement cases.

Of the 101 cases that have been filed against the city, 50 have been dismissed, 31 have been settled and 20 remain active.

Multiple plaintiffs can sue separately for the same issue, so each of these cases is not necessarily an individual issue with the city. For example, five of the active land-use lawsuits against the city were filed by different groups of residents but all as part of the T.C. lights issue.

As a result, there are sometimes sudden spikes in the number of lawsuits filed against the city when looking at the data year to year.

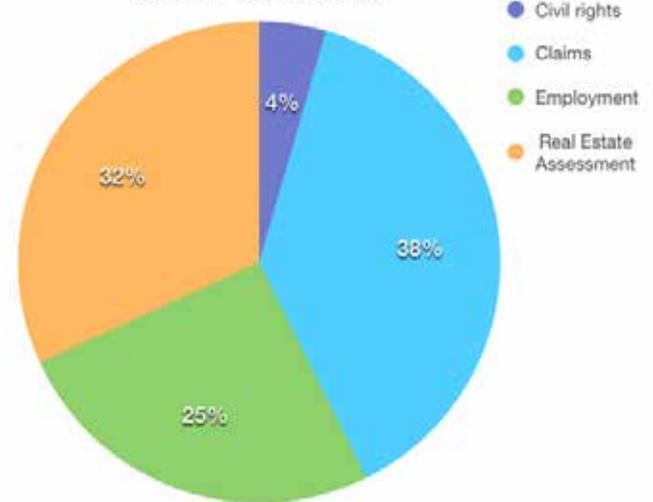
Between 2014 and 2017, the number of lawsuits filed against the city remained fairly steady: 15 cases were filed in 2014, 13 in 2015, 11 in 2016 and 13 in 2017. In 2018, there were 27 lawsuits filed against the city, including the five T.C. lights-related land-use cases. That number decreased slightly to 22 cases in 2019.

Notably, there were six employment lawsuits filed against the city last year, five

Lawsuit settlements from 2014-2019

TYPE OF CASE	SETTLEMENT COST
Civil rights	250,000
Claims	2,132,848
Employment	1,423,250
Real Estate Assessment	1,778,970
Total:	\$5,585,067.83

Settlements by case type



GRAPHIC/LYVI SIEG

of which are still active and one of which was settled for \$48,250.

“Right now is a little out of the ordinary,” City Attorney Joanna Anderson said. “We don’t typically have more than one or two [employment cases] a year.”

The path from perceived or actual wrongdoing to trial is never straightforward, Anderson said, and each type of case requires a slightly different approach and understanding of the law.

“I have 11 assistant city attorneys that work for us, and they all do different kind of work,” Anderson said. “... So, a case will come in, we’ll figure out which attorney it involves, and that attorney will look at the case to decide what the first steps are.”

Once a city attorney is assigned a case, they evaluate whether, from the city’s point of view, the city is liable. If it’s determined that the city is liable, the next question is, “For how much?”

If the attorney determines the city is not liable, then they may file a motion

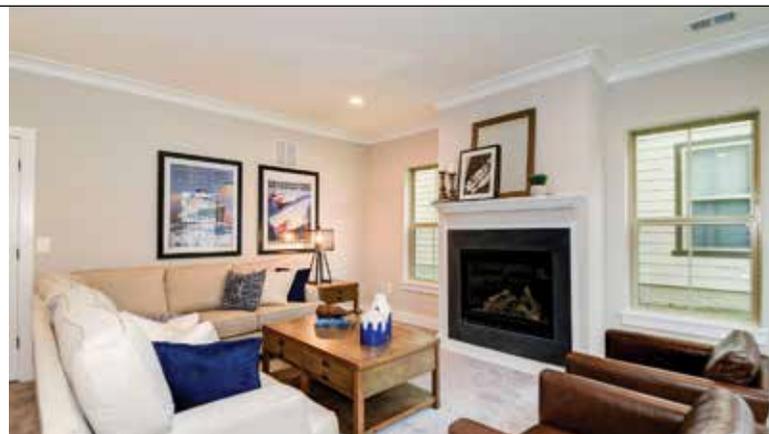
to dismiss the case outright. In cases where the lawsuit is not dismissed by the courts, the city has to mount a defense and explain why it is not liable.

For claims cases, the most common kind of lawsuit filed against the city, community members must provide notice to the city attorney’s office that the city has damaged their person or property.

From there, each claim goes through the city’s internal process, which includes reviews by an outside vendor and internal risk manager, and the city establishes whether it will pay the damages. If the city deems it wasn’t liable, the case then gets filed in court and can go to trial.

However, going to trial is the last thing the city wants to happen, Anderson said. More often than not, the city aims to settle; the city settled in 30.69 percent of the 101 lawsuits, paying a total of \$5,585,067.83 in settlements between 2014 and 2019.

“Of course, settlements



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SPORTS

ALEXANDRIA
SPORTS ROUNDUP

The Alexandria Times sports roundup includes records and game results for the prior week in two sports per season for four high schools in Alexandria: 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.

BOYS' BASKETBALL

School	Record
Bishop Ireton	14-16
Episcopal	16-6
SSSAS	24-3
T.C. Williams	17-4

Scores this week:

Feb. 12

Episcopal W 74-65 @ Bullis (IAC Tournament Semi-finals)

SSSAS W 90-49 vs. St. Albans (IAC Tournament Semi-finals)

Feb. 14

B.I. L 59-54 vs. Archbishop Carroll

SSSAS W 76-65 vs. Episcopal (IAC Tournament Championship)

Feb. 18

T.C. Williams W 61-59 vs. Hayfield (Playoffs)

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

School	Record
Bishop Ireton	13-15
Episcopal	13-9
SSSAS	14-7
T.C. Williams	11-9

Scores this week:

Feb. 13

Episcopal W 60-45 vs. Holy Child

SSSAS W 58-33 @ Holton-Arms

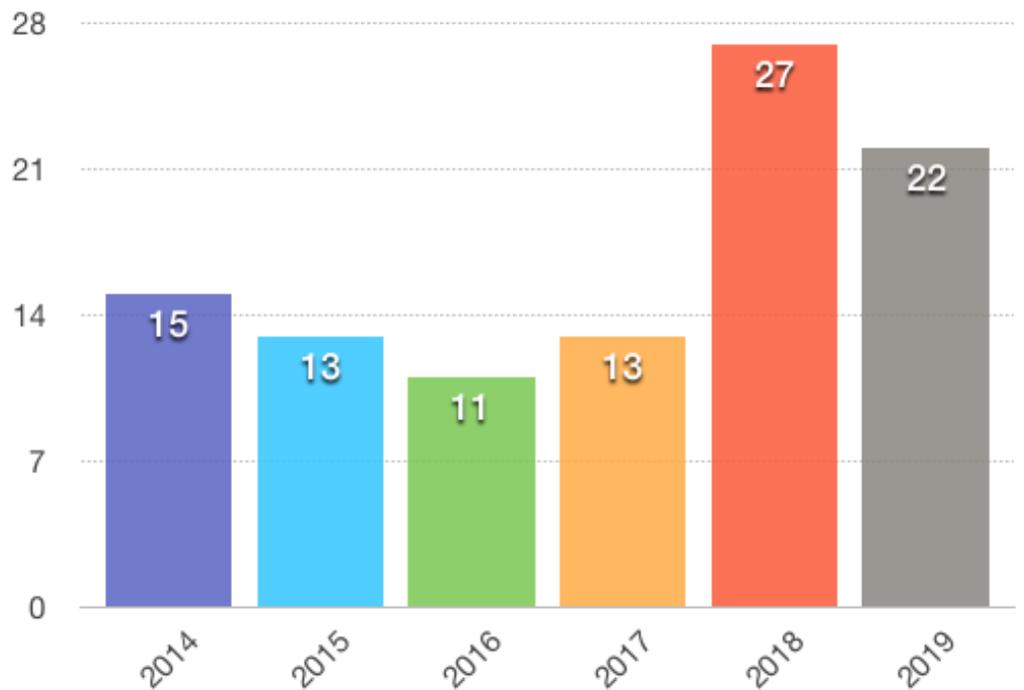
Feb. 14

B.I. W 60-48 @ Archbishop Carroll

Feb. 18

Episcopal L 59-27 @ Georgetown Prep

Number of lawsuits against the city (2014-2019)



GRAPHIC/LYVI SIEG

LAWSUIT

FROM | 4

don't necessarily mean that we think that the city was wrong," Anderson said. "There are other reasons to settle as well. Like business decisions, it could be too expensive. Settlements are, it's a decision that it makes more sense to end the case at this point rather than continue on. Sometimes it's because we think there's some culpability. Sometimes it's because it just is the right thing to do at the time."

Claims cases, by virtue of how common they were, resulted in the most settlements overall – 15 settlements between 2014 and 2019 totaling \$2,132,847.83.

However, real estate assessment cases most consistently resulted in settlements. Of the 11 real estate assessment cases that occurred in this time frame, eight cases were settled for a total of \$1,778,970. Various branches of Equity Residential, a real estate investment firm, filed five of those cases.

Only two of the 15 civil rights cases filed against the city resulted in settlements

– a total of \$250,000 – although two cases are still active. The other 11 civil rights lawsuits were dismissed.

Although the city aims for settlements, sometimes a case does go to trial, whether because the plaintiff feels strongly about the case, the city determines it was not liable or the city decides it's best not to set a negative precedent.

"Often, it's somebody asking us not to do [something] in a certain circumstance when you can't do that ... because the law is the law. It's the way it applies to everybody," Anderson said.

"If we demonstrate that we are not going to defend a law, then it could be subject to abuse by other people later," city spokesperson Craig Fifer said.

The data acquired by the Times doesn't include the many cases that never end up in front of a judge. There are times when the city and plaintiff never have a hearing or trial because of open communication.

"In almost all of these situations, there is a lot of opportunity to discuss the

disagreement. For example, in the FOIA cases, it's a fairly conversational process," Fifer said. "... If you can work something out that you can both live with, then you're never going to think to go to court."

The city attorney's office also doesn't only function as the front line of the city's legal defense, Anderson said. Anderson and her staff provide general counsel to the various city departments in order to ensure city staff are making decisions based on a firm understanding of the law.

But even the best pre-emptive practices can't prevent lawsuits from being filed against the city. Whether a trash truck brushes against a resident's car or a police officer aggressively handles a suspect, the things that lead to a lawsuit often occur in the brief but meaningful interactions between the city and its community.

In future installments of this series, the Times will explore the specific stories behind some of these cases in greater detail.

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“The dollar amounts that we're facing to do our school investments and investments in city infrastructure are substantial. Construction cost increases have gone up 15 to 20 percent since we basically repriced our CIP three years ago.”

– Mark Jinks, city manager



BUDGET

FROM | 1

includes full funding for Alexandria City Public Schools, the expansion of several city programs and employee benefits and no major city service reductions.

The proposed tax rate increase from \$1.13 to \$1.15 per \$100 of assessed value is especially significant considering the increase in the city's real estate assessments this year, which were released on Feb. 11. The average assessment for all residential property types increased by 4.62 percent, to \$582,636. This increase, on top of the increased tax rate, means the average property tax bill in Alexandria is \$6,700, an increase of \$428, or 6.8 percent, over last year.

Jinks also proposed raising the real estate tax by 2 cents in 2023 and again in 2025 to account for increasing construction costs and the long-term needs for the Capital Improvement Program budget. However, during this budget cycle, council will only vote on the initial tax increase in FY2021.

“Nobody likes to say that there are more tax rate increases coming down the road,” Jinks said. “Clearly when we get there, there will be different circumstances – we'll have to reweigh it – but I thought it was important in laying out. ... It needs to be clear that there needs to be a way

to pay for these projects.”

The proposed budget notably includes the full \$241.4 million in requested operating funds for Alexandria City Public Schools, a \$9.8 million, or 4.2 percent increase, over FY2020 funding.

ACPS was also a significant part of the city's 10-year, \$2.1 billion proposed CIP budget, largely due to several new school buildings and modernization projects that are set to begin in the next few years.

Long-term costs associated with the construction of new school buildings and repairs to public buildings is the main reason for the 2-cent increase in the real estate tax this year, as well as the potential future increases, Jinks said.

“The dollar amounts that we're facing to do our school investments and investments in city infrastructure are substantial,” Jinks said. “Construction cost increases have gone up 15 to 20 percent since we basically repriced our CIP three years ago.”

The real estate tax increase would generate an additional \$8.5 million in revenue in FY2021, all of which would go toward funding city and school capital improvement projects. The Douglas MacArthur Elementary School rebuild project and a new building on T.C. Williams High School's Minnie Howard campus are already set to cost \$227 million.

In crafting the FY2021

budget, city staff remained focused on ideas that governed their decision-making in last year's budget process: to make the city smart, green and equitable.

To keep the city up to date, Jinks' proposed budget for the next fiscal year includes funding for the rollout, maintenance and staffing of Alex311, a new online service launching this month that provides residents with a new way to submit service requests.

There is also \$100,000 in contingent funds for FY2021 and \$13.7 million in the CIP set aside for newly elected Clerk of Court Greg Parks to implement a new Justice Information System. New security efforts, like more security positions at city hall and enhanced cybersecurity, are also included in the budget for next year.

As part of an effort to decrease the city's environmental footprint, Jinks proposed \$110,000 for the implementation of the Energy and Climate Change Action Plan as part of the city's Environmental Action Plan 2040. Jinks also proposed \$100,000 in funding for the maintenance of six waterfront parks.

DASH's budget was fully funded through FY2021, although the proposed budget would eliminate the DASH AT4 route between the Braddock Road Metro Station and

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| 8

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BUDGET

FROM | 7

city hall.

The city recently acquired Freedom House, the historic site of a former slave trading firm at 1315 Duke St., and the budget includes \$92,000 for maintenance of the site and \$108,000 for an expansion project manager position. The city is also anticipating \$2.44 million in state funds for the preservation project.

Freedom House is one of two historic preservation efforts the city is undertaking. The proposed CIP budget also includes \$760,000 in capital preservation funds for the Murray-Dick-Fawcett House, a historic wooden house located at 517 Prince St. that the city purchased in 2017.

To expand the city's representation of its African American history, the FY2021 budget includes \$53,000 for Visit Alexandria to produce new video, photography and promotional materials.

Some of the most impactful equity efforts in the operating budget are \$505,500 in funding to expand early childhood services like summer school and after school programs – although the fees associated with these services would increase by \$100 – and additional human services positions. These would include two new benefit program specialists, expanded hours for an opioid treatment pharmacist and four permanent positions in parent infant education and youth intellectual disabilities programs.

About 30 percent of the proposed operating expenditures in FY2021 would go to city personnel, and Jinks' proposed budget aims to retain employees in positions that typically have a high turnover.

"These are the people on the front lines. They're first responders when it comes to public safety. They're first responders when it comes

“I think we've got a responsible and, I think, an aggressive CIP in regards to trying to do a far better job of taking care of our buildings. We've seen what happens when we don't.”

– Mark Jinks, city manager

to child safety. They're the people who our community members trust their children to in after school programs," Jinks said.

Jinks proposed funding an annual performance-based increase for all eligible employees – about 80 percent of city employees are eligible for such increases – in addition to \$3.5 million to fund a 1.5 percent increase on all employee pay scales.

The proposed budget would provide targeted pay increases for specific public safety jobs, four new overhires in the Sheriff's Office and six new reserve firefighting positions to reduce overtime and improve health and wellness.

The city would also reinstate the down payment assistance program for city employees, which was cut during the last recession, since only 20 percent of city employees live in Alexandria, Jinks said. The city would also reduce employee health insurance premiums from 20 to 15 percent for 1,000 employees who make less than \$70,000 per year.

Jinks also presented the FY2021-2030 CIP budget to city council. It represents the first significant update to the 10-year plan since fall 2017, with a majority dedicated to the increased cost of construction, waterfront flood mitigation and the renovation of public buildings.

"I think we've got a responsible and, I think, an aggressive CIP in regards to trying to do a far better job of taking care of our buildings.

We've seen what happens when we don't," Jinks said.

The proposed CIP includes the full \$530.7 million in funding for ACPS' requested 10-year plan, 53 percent of which is set to be used in the first two years and \$198.8 million of which is set for FY2021.

Other proposed CIP budget items include \$318.4 million to fund the city's capital facility maintenance programs, \$93.7 million in funding, or 75 percent of projected costs, for waterfront flood mitigation and city hall renovations.

Affordable housing remains a challenge for the city. Although Jinks said that the city is exploring other ways to fulfill affordable housing needs outside of throwing money at the problem, there is \$9.6 million in dedicated funding for investments in affordable housing proposed for FY2021, with \$69.3 million spread over the next 10 years.

The proposed CIP budget also includes \$6 million for the reconstruction of the Holmes Run Trail after it was damaged by intense flooding in July 2019 and previously in 2018.

Ahead of council's adoption of the budget on April 29, there will be a budget public hearing on March 9 and a public hearing on the tax rate increase and preliminary add/delete items on April 18. Residents can submit comments on the proposed budget at www.alexandriava.gov/Budget.

– cmelloklein@alextimes.com

AFD response to Seminary Road FOIA emails

Fire chief, deputy speak on road diet involvement

BY MISSY SCHROTT

Following the legislative meeting on Feb. 11, during which council revisited the controversial Seminary Road restructuring, Alexandria Fire Chief Corey Smedley and Acting Assistant Fire Chief Michael Cross sat down with the Times to discuss the road-diet-related drama that has been swirling around the fire department.

Council voted in September to implement a road diet on a .9-mile stretch of Seminary Road, narrowing the road from four to two travel lanes. After the majority of the changes were applied in the fall, a very vocal group of residents alleged traffic

has gotten much worse, many of them posting photos of their congested commutes in a 1,500-member Facebook group. Sprinkled among the photos are posts accusing city staff of misconduct and complaining about the four city councilors who voted in favor of the road diet.

The Alexandria Fire Department has also become a recurring topic in the ongoing Seminary Road conversation. Residents continue to call into question whether emergency vehicles can quickly and safely travel along a narrower road, especially considering Inova Alexandria Hospital falls on the .9-mile stretch of road. Residents have also questioned AFD's involvement in the restructuring itself.

Through a Freedom of Information Act request, the Seminary Hill Association obtained the written communications between AFD and Department of Transportation and En-



PHOTO/MISSY SCHROTT

Residents continue to question how much input the Alexandria Fire Department had on the Seminary Road restructuring. Trucks dispatched from Fire Station 206, located at 4609 Seminary Road, regularly use the road when responding to calls.



COREY SMEDLEY

vironmental Services staff for a six-month period beginning May 1, 2019 – the period during which most design and community engagement discussions for the Seminary Road restructuring occurred.

Cross and Smedley say the documents – and what's been written about them – don't tell the full story.

"What the FOIA did was take pieces of the puzzle and not the whole," Smedley said.

A general conclusion from the FOIA documents – one that has been published in the opinion and news pages of the Times – was that the fire department did not have significant input on whether to narrow the road. While that conclusion has frustrated some of the road diet's opposition, Cross and Smedley pushed back that their input was taken into consideration when it mattered – on the design that was eventually implemented.

"We have worked with

T&ES to design what we need to be able to safely navigate through and be able to traverse that space," Cross said.

"We are not engineers," Smedley said, "but when engineers come to us about options to consider for redesigning the roadways, we provide our input, and we did provide that input, and they took that input into consideration, and that's what you see on the roadway right now."

The AFD representatives also pushed back on allegations that the city had strong-armed the fire department into supporting a certain stance.

"No one is going to force me ... to put people in harm's way – the first responders or the people that we're charged to protect," Smedley said. "That's my number one goal, and that goal can be accomplished with however many lanes are on the roadway, as long as certain measures are in place. If that is being jeopardized, I will dig in hard."

When asked specifically whether they would prefer four lanes or two lanes, both Cross and Smedley declined

to take a stance.

"Four lanes, two lanes, it's immaterial," Cross said. "We're going to opine on what we need in order to be able to safely navigate it. So it's a community conversation at city council, it's a community conversation with Traffic and Parking Board about whether they want to have big wide roads or small narrow roads. That's a community conversation. We're going to weigh in on: if it's four lanes, this is what we need, if it's two lanes, this is what we need."

"It's obvious that more lanes anywhere is great," Smedley said. "If we can keep the bikes on a bike path, if we can keep the scooter on the scooter path, that's great. The reality is there are many users of the roadway and no roadway is designed specifically for emergency vehicles. ... What we are concerned about is that whatever roadway design is being considered, then certain measures



MICHAEL CROSS

are in place so that we can traverse that roadway."

Smedley and Cross continued to reiterate that the conversations detailed in the FOIA emails were moot, since AFD vehicles can "traverse the roadway" as it was eventually adopted.

Cross said he was frustrated that certain FOIA emails were taken out of context, including a June 12 email in which Cross details his concerns with staff's recommended restructuring – an alternative that was never chosen.

"There were questions coming up from one of my emails that was a pretty detailed email, but it was referring to something very specific, but it's not captured in that email what it was specifically," Cross said.

"... We had concerns with an option that didn't even come forward and that's not always captured [by the FOIAed emails.]"

Smedley said the community's fixation with the fire department itself has been frustrating.

"We want to be as transparent as transparent can be, so that we can inform the community," Smedley said. "More importantly, it feels [like] damage control now. ... Our priority and our responsibility [is] with the protection of life and property. Things like this take away from that."

Smedley said that AFD's emergency vehicle drivers haven't had issues with the road and that AFD stands behind the road changes.

"There is no way I'm going to allow anyone – mayor, president or anyone – to force me into a decision that's going to put the first responders and the community at risk. Period."

-mschrott@alextimes.com

Happy Birthday, George Washington

Alexandrians celebrated Presidents Day with the annual George Washington Birthday Parade. Residents and visitors flocked to Old Town for an exciting afternoon full of marching bands, cannon explosions and a visit from George Washington himself.



PHOTO/ANDREW GARVER



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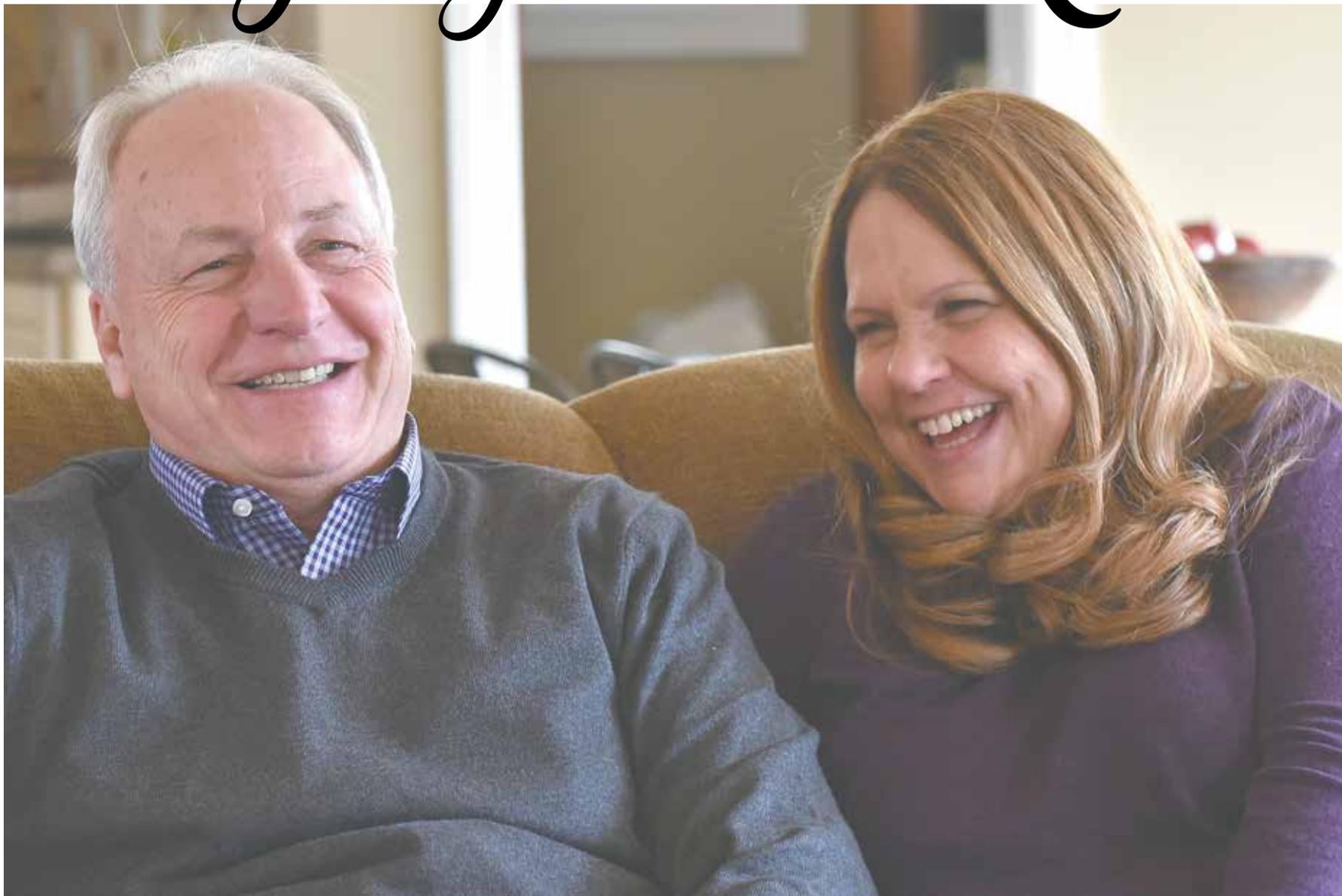


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Tying the Knot



PHOTO/LOUISE KRAFFT

HOMETOWN KIDS FIND ENDURING LOVE

*Sheriff Dana Lawhorne and wife
Linda recall their '70s romance*

BY DENISE DUNBAR

One way to a girl's heart is to earn her mom's stamp of approval. That's what Dana Lawhorne, Alexandria's sheriff for the past 15 years, did in the late 1970s – albeit accidentally – as he attempted to woo Linda Fink.

Lawhorne went to work as a security officer at what was then called the Hamlets, a series of three-story garden apartments on Beauregard Avenue in Alexandria's West End, after graduating from T.C. Williams High School in 1976. He quickly got to know a woman named Flo Fink, who worked in the Hamlets' rental office.

"One of the things that we had to do was work with the rental offices and do the mail runs. So you knew all of the people ... because you worked closely with them," Lawhorne said. "I already knew her mom and thought the world of her.

SEE **LAWHORNE**

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Tying the Knot

LAWHORNE

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Got along really great with her because she thought I was funny.”

Though Lawhorne knew Flo, he didn't realize she had

a daughter – actually two – until a year later, in August 1977, when he pulled up to the Hamlets Club to relieve another officer.

“He was standing there next to this very cute girl

and he introduced her as Flo Fink's daughter,” Lawhorne said. “And I said, ‘Oh, I didn't know she had daughters.’ ... She was just the cutest girl I'd probably ever seen in my life. I thought, ‘I've got to

know more about her.”

The next afternoon, Lawhorne rushed through the doors of the rental office and bounded up to Flo, who greeted him with, “Well, I understand you met my daughter last night.”

Lawhorne claims that Flo told him her daughter had enjoyed meeting him, a memory that Linda labeled as false.

“There's a big disagreement about this,” Linda said. “If my mother said that, then she was lying. I don't even know if I talked to my mother about meeting you.”

“It worked,” Lawhorne laughed. “Thirty-five years and three kids later, it worked. Your mom was a very smart lady. ... She was encouraging. So I thought, ‘Well, maybe I've got a chance.’”

Lawhorne knew Linda worked at the main Hamlets office, which was just off property, and that she got off work at 5 p.m.

“At about 5:10, I knew she'd be coming down to the court where I just happened to be in my security car on patrol. And she pulled in and I pulled up and asked her out – and here we are,” Lawhorne said.

And what was the magical line that won Linda's heart?

“You wanna go get a beer?” Linda laughed.

“Hey, I worked on that one for a while,” Lawhorne countered.

The first date in their very Hamlets-centric romance was at the Cellar Club at the

Hamlet Shopping Center.

“Most of that is correct,” Linda said. “What's not correct is I don't even remember talking to my mom about meeting him. So you probably said something and then she said that because she was being nice to you.”

“Oh now come on,” Lawhorne said. “I was making \$2.75 an hour. Had a uniform. Had an apartment. I think my end table was an asparagus crate. But I can see why you were attracted to a man of such means. ... Actually, I really still to this day don't know why you went out with me.”

“Because you were going to buy me a beer,” Linda said. “That's all it took.”

Growing up in Alexandria

Dana Lawhorne and Linda Fink were both Alexandria kids. Linda has lived her whole life in the city, while Lawhorne's family moved to Luray Avenue in Del Ray when he was two.

Both graduated from T.C. Williams High School, but since Linda was a year ahead, they didn't know each other there. She lived on the West End, and he was in Del Ray.

“It was a small town. ... Because I lived on the West End of the city, I never came past King Street. ... I did not know how to find T.C. Williams [High School]. I had to be told how to get by Hammond High School and Seminary Bowling

SEE LAWHORNE | 13



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Tying the Knot

LAWHORNE FROM | 12

Alley, which I spent a lot of time at," Linda said.

Though she was the daughter of a single mother and money was tight, Linda fondly recalls her childhood in Alexandria.

"... You hung around with the kids that you lived with and went to school with. It was a good place to grow up. I have wonderful memories of growing up here," Linda said.

Lawhorne's life changed forever at age 14 when he went on a ride-along with an Alexandria police officer.

"I loved it. I said, 'That's me. That's what I want to do,'" Lawhorne said.

Because APD officers had to be at least 21, Lawhorne knew he couldn't become a police officer immediately after high school. And, like Linda, finances precluded going away to college. He got his opportunity to work in public safety through a friend of his brother.

"When I was 16, a friend of my brother's came by the house," Lawhorne said. "My brother said, 'Where are you working?' [The friend] said 'At the Hamlets as a security guard.'"

The friend replied that he had a uniform, car and radio and duties included knocking on peoples' doors and asking them to turn down the stereo.

"I said, 'That sounds like being a cop,'" Lawhorne said. "And [being a police officer] was always in the back of my mind. ... That thought just



COURTESY PHOTOS

Left: Dana and Linda Lawhorne on their wedding day, May 12, 1984.

Right: A young Dana Lawhorne in his Alexandria Police Department uniform.

never left my memory bank. It was always my dream to be an Alexandria police officer."

Lawhorne got the Hamlets job, assisted by a recommendation from the APD officer who had befriended him years before.

and worked mostly nights, with few weekends off.

"We were like an old married couple at like 19 years old. It was dumb," Lawhorne said. "At least she had

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Bumpy early years

After that first date at the Hamlets Cellar Club, the couple began dating exclusively almost from the start. Within six months they had moved in together – but it was too much, too soon.

"We made mistakes," Linda said. "We were way too young. We both still had way too much growing up to do."

They lived together for 2 ½ years, during which time Lawhorne became an APD officer



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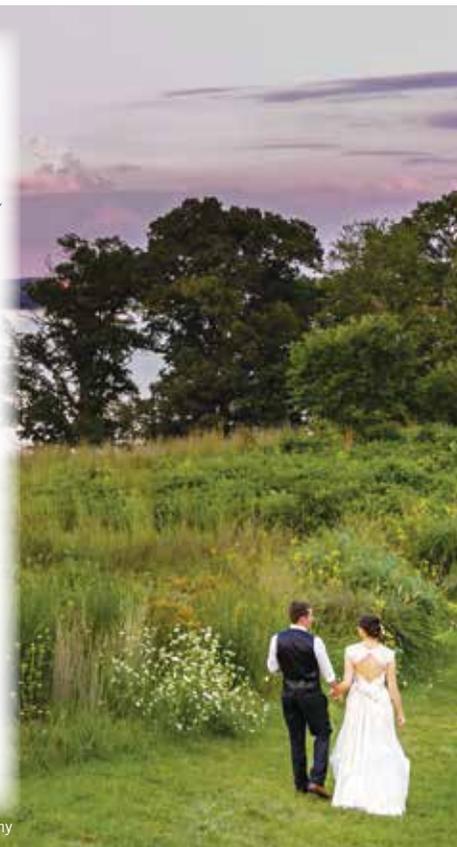


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LAWHORNE FROM | 13

enough sense to know and do something about it.”

Another contested memory is whether they actually broke up at that point.

“We didn’t see each other for a while after that. It was probably six or seven months,” Linda said.

“We never stopped really dating,” Lawhorne said.

“Yeah we did. We definitely did. We took a break,” Linda countered.

“Please note my objection to that,” Lawhorne said.

“You don’t remember that we literally broke up, broke up?” Linda asked incredulously.

“No. ... In my heart I was always dating her,” Lawhorne said.

They got back together on Mother’s Day 1981, when Lawhorne knocked on the Finks’ apartment door.

“I was fixing dinner for my mom. It was right after she had her gallbladder surgery,” Linda said. “I said, ‘Do you want to stay for dinner and see my mom?’ And he said, ‘OK.’ And it was honestly that simple.”

Though they resumed dating, they took things slowly. In 1983, Lawhorne

received a temporary APD assignment to community relations, which came with a normal Monday through Friday schedule.

“I think both of us saw it was an opportunity to get on the same page. If we didn’t have these other things distracting us from focusing on a relationship. ... That’s what did it for me,” Lawhorne said.

“And some years and maturity,” Linda added.

Lawhorne proposed on Christmas Eve 1983, and they were married on May 12, 1984. The reception was at the Hamlet Club, where they had been on their first date almost seven years prior.

“We brought it all the way back around,” Linda said.

Family focused

Because of their Alexandria roots, the Lawhornes were determined to raise their kids here. Their three daughters, Megan, Christine and Mallory, still live in Alexandria, Megan with her husband, Adam, and Christine with her husband, Aiden, and two children, Ryan and Harper.

After 27 years with the APD – including 19 as a detective – when Lawhorne



COURTESY PHOTO

Top: The Lawhorne family from left to right: Adam, Megan, Mallory, Christine holding Harper, Aiden holding Ryan, Linda and Dana.

Bottom: Dana and Linda Lawhorne.

decided to run for sheriff in 2005, it was a family affair.

“Once we got the family kicked in, Linda was the scheduler,” Lawhorne said. “That part of it was fun, was nice. The grunt part of it was fun.”

Almost 36 years after that 1984 wedding, Lawhorne can’t imagine his life turning out any other way.

“It’s been great. We’ve been blessed,” Lawhorne said. “I tell everybody, ‘I married up.’ I’m lucky.”

-ddunbar@alextimes.com

Tying the Knot

How to lock down the perfect wedding venue

BY JANET DANIELS

You're engaged and beginning to plan your dream wedding. Congratulations! Now, where do you start?

If you have the luxury of contracting a wedding planner for full planning services, then that person will guide you on every decision you need to make.

If you are taking on the planning yourself, the first step is to sit down with your fiancé and talk about what type of event you would like. Would you like to have a small intimate affair with only your parents and siblings in attendance? Would you like a full blow-out party with everyone, including your dentist? Establishing a general guest count is priority one and will help you determine venues to explore. A small intimate affair doesn't need a giant ballroom, and the blow-out bash won't fit in a barn.

Take into consideration any weddings you've attended in the past. Was there one that was held outdoors in February, where you didn't have



PHOTO/JENNIFER DOMINICK AT LOVE LIFE IMAGES



JANET DANIELS

to chew your dinner because your teeth chattering did it for you? Or one where the DJ was so loud that you couldn't hear your date right next to you?

Now that you have a rough guest count and a vibe in mind, you can start looking at venues. Look at wedding websites and social media to start. Talk to friends and colleagues about events they have attend-

ed. Visit the websites of the venues to check their pricing and capacities.

As you do your research, narrow down a list of no more than five venues to start, and make appointments to see them. This is where the fun begins.

With your Pinterest board and favorite wedding magazine in mind, tour the

venues and try to imagine your event in the space. Ask questions about details you have in mind. Can you play corn hole? Can you have a cigar bar? Do they allow pets to join in your big day? Can you have a band or DJ? Take notes, take pictures and take any information the venue provides.

Now that you've taken the tours, you're overwhelmed and your dearest darling's eyes have glazed over, relax and digest all this information.

As you look back over each visit, try to identify which venue gave you "the feels." Where did you feel the most comfortable? Which venue had staff that you liked? Which one said "yes" to most of your questions? This is an important aspect to consider when choosing any of your vendors. You will be working with these folks for the next six to 18 months. It's a working relationship, and if you can't

imagine working with them, then don't.

If any of your first five venues survive the cut, go back and ask all the questions that came up through the touring process. If something came up at the third venue that you didn't even consider asking the first two, circle back and ask. If none of the first set of venues make the grade, then go to the next five on your list and work the process with them.

There's one piece of advice I give to all my couples. The main objective of your wedding day is for you and your fiancé to end the day married. Nothing else matters. Things will happen that weren't planned, and things that were planned won't happen, but as long as you end the day married, mission accomplished.

The writer is rental events manager for River Farm, a 25-acre historic venue.

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CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 20

GEORGE WASHINGTON: COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF LECTURE

Professor Peter Henriques will examine how George Washington, despite his limited experience and numerous mistakes, was somehow able to overcome obstacles to win independence for the new country that he committed himself to without reserve.

Time: 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

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

Information: www.alexandriava.gov/GadsbysTavern

FEBRUARY 21

BLESSED SACRAMENT CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCE

Blessed Sacrament Festival Choir and Orchestra will perform two rarely performed classical works:

Beethoven's stirring "Mass in C" and Mozart's inspiring cantata, "Davide Penitente." Soloists are members of the Washington National Opera and San Francisco Opera. There will be a reception at intermission.

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: 1427 W. Braddock Road

Information: 703-998-6100

FEBRUARY 22

ALEXANDRIA'S ROARING 2020 BIG BAND WINTER BASH

Hear hits by the biggest stars of the last 100 years in Alexandria's free Roaring 2020 Big Band Winter Bash.

Enjoy Elton John's "Crocodile Rock," Creedence Clearwater Revival's "Proud Mary," Duke Ellington's "It Don't Mean a Thing If It Ain't Got That Swing," The Wiggles' "Hoop-Dee-Do," plus songs from The Beatles, Frank Sinatra, Glenn Miller, Andy Williams and The Osborne Brothers. The Alexandria Citizens Swing Band, a unit of the all-volunteer Alexandria Citizens Band, now in its 108th year, will perform.

Time: 4 p.m.

Location: Del Ray Methodist Church, 100 E. Windsor Ave.

Information: www.delrayumc.org

"A COMPLICATED HOSPITALITY": ENSLAVED LABOR AT GADSBY'S TAVERN TOUR

On this tour – through the stories, experiences and archival traces of those enslaved by John Gadsby – consider how the nuances of urban slavery expand an understanding of slavery and of Alexandria.

Time: 10 to 11 a.m.

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

Information: www.alexandriava.gov/GadsbysTavern

FEBRUARY 23

TELL ME YOUR NAME AT CARLYLE HOUSE

Join Carlyle House Historic Park staff for a tour focusing on the experiences of the enslaved community at Carlyle House and his plantations. The guided tour will explore the historical context of slavery in 18th-century Alexandria and

the importance of ongoing research efforts to connect with descendants. Space is limited and advanced registration is highly recommended. Online registration with the possibility of a refund ends on Feb. 21. Tickets can be bought at the door.

Time: 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Location: Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St.

Information: www.novaparks.com/parks/carlyle-house-historic-park

WALKING WITH WASHINGTON TOUR

Led by an old-line Virginian with family stories about Washington, this tour in his chosen hometown focuses on Washington's character and values and the significant people and events in his life and American history. Stops include Christ Church, "Light-Horse" Harry Lee house, Washington's townhouse, Gadsby's Tavern, Duvall Tavern, Wise's Tavern, Bank of Alexandria, Carlyle House and Market Square.

Time: 2:15 to 4:15 p.m.

Location: Christ Church, 118 N. Washington St.

Information: WalkingwithWashington@hotmail.com

FEBRUARY 26

RECREATION DEPARTMENT BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

The public is invited to attend the Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities' Black History Month Celebration. The program celebration is free and

will feature the recognition of three former employees of the department, Lawrence "Lucky" Elliott, Traverser Gray and Jackie Mason, for their more than four decades of service to the Alexandria community. In addition, entertainment will be provided by local R&B group Nu Era and a youth cheer-leading team and dance group from neighborhood recreation centers.

Time: 2 p.m.

Location: Nannie Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St.

Information: www.alexandriava.gov/recreation

FEBRUARY 27

A CIVIL RIGHT DURING THE CIVIL WAR: COLORED TROOPS AND ALEXANDRIA NATIONAL CEMETERY

In celebration of Black History Month, the proprietor of Manumission Tour Company, John Chapman, will lead a conversation on the struggles of African American soldiers as they fought for rights to be buried in the soldiers cemetery. When the Alexandria National Cemetery was begun in 1862, only white soldiers were eligible to be buried there, even though it was yards away from L'Ouverture Hospital, a Civil War hospital for black soldiers. By the end of the Civil War, there were over 200 graves of U.S. Colored Troops that had integrated into the cemetery.

Time: 7 to 8 p.m.

Location: The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St.

Information: www.nvfaa.org

FEBRUARY 29

"MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIA"

It's Hollywood, 1939. Legendary film producer, David O. Selznick, is five weeks into shooting "Gone with the Wind" when he realizes the script is awful and the director doesn't have a clue. He has a few short days to replace them and restart shooting or the production will shut down. Over the course of five days, three writers frantically craft – and act out all of the parts – of one of the most beloved screenplays of all times. Join the Little Theatre of Alexandria for this funny and affectionate comic romp that takes audiences behind the scenes of an iconic story. Shows run through March 21.

Time: Wednesday through Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 3 p.m.

Location: 600 Wolfe St.

Information: www.thelittletheatre.com

MARCH 6

"TELL ME A STORY" EXHIBIT AT DEL RAY ARTISANS GALLERY

Narrative art tells a story, either as a moment in an ongoing story or as a sequence of events unfolding over time. Through various media, artists engage the viewer in a tale that tells a clear story. "Tell Me a Story" will take viewers on an imaginative journey. This exhibit runs through March 29.

Time: Opening reception from 7 to 9 p.m.

Location: 2704 Mount Vernon Ave.

Information: www.DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits



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CITY CREATIVES

Tricking the eye

Art League teacher Patrick Kirwin specializes in murals, decorative painting

BY LUKE ANDERSON

It takes a skilled artist to create art that tricks the eye. It takes an especially skilled artist to do so without the beholder realizing it.

Take the ballroom doors in Gadsby's Tavern, for instance. They appear to have a natural wood finish when, in fact, they are only painted to look that way. Don't believe it? Ask the guy who painted them.

Patrick Kirwin, a muralist and decorative painter who teaches at the Art League, was commissioned several years ago to re-finish parts of the famous ballroom once frequented by George Washington. He sanded the doors and window sills, primed them and meticulously hand-painted each wood grain. About a year later, he did the same thing for the baseboards of the Lee-Fendall House.

Much of Kirwin's art is not on a canvas or hanging in a gallery. It is out in the world — on walls, fences, sidewalks and windows. He's the mastermind behind various recognizable works

around the city, from small Christmas scenes on Del Ray shop windows to the mural on the fence surrounding the Potomac River Generating Station, which took two years to complete and covers several hundred feet.

Kirwin has taught painting and drawing classes at the Art League since 1994. He has also taught art at the Smithsonian, the Corcoran School of the Arts and Design at George Washington University and the Fine Arts Workhouse in Lorton.

"I sort of always thought that to belong, in a sense, would be to teach," Kirwin said. "I've always taught, and I enjoy that, maybe because my art is solitary and that's ... a little bit of an outlet."

Kirwin was a student himself when he moved to the area to attend the master's program at George Washington University. His thesis was trompe l'oeil, a style of art that makes objects look three-dimensional using optical illusions. Trompe l'oeil literally translates to "trick the eye."

"I'm really good at making illusions," Kirwin said. "You don't want to use perspective because the perspective requires you to stand in a certain loca-



PHOTO/LUKE ANDERSON

Patrick Kirwin.

tion for it to work. So if you eliminate perspective, you can do a better trompe l'oeil, a more realistic illusion."

Kirwin was born in Columbus, Ohio in 1959. His parents put him into art school when he was five, hoping to tame his urge to draw on the walls in the house. He fell in love with art and the way it allowed him to communicate with imagery instead of words.

He took art classes throughout grade school and then received his B.A. from Columbus College of Art and Design. After get-

ting his master's from GWU, he studied at the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Maine, the Hambidge Center of Arts and Sciences in Georgia and the Griffis Art Center in Connecticut.

The prestigious Skowhegan School allowed Kirwin to study under several respected and well-known artists, he said. He was rejected three times before he was accepted. His teachers and the landscape in Maine



COURTESY PHOTO

Kirwin hand-painted the wood grains on the ballroom doors at Gadsby's Tavern.

SEE KIRWIN

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SENIORS

Emergency help

Alert buttons can save your life. | Page 19

HOMIES

All things tile

From floor to ceiling, tile is always in. | Page 20

CITY CREATIVES: PATRICK KIRWIN



COURTESY PHOTOS

Top left: A tree Kirwin painted, partially using grass as a brush.

Bottom left: One of Kirwin's trompe l'oeil works of art, painted over a filled-in doorway.

Above: Kirwin painted a decorative ceiling for a client in Annandale.



KIRWIN

FROM | 17

inspired him to think outside the box, Kirwin said.

One day during his time there, Kirwin attempted to paint the cow pasture in which he was standing. Yellow finches fluttered among the tall grass in the field, and though he tried, he could not capture the scene using his normal brushes. He decided to try something different, plucking the grass around him and using it to apply the paint.

"The result was something like Impressionism in a hurricane," Kirwin said. "Some of the grass stayed on the canvas to become part of the painting."

Kirwin has turned his passion into a career, relying on commissioned art as his primary source of

income. His skill is highly sought after by private residents wanting walls in their house painted, such as a trompe l'oeil vineyard done on a wine cellar wall or clouds painted on the ceiling of a foyer.

Kirwin mostly works with acrylic paint. He said his clients tend to prefer it because it dries quickly and, unlike oil paint, doesn't require odorous thinners.

Kirwin lives in Arlington with his wife and children. When he is not doing commissioned work on location, he works out of his home studio. Before his family started to grow, he had a separate studio on Colvin Street in the Taylor Run neighborhood.

"The great advantage of a studio outside of the home is you don't get your stuff

mixed up," Kirwin said. "You go only to the studio to do work. When you're at home, sometimes you get engaged in home stuff ... but, you know, your studio is going to be wherever you make art."

Kirwin said the theme of his work is life affirmation and happiness, both in his commissioned work and his personal art.

He said he hopes to have an exhibition later this year displaying some of his personal art that highlights the emotions and the experience of being married with kids. His time is divided between his work and family, so family often becomes the subject matter of his art.

"I'm focusing on [displaying] what my identity really is, which I think is a suburban artist," Kirwin said.

-landerson@alextimes.com

SENIORS

Getting emergency help at home

BY PAMELA AUSTIN

Most people want to live independently in their home as long as possible. But as people age, they may experience limited mobility and increased falls, which can compromise their ability to live independently.

Every 11 seconds, an older adult is treated in the emergency room for a fall, according to the National Council on Aging. In addition, falls are the leading cause of injuries for older Americans.

The City of Alexandria's Division of Aging and Adult Services offers a system that allows older and disabled residents to get help in an emergency. This system provides peace of mind for older adults and increases their ability to remain at home.



FILE IMAGE

The Personal Emergency Response System allows a person to call for help in an emergency. PERS is a small button worn as a necklace

or wrist band that transmits a signal through a landline or cellular phone to an emergency care center. The alert button is lightweight,



PAMELA AUSTIN

waterproof and can be worn 24 hours a day.

When someone presses a medical alert button, a care center representative provides immediate assistance by asking if the caller is OK through a two-way speaker. Emergency services are alerted if there is no response. The caller may also request to call a friend or family member. The care center representative will quickly activate the

help needed.

The City of Alexandria provides this service to residents who are age 60 or older, and residents with a disability ages 18 through 59. Residents within a certain income bracket can receive the unit at no cost.

To request a PERS assessment or to learn more information about how to prevent falls and other programs that assist an older adult or person with a disability, call the Division of Aging and Adults Services at 703-746-5999 or go to www.alexandriava.gov/aging.

The writer is aging and disability resource coordinator for the Division of Aging and Adult Services in the city's Department of Community and Human Services.

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HOMES

The evolution of tile in home decor



PHOTO/CASALGRANDE PADANA

Glossy green foliage is punctuated by chromatic depth and shading, with the lifelike color of the climbing rose. Coral Rose is part of the Limpha collection from Casalgrande Padana.

BY ELAINE MARKOUTSAS

With an ever-growing versatility and range of styles, ceramic tile is a formidable surfacing material that can be fashionable as well as practical.

Its rich history, one that goes back thousands of years, continues to inspire to this day. Walking through the porticos of Bologna, for example, which hosts Cersaie, the annual to-the-trade show for ceramic tile, surfaces and bath furnishings, you can't help but appreciate the engaging tapestry of stones on walls and underfoot.

This is especially true of terrazzo, which has enjoyed a design renaissance in recent years with no sign of letting up. Changes in scale and palette are giving way to exciting new effects – even textiles and decorative accessories.

Porcelain tiles have been getting the most attention, and that's mostly due to boosts in technology that allow remarkable fidelity to images and textures that replicate all sorts of stones, as well as concrete, majolica and

photography, much of which are enabled by extraordinary digital printing. Inspiration from history results in turns in classic design, plus looks of rustic or glam, with flecks of gold, copper or silver. Some designs are stylized, some hyper-realistic, while others are playful.

From slabs that are dead ringers for real marble, limestone and gemstones, to micro-mosaics fashioned to create stunning murals, tile has a lot to offer. This is why more designers and homeowners are considering moving beyond kitchen backsplashes, bathroom walls and floors for installations.

Wallcover up

One reason pivots around a growing trend in recent years: porcelain tile being billed as "wallpaper." Large-scale all-over patterns or bold decorative imagery on open grounds, as well as strong geometry that taps into popular retro eras – '60s, '70s and '80s – keep feeding designs. Creating feature walls or even framing tiles as art is catching favor, much as it has in wallpaper.

Full-scale murals amaze with their fidelity. Land- or cityscapes, such as one of Venice by ABK, create atmospheric interiors.

Flower power

Vivid depictions of flowers are taking different paths, as evidenced at Cersaie. Ceramics producer Casalgrande Padana unveiled a blooming wall of roses nestled into glossy green foliage that was so lifelike it demanded a touch just to double check – even though this fool-the-eye example was just 2D. The same was true of two other designs – one ivy-like pattern and the other foliage that featured tiny white Stephanotis flowers.

Bringing the outside in is appealing, but this porcelain tile also can be used outdoors, to permanently brighten a drab wall. In addition, a technology borrowed from sanitary ware manufacturer Toto activates a reaction in the presence of sunlight to reduce air pollutants and decompose dirt deposits, which are washed away by rainwater.

While uber-scale flowers

SEE **TILE**

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HOMES

TILE

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have been popular in wallcovering as well as porcelain tiles, Vallelunga and Co. explored another intriguing direction. Designed as a companion to a black ground that features swirling patterns, there's a series of horizontal tiles with graphic images of flowers. On an entire wall, the effect feels almost random, and it's a departure from the overblown florals we've seen in tile and wallcovering, one with a very modern look.

Another floral pattern conjured the feel of textiles, and for good reason – it's a collaboration between Florim and Rubelli, a revered high-end textile manufacturer based in Venice. One of the patterns, a soft, breath-

taking, medium-scaled floral, felt almost like the fabric that it replicated. Whether it's used in a living space, teamed with a chair that repeats the pattern in jacquard or damask upholstery, or in a bathroom with modern fixtures, it's elegant.

Industrial

Although the industrial look has backed off a bit as a style category, cement and cement-look tiles still appeal. Combinations, like those with wood, also include terrazzo. At ABK, geometric pieces patterned in terrazzo create a sort of rug pattern on a "concrete" ground.

Some of the cement looks are very painterly, with a fresco feel. One from Del Conca depicts a worn threadbare

look popular in rug design.

Surface mixes

Contrasts between smooth and textured surfaces are adding more interest, even to monochromatic schemes. At Tonalite, for example, an entire wall of emerald green tiles from the Tissue collection, which the brand says is a favored hue, is all the more striking because of several textures, including large-scale herringbones, plaids and honeycomb. In addition, slivers of shiny copper and gold could be seen intertwining or overlapping rough cementlike textures in broken-up plaids.

The Italian brand Imola took an ordinary subway tile, showed it in a coral red, then accented it with a metallic

gold in a bubble pattern. Dimensional mosaics, especially on a beefed-up scale, which enhances pattern options and allows for more seamless designs, are an emerging category. Artistic Tile's Garden Party shows lovely elements such as dragonflies, butterflies and flowers that pop from a ground of creamy Bianco Dolomiti marble.

Another dimension

More exaggerated 3D examples continue to push the design envelope. Chunky pieces, like those of Made39's Cube, are hollowed out or assembled in overlapping cubes, a rich dimension that is highlighted by light and shade. Zephyr, one of the most striking new designs from Artistic Tile, which

won the 2019 Best of the Year award from Interior Design magazine, depicts dynamic sweeps of gilt-edge ruffles that mimic fabric. In fact, the undulating design by Alison Rose was inspired by the symbol for infinity.

Fashion, architecture, archival patterns, paintings, photographs, cityscapes and dreamscapes, as well as geometry, textiles and paint techniques are all driving today's tile designs. Choices abound for those looking for surface materials for floors and walls, indoors and out. On a smaller scale, backsplashes, fireplace surrounds and feature walls offer special canvases for striking designs that require little maintenance – always an attractive selling point.

HOME OF THE WEEK

Main level living in craftsman-style home

Experience main-level living in this craftsman-style home.

This home is situated on a .75-acre site and includes more than 4,300 square feet of living space.

Enjoy a main-level owner's suite with a fully-upgraded owner's bath, hard-

wood flooring throughout and three additional bedrooms on the second floor.

This home also features an extended covered front porch, two-story family room and finished basement with a recreational room, full bath and den.

AT A GLANCE

Location: 7773 Julia Taft

Way, Lorton, VA 22305

Neighborhood: Indian Springs Farm

Price: \$1,119,000

Square feet: More than 4,300

Bedrooms: 5

Bathrooms: 4.5

Year built: 2019

Contact: Jamie Gerace

703-268-1265

jgerace@christophercompanies.com

www.christophercompanies.com



COURTESYPHOTOS

Great room and kitchen with box beam ceiling.



COURTESYPHOTO

Exterior of 7773 Julia Taft Way.

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Our View

Time to revisit Complete Streets?

You've seen the artist's renderings: people walking, bicyclists with helmets in designated bike lanes, a bus driving in a marked transit lane and even a car or two all happily coexisting on uncrowded streets on a perfect, sunny day.

They're the type of drawings that likely win awards in graduate school – but don't translate well into the real world of streets too heavily traveled for such designs. Thinking that they will is what leads to bad public policy.

The desire for safe streets is admittedly a conundrum. All reasonable people are in favor of safety for cars, buses, ambulances, bicyclists, pedestrians and even scooter riders.

The problem is that while some of our roads may date back to the days of horse and buggies, the vast majority were designed for motor vehicle use.

And modern-day Alexandria is a close-in suburb of a major city, meaning large numbers of city residents commute by car to D.C. each day, while many other people drive to their jobs in Alexandria. The still-new technology of Uber and Lyft adds another layer of cars to the already high volume. Cars dominate our roadways.

Wishing away this motor vehicle-centric reality won't make the cars disappear, but eliminating commuting lanes will back them up and make their drivers angry, as we've seen.

What's worse is when changes made in the name of safety actually make it more difficult for public safety officials to do their jobs.

It's clear from the page 9 article in today's Times, "AFD response to Seminary Road FOIA emails," that Alexandria's fire department leaders are upstanding people. Fire Chief Corey Smedley and Acting Assistant Chief Michael Cross adamantly state that their input has made Seminary Road safe for emergency vehicles, despite the loss of two travel lanes.

And yet, Sheriff Dana Lawhorne sent a statement to Transportation and Environmental Services Director Yon Lambert on Feb. 12 saying the opposite, that the Seminary Road narrowing has made it more difficult for public safety officers to do their jobs:

"I concur with [former] Fire Chief Robert Dube who stated, 'Anything that slows down our response is problematic.' I have been operating an emergency vehicle in Alexandria for 41 years and can speak from experience. First responders have always relied on arterial roads to get them to the scene of an emergency. In my opinion, physical barriers placed on arterial roads will affect that."

It's worth noting that Lawhorne is an independently elected official who doesn't answer to Alexandria's city manager, mayor or city council.

When the Complete Streets resolution was adopted by council and signed by Mayor Bill Euille in 2011, and when the Complete Streets Design Guidelines were approved in 2016, there was no statement issued that road diets would be imposed throughout the city. Road diets are one of numerous traffic calming options discussed in the 2016 guidelines.

Now, those Complete Streets Guidelines are being cited by T&ES staff as if they specifically prescribe narrowing and building obstructive barriers in the middle of major roads. If Seminary Road, next to Alexandria's hospital, can be narrowed and obstructive barriers can be built there, then clearly this treatment is planned for the city's other main arterial roads.

Opinion

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

- Thomas Jefferson



Your Views

'A message from the T.C. Williams High School principal'

To the editor:

In my inbox on Feb. 13 I found in part the following:

"We are writing to inform you that a T.C. Williams High School student was arrested today for his alleged involvement in a crime that occurred outside of the City of Alexandria and our community..."

I later found out that the alleged crime was a double murder and that the Virginia State Police arrested the suspect in the school. In addition, per a frightened student witness, there was a FBI presence and some form of a lock down, contrary to Principal Peter Balas' assurance to parents. There is a lack of transparency and information about what actually took place, and important questions need to be answered.

Could the arrest have been made outside the school, without risk to around 3,000 students?

Did the authorities knowingly allow a double homicide suspect to enter the school to arrest him with 3,000 unsuspecting students in the school?

The email stated that the situation was "handled today according to protocol, and the safety and security of our students and staff were never at risk." I think the arrest and the stated policy

should be publicly investigated by the appropriate city authorities including city council to answer these and other questions.

Let's be clear, at no time is an arrest more important than the health, safety and welfare of our children – both the psychological and physical health, safety and welfare.

Alexandria City Public Schools admitted this risk with the statement: "Counselors will be available for students and staff members at the school over the next few days ... additional security will be in place at the school tomorrow." A school should be a safe learning environment, and students shouldn't be worried about their safety and security.

The statement also said, "Protecting members of our school community is always our top priority." It appears from the information gleaned so far that the top priority was for the convenience, health, safety and welfare of the police over the students.

I think we are fortunate that more injury to our students didn't occur, given the circumstances.

-Chris Hubbard,
Alexandria

Stop degrading our civic associations

To the editor:

In the seemingly relentless attacks on civic associations and the citizens who spend countless hours trying to stay informed about city issues, Planning Commission Chair Nate Macek struck a new low at the Feb. 4 planning commission meeting. He added his voice to the chorus of those disparaging the value of civic engagement through civic associations, which have existed for decades and have provided valuable feedback to city officials.

In 2018, the city's Joint City Schools Facility Investment Task Force issued its final report. One recommendation that the Task Force made was: "Leadership must lead and resist substituting leadership with engagement. Civic engagement is critical, but should not be treated as a substitute for strong leadership by elected officials."

Some of our elected officials wasted no time in demonstrating their commitment to this philosophy. During the Seminary Road debate, Mayor Justin Wilson met with the unprecedented alliance of 13 civic association presidents. Based on his comments at that meeting, I got the impression that he thought he knows best, and his knowledge of transportation conditions and needs along Seminary Road superseded that of everyone in the room and anyone who opposed the road diet.

Right before council voted 4-3 to remove car travel lanes from Seminary Road, Wilson stated that the city cannot again have "this kind of knock-down, drag-out battle on every road in the city." He dismissed the efforts of the 13 civic associations and warned that processes would have to be put in place to allow the city to make future decisions more quickly.

Taking their lead from the mayor, Vice Mayor Elizabeth Bennett-Parker and Councilor Canek Aguirre questioned the very legitimacy of civic associ-

ations and how they represent their residents.

Macek has taken the anti-civic association sentiment that now pervades city hall to a new level. While questioning staff about comments that residents made regarding proposed changes to small business regulations, Macek opined, "I think we have to keep that in mind too that there is a sort of self-selection bias in terms of who gets involved in neighborhood associations and civic associations and some of the anti-business views that people who comprise the membership of those organizations represent, and so there is naturally going to be a bias against relaxing the conditions by a group like that."

I have had the privilege of working alongside many members and leaders of civic associations. The vast majority of these dedicated civic leaders have jobs or businesses. To dismiss them as being anti-business if they dare to question the policies put forward by city staff is arrogant and ill-informed.

Macek has made his bias against citizens clear. When residents spend hours preparing testimony to give before the planning commission, they expect to receive a fair hearing. Sadly, it is clear from Macek's remarks that he dismisses anyone who comes before the planning commission representing a civic association as being biased. Ironically, his prejudice is the very definition of bias.

Members of Alexandria's many civic associations are proud to be part of "a group like that," and will continue to raise our collective voices for fairness, honesty and transparency in our city, despite attempts by some of our current elected and appointed officials to marginalize and minimize the role we play in a city that claims to value civic engagement.

-Carter Flemming,
Alexandria



Justice Matters

with Bryan Porter

Power and Reason

On Nov. 21, 1945, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Robert H. Jackson rose to make his opening statement in the criminal trial of Nazi war criminals in Nuremburg, Germany. It would be difficult to conceive of a graver criminal case – or a larger stage for a prosecutor – than one aimed at holding the agents of the most evil regime in history accountable for their actions.

Jackson is fondly remembered in my profession for a quote about the qualities of an outstanding prosecutor that comes from an April 1, 1940 speech he gave while serving as U.S. Attorney General:

"The qualities of a good prosecutor are as elusive and as impossible to define as those which mark a gentleman. And those who need to be told would not understand it anyway. A sensitiveness to fair play and sportsmanship is perhaps the best protection against the abuse of power, and the citizen's safety lies in the prosecutor who tempers zeal with human kindness, who seeks truth and not victims, who serves the law and not factional purposes, and who approaches his task with humility."

While the quote is quite memorable, Jackson should be remembered for more than one paragraph of one speech.

Jackson never went to law school. Instead, he read for the bar and worked as a self-proclaimed "country lawyer" in his upstate New York hometown. By the end of his career, however, on the strength of his own abilities, he had served as solicitor general, attorney general and a supreme court justice. Given his reputation for fairness and integrity, President Franklin Roosevelt asked him to serve as the lead prosecutor for the Nuremburg Trials.

Never before had such a trial been attempted. In previous wars, the victors had simply executed the leaders of the vanquished foe. Jackson, however, thought it morally imperative that a trial be held – a trial that would temper the hand of vengeance and force the Allies to prove the individual culpability of the Nazi leaders beyond a reasonable doubt before administering punishment.

In the first paragraph of his opening statement, Jackson said:

"The privilege of opening the first trial



**BRYAN
PORTER**

in history for crimes against the peace of the world imposes a grave responsibility. The wrongs which we seek to condemn and punish are so calculated, so malignant and so devastating that Civilization cannot tolerate their being ignored because it cannot survive them being repeated. That four great nations, flushed with victory and stung with injury, stay the hand of vengeance and voluntarily submit their captive enemies to the judgment of law is one of the most significant tributes that Power has ever paid to Reason."

The capital letters are Jackson's choice and what he believed to be the animating force behind the Nuremburg trials. In addition to being simple and powerful, the last words of this opening paragraph serve as the paradigm of what criminal prosecution is all about. In our criminal justice system, Power pays tribute to Reason.

Although the police have the physical power to arrest someone and detain them indefinitely without charge, reason and the U.S. Constitution require due process protections such as a speedy and public trial and a grand jury indictment. Although it might be expedient to presume the accused guilty and require proof of innocence, reason demands the converse: that the accused be presumed innocent, that he need not utter a single word in his own defense and that the prosecution bear the burden of proving every element of each charged offense to the satisfaction of a unanimous jury of the defendant's peers.

In the Nuremburg trials, 22 defendants were tried. Twelve were convicted and sentenced to death. Seven defendants were convicted and sentenced to prison terms.

More telling is the fact that three defendants were acquitted and freed. That three accused Nazi war criminals – people who easily could have been summarily hanged without any pretense of a trial – were instead acquitted is a shining example of the rule of law and Power's submission to Reason.

I will explore the phrase "the rule of law" in upcoming months.

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OUT OF THE ATTIC

Parker-Gray's NBA pioneer

As Parker-Gray alumni prepare to celebrate the 100th anniversary of their alma mater's opening, we highlight one of the high school's most famous alumni. Earl Lloyd was born in Alexandria in 1928 to Theodore Lloyd Sr. and Daisy Lloyd.

At Parker-Gray, Lloyd played on the basketball team and earned All-South Atlantic Conference honors three times, and All-State Virginia Interscholastic Conference honors twice. Earl's defensive prowess earned him the nickname "Moon Fixer" due to his size and shot blocking ability.

His success led to a scholarship in 1946 to West Virginia State, which he led to two Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association championships. In 1949 and 1950, the Pittsburgh Courier named him to its All-American team.

After graduating in 1950, Earl was drafted by the Washington Capitols. He was one of only four black players drafted to the NBA that year. Due to a scheduling coincidence, his start on Oct. 31, 1950, made him the first African American to play in an NBA game. He achieved that honor one day



PHOTO/ALEXANDRIA BLACK HISTORY MUSEUM

Earl Lloyd is on the far right of the photo.

before "Chuck" Cooper played for the Boston Celtics and four days before Nat Clifton played for the New York Knicks.

After playing only seven NBA games, Lloyd was drafted into the army during the Korean War. After two years in the army, he returned to the NBA in 1952 with the Syracuse Nationals, following the dissolution of the Capitols in 1951. Earl played six seasons with the Nationals, winning the championship in 1955 alongside Jim Tucker.

Lloyd and Tucker were the first two African Americans to win an NBA championship.

Lloyd nonetheless endured racial discrimination during much of his life, including his childhood in Alexandria, where he was forced to attend segregated schools, and as an

NBA champion, when he was refused lodging at hotels and was spat on by a fan in Indiana. Lloyd once remarked that such hatred only made him play harder.

Earl played for the Detroit Pistons from 1958-60, then retired as a player. He stayed in the Detroit area and returned to basketball in 1968 as the first African American assistant coach in the NBA. In 1971, Lloyd became the second African American head coach in NBA history when he was named head coach of the Pistons.

Lloyd later worked for the Detroit public school system in the '70s and '80s as a job placement administrator. He then became community relations director for the Bing Group,

a Detroit manufacturing company owned by former NBA player Dave Bing.

Basketball didn't forget Earl Lloyd, and in 1993 he was inducted into the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame. The National Basketball Hall of Fame inducted him in 2002 and presented him with the NBA Pioneer Award. In 1999, he retired from the Bing Group and moved to Tennessee with his wife Charlita. In 2007, the basketball court at T.C. Williams High School was named for him.

A Parker-Gray icon and basketball pioneer, Lloyd passed away in 2015.

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

OUR VIEW

FROM | 22

Complete Streets itself needs to be revisited, as there's more than one way to go about making our

streets safer.

Arlington is trying to reduce speeding – and thus increase safety for all road users – by imposing whopping fines. This approach

has the advantage of generating significant revenue for county coffers while eliminating the need for spending on road narrowing and barriers.

Arlington's approach seems reasonable. There have to be additional alternatives that are more viable and less injurious than Complete Streets.

Weekly Poll

Last Week

Are you happy with the concept design that was chosen for the MacArthur Elementary School rebuild?

40% I wish affordable housing were part of the design.

39% Yes, it looks great.

11% I don't like it.

10% I would have preferred a different design.

This Week

Take the poll at alextimes.com

What do you think about the city manager's proposed 2-cent real estate tax rate increase?

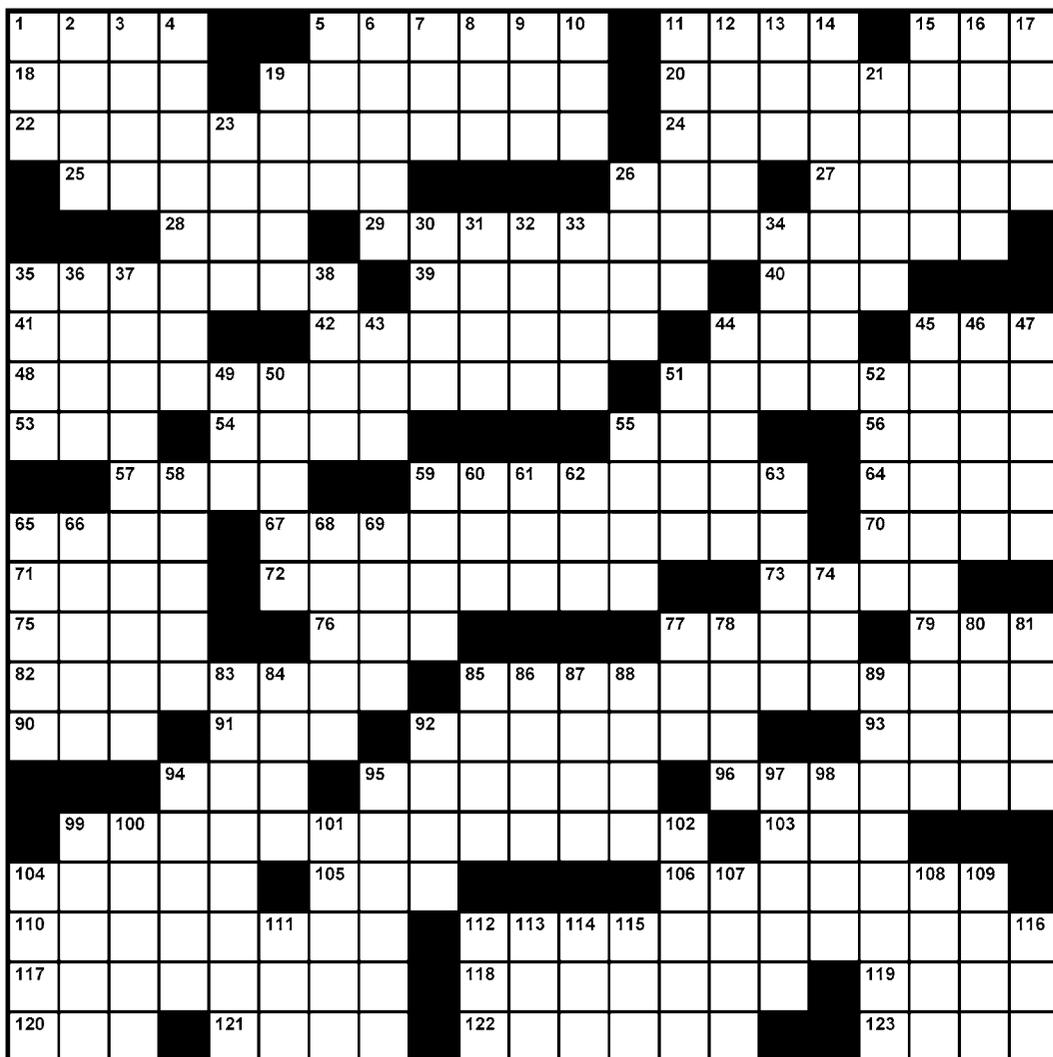
A) I'm unhappy about it.

B) I'm not happy about it, but I understand it's necessary.

C) I support it.

D) I don't care.

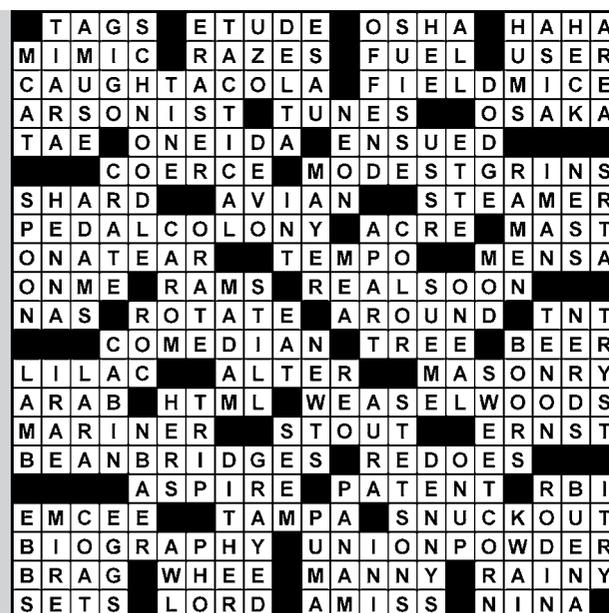
Weekly Words



DEATH NOTICES

- CHRISTINE ENSRUD** (70), of Alexandria, Feb. 5, 2020
- GEORGE W. GILCHRIST** (65), of Alexandria, Feb. 6, 2020
- BARBARA ANN KELLER** (76), of Alexandria, Feb. 10, 2020
- JA'QUANN LEWIS** (23), of Alexandria, Feb. 11, 2020
- PAUL MALONE** (62), formerly of Alexandria, Feb. 8, 2020
- VINCENT G. MARSH** (79), of Alexandria, Feb. 4, 2020
- DEBORAH S. MURRAY** (63), of Alexandria, Feb. 13, 2020
- KAREN C. SHEPHERD** (72), formerly of Alexandria, Feb. 9, 2020
- CHARLES C. SWISHER** (74), of Alexandria, Feb. 13, 2020
- CHESTER E. SZYMCAK** (85), of Alexandria, Feb. 15, 2020
- RICHARD G. WEILER** (26), formerly of Alexandria, Feb. 4, 2020

Solutions from last week



MIX-UPS by Brian Gubin and Jennifer Lim, edited by David Steinberg

ACROSS

1. Engagement-ending exchange
5. ___ longue
11. Circumstance's partner
15. It merged with QVC
18. Collect, as rewards
19. Lodger
20. Far from for
22. TASTE
24. Like some lawns
25. "Preach, man!"
26. You can flip flapjacks in one
27. Wise people
28. Rap pioneer Mac ___
29. RESIST
35. Critters in mazes
39. Skiing category
40. Lead-in to gender
41. Org. fighting discrimination
42. Decreases
44. "Parks and Recreation" character Swanson
45. Texting format letters
48. CAPE
51. Venture that's unlikely to succeed
53. Barbie's boyfriend
54. Boots endorsed by Tom Brady
55. Beyonce, for Blue Ivy
56. Sport with horses
57. ___ Sutra
59. Influences creatively

64. Actor McGregor
65. Play group?
67. AND
70. Hundred ___ Wood
71. Dog food brand
72. Opposite of a group setting
73. Spanish "other"
75. Dessert also known as creme caramel
76. Waste away
77. Like snails
79. Spanish Mrs.
82. iPhone conversation option
85. RITE
90. Body part whose name sounds like an assent
91. British naval inits.
92. Landlocked Andean country
93. "Doing that now"
94. Grp. that gives out maps
95. This evening, on a marquee
96. Get by tricky
99. RAGES
103. Yellow bill in Monopoly
104. Accumulate
105. "Yippee!"
106. It's a gift, per a rosy adage
110. Australian tennis great
112. PHASE
117. Forest fringe
118. New Jersey beach featuring "diamonds"
119. Apt crowd sound at a Lions

- game?
120. Affirmative reply
121. Be in first
122. Like a good marching band
123. Grand Ole ___

DOWN

1. Roth or traditional plan
2. Place to order a hero
3. Vow
4. Complete as fast as possible, as a video game
5. Dodgers slugger Bellinger
6. Assails
7. Sculptures and such
8. Muckraker Tarbell
9. Word before "the table" or "the stage"
10. Palindromic poetic preposition
11. Thanksgiving Day tradition
12. Kilns, e.g.
13. Enero or febrero
14. Urgent
15. Natural lawn divider
16. Direct, as a car
17. Silent approvals
19. Flat hat
21. Does an usher's job
23. ___ avis
26. Low-tech clickers?
30. Sting source
31. "Casablanca" heroine
32. Design detail, informally

33. Spork prong
34. Image you might tap
35. Deficiency
36. Feeling after doing pullups
37. Taylor Swift hit with the lyric "And I'll write your name"
38. Endless chore
43. Right side of a cliff?
44. Lady Montague's son
45. Highlighting
46. Wisdom tooth, for one
47. ___ Age (prehistoric period)
49. Chew on this
50. "My word!"
51. Entrepreneur Greiner
52. Thrown weapon
55. Tick's cousin
58. What to do on Yom Kippur
59. Tag declaration
60. Trail mix tidbit
61. Nickname that's an alphabet run
62. Flower child's digs
63. Hoity-toity type
65. ___ mocha
66. Assuage
68. Social standards
69. Balm ingredient
74. Defunct carrier
77. ___ Lanka
78. Banana bread buy
80. Muddy up
81. Start the pot

83. "No more, sorry"
84. "Pretty. Freaking powerful." computer
85. Half a salad bowl tool
86. "Would ___ to you?"
87. Actress Moreno
88. At any point
89. Way of swaying
92. Kind of image that may be positive
94. Window alternative
95. Started to cry, with "up"
97. "The ___ & Scratchy Show"
98. Soda whose name sounds like a kind of sock
99. Dessert you assemble yourself
100. Walks in a kiddie pool
101. "Laughing" scavenger
102. Note on a plagiarized essay, maybe
104. Bohemian
107. Boss's "Chop-chop!"
108. At the summit of
109. 2020, but not 20/20
111. Compete
112. Chem. or biol.
113. Solo flight captain?
114. College-level H.S. courses
115. Stroke gently
116. Like some religious counties

Classifieds

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LEGAL NOTICE



BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS
Monday, March 16, 2020 - 7:00 PM
Council Chambers, City Hall
301 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Information about this item may be obtained from the Department of Planning & Zoning, 301 King Street, Room 2100, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, telephone: 703.746.4666 or on the City's website at www.alexandriava.gov/dockets.

BZA #2020-00001
1420 Key Drive
Public Hearing and consideration of an Appeal of a zoning violation warning for a sign; zoned: R-20/ Single-Family.
Applicant: Vinson Brett Melvin

BZA #2020-00002
107 E Windsor Ave
Public Hearing and consideration of a request for Special Exceptions to construct a second-floor addition over the existing first floor and to increase the height of an existing

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RETAIL LICENSE APPLICATION—PART 2 (POSTING AND PUBLISHING)

PUBLISHING NOTICE

Please publish the following item in the legal notice section of your newspaper. Please refer to the instructions provided on page 8.

[Full name(s) of owner(s)] **Old Hat LLC**
If general partnership, enter partners' names or name of partnership, if LLP, LLC or corporation, enter name as recorded with the State Corporation Commission. If association or tax-exempt private club, enter name. Only if a sole proprietor, enter first, middle and last name.

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(trade name)

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(exact street address where business will trade)

Alexandria
(city/town)

(county) **Virginia** **22314-3110**
(state) (zip + 4)

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(type(s) of license(s) applied for)

to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.
Jason A. Caminos **Partner**
(name and title of owner/partner/officer authorizing advertisement)

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

88301 rev. 8/2018. This is an official state document. All information contained or submitted therein is public information. Please refer to privacy statement(s), if regarding personal information. Reference instructions (provided separately) with questions. Retail License Application, page 11

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Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation

Classifieds

front porch in the required side yard; zoned: RB/Townhouse. Applicant: Jonathan Renard and Kari Mcnair, Represented by Christopher Tucker

BZA #2020-00004
2403 Burke Ave
Public Hearing and consideration of a request for a Special Exception to construct a second story rear addition in the required rear yard; zoned: R-2-5/Single and Two-Family.
Applicant: Kellyn Quill, Represented by Shane Heath

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

LEGAL NOTICE



Board of Architectural Review LEGAL NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing will be held by the Board of Architectural Review on WEDNESDAY, March 4, 2020 beginning at 7:00 PM in the City Hall Council Chambers, second floor of City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314 on the following applications:

BAR #2019-00480 PG
Request for addition & waiver of rooftop HVAC screening at 1310 Queen Street
Applicants: Ildar Abdullin & Anna Kachalova

BAR #2020-00035 OHAD
Request for signage and alterations at 834 North Washington Street
Applicant: North Washington Street Properties, LLC

BAR #2020-00044 OHAD
Request for partial demolition/ encapsulation at 223 South Lee Street
Applicant: Elizabeth Maier

BAR #2020-00043 OHAD
Request for additions and alterations at 223 South Lee Street
Applicant: Elizabeth Maier

BAR #2020-00045 OHAD
Request for partial demolition/ en-

capsulation at 426 South Lee Street
Applicants: William R. Golden III & Leslie S. Golden

BAR #2020-00046 OHAD
Request for alterations at 426 South Lee Street
Applicants: William R. Golden III & Leslie S. Golden

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

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

Information about the above item(s) may be obtained from the Department of Planning & Zoning, City Hall, 301 King Street Room 2100, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, or at 703.746.3833 www.alexandriava.gov/dockets.

LEGAL NOTICE



ALEXANDRIA PLANNING COMMISSION & CITY COUNCIL MARCH 2020

The items described below will be heard by the Planning Commission and the City Council on the dates and times listed below. NOTICE: Some of the items listed below may be placed on a consent calendar. A consent item will be approved at the beginning of the meeting without discussion unless someone asks that it be taken off the consent calendar and considered separately. The Planning Commission reserves the right to recess and continue the public hearing to a future date. For further information, call the Department of Planning & Zoning at 703.746.4666 or visit www.alexandriava.gov/dockets.

ALEXANDRIA PLANNING COMMISSION
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2020
7:00 PM, CITY HALL
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
301 KING STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314

ALEXANDRIA CITY COUNCIL

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2020
9:30 AM, CITY HALL
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
301 KING STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314

The following case descriptions have been revised for consideration. All other previously advertised cases for the above hearings remain the same.

Special Use Permit #2019-00118
105 and 107 North Union Street - Riverside Taco
Public Hearing and consideration of a request to amend SUP #2018-00111 to permit outdoor speakers and live acoustic entertainment; zoned: CD/Commercial downtown and WPR/Waterfront Park and Recreation zones.
Applicant: ARP Waterfront, LLC, represented by M. Catharine Puskar, attorney

THE FOLLOWING CASES WILL BE HEARD BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION ONLY AND BY CITY COUNCIL ONLY UPON APPEAL:

Subdivision #2019-00022
1300 North Royal Street- Subdivision
Public Hearing and consideration of a request for a Subdivision with a variation to subdivide one existing lot into three lots; zoned UT/Utilities and Transportation.
Applicant: Potomac Electric Power Company, represented by Duncan W. Blair, attorney

Street Name Case #2019-00001
Redevelopment Site at 880 and 890 South Pickett Street and 620 Burnside Place - Construction of New Streets Named Azalea Avenue and Willow Alley
Public Hearing and consideration of a request for a Street Name Case to name two new streets; zoned: CDD #26/Coordinated Development District #26.
Applicant: PS Southeast One, Inc., represented by Mark M. Viani, agent

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

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