

## Discord within APD



PHOTO/ MISSY SCHROTT

The Alexandria Police Department Headquarters, located at 3600 Wheeler Ave.

### Current and former employees criticize, while supporters defend, police chief's leadership

BY MISSY SCHROTT

For years, there have been grumblings of conflict at the Alexandria Police Department.

Some current and former employees allege that the department has a culture of favoritism and retaliation that fuels a hostile work environment and is damaging to health and morale. Few dispute that there have been

SEE **APD**

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## King Street opens for business

### City establishes a new pedestrian zone and expanded outdoor dining as part of phase one launch

BY CODY MELLO-KLEIN

The 100 block of King Street looked a bit different last weekend, with residents walking down the middle of the street and outdoor restaurant seating

extending onto sidewalks and parking spaces.

The city closed the block to vehicular traffic in order to make room for more outdoor dining at restaurants that have struggled in recent months because of the coronavirus pandemic. Now that Northern Virginia has entered

SEE **KING STREET**

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## Local response to the killing of George Floyd

### Amid nationwide protests, Alexandrians look for a way forward

BY CODY MELLO-KLEIN

What appeared to be a couple hundred people gathered outside the Alexandria Police Department headquarters on Tuesday night, standing in silence with signs held high.

Then, a chant emerged, rising like a wave from the previously silent

crowd: "Black lives matter." Hands clapping in rhythm with the words, the crowd repeated the phrase, the chant gaining volume, the words gathering strength as they echoed off the façade of the police headquarters.

The Tuesday night vigil, organized by Showing Up for Social Justice's Northern Virginia chapter, comes amid nationwide protests in the wake

SEE **GEORGE FLOYD**

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PHOTO/CODY MELLO-KLEIN

Protesters gathered outside the Alexandria Police Department Headquarters on Tuesday.

## INSIDE

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Our special section featuring articles by kids and for kids.

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How to care for your cat during the pandemic.

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# Christine Roland Garner

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## WEEKLY BRIEFING

# Confederate statue removed from Old Town

The Appomattox, a Confederate statue that sat at the intersection of Prince and Washington streets and depicted a south-facing Civil War soldier, was taken down early Tuesday morning.

As a Confederate memorial, the statue has been a source of a decades-long controversy. Conversation about removing the statue has been ongoing, but the statue remained in place due to a state law that prohibited localities from removing monuments dedicated to veterans.

Earlier this year, Gov. Ralph Northam (D-VA) signed into law new legislation authorizing localities to remove Confederate war monuments. Since then, the city has been engaging in conversation with the United Daughters of the Confederation,



PHOTO/DENISE DUNBAR

The base of the Appomattox statue.

the group that owns the statue, to decide when and how to move the monument.

The UDC planned to remove the statue in July, Mayor Justin Wilson said. But, given the protests occurring across the country

against racism, police brutality and George Floyd's murder, the UDC decided to remove the statue Tuesday morning.

The UDC has determined a new location for the statue but have not told the city where that new location is, Councilor John Chapman said.

"I think they found a place for it. We don't know where that is because they haven't told us. I don't think they're gonna tell us, which is fine, but I don't believe it's in the city," Chapman said.

The city's goal to remove the statue is part of a broader policy of expanding the scope of what history – and whose history – is told in Alexandria, which includes the city's acquisition of the Freedom House in March.

-cmelloklein@alextimes.com

# Theogony announces 2020-2021 editors

T.C. Williams High School's student-run media organization, Theogony, announced six incoming seniors and two juniors as its editors for the 2020-2021 school year, according to a news release.

Bridgette Adu-Wadier, Regina Allen, Kate Casper, Hunter Langley, Lauren Larsen and Abigail St. Jean will be joined by juniors Nikki Harris and Rachel Wilson to lead Theogony's print, online, television and social media efforts, according to the release.

Adu-Wadier will continue to produce reporting and opinion writing and moderate "Behind the Headlines," a T.V. show featuring panels of local journalists, according to the release.

Theogony's print edition received a First Class ranking from the Virginia High School League in 2020, and the online edition was given a First Class ranking by the National Scholastic Press Association, according to the release.

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WEEKLY BRIEFING

# Yates Dry Cleaning donates more than 1,000 masks



COURTESY PHOTO

Yates Dry Cleaning seamstress Joy So sews masks.

Local dry cleaner Yates Dry Cleaning has donated more than 1,000 handmade masks to local nonprofits and businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a news release.

Yates most recently do-

noted 150 children's face masks to PK Move, a local parkour and movement studio, for the company's "PK Move in a box kits" that will go to children in the Alexandria City Public Schools system.

In addition to donating face masks, Yates is also selling masks for \$15. All money goes toward an employee relief fund, according to the release.

*-cmelloklein@alextimes.com*

# Civic association feeds first responders



COURTESY PHOTO

Seminary Ridge Civic Association members deliver food to Alexandria's on-duty first responders.

The Seminary Ridge Civic Association partnered with Foster's Grill in Alexandria to provide meals for about 90 first responders working at Alexandria's nine fire stations, according to a Monday news release.

"We thought it was a great opportunity to support the men and women who support us. We owe so much to those who protect our lives and our homes," Don Frahler, president of SRCA, said in a statement.

"Seminary Ridge, located in the heart of Alexandria, is supported by Firehouses #6 on Seminary Road, #7 on Duke Street, and #8 on Paxton Street."

The SRCA donation was inspired by a call from Alexandria's Friendship Firehouse to help feed the city's firefighters and first responders. To make a donation to the Friendship Veterans Fire Engine Association, go to [www.friendshipfireco.org](http://www.friendshipfireco.org).

*-mschrott@alextimes.com*



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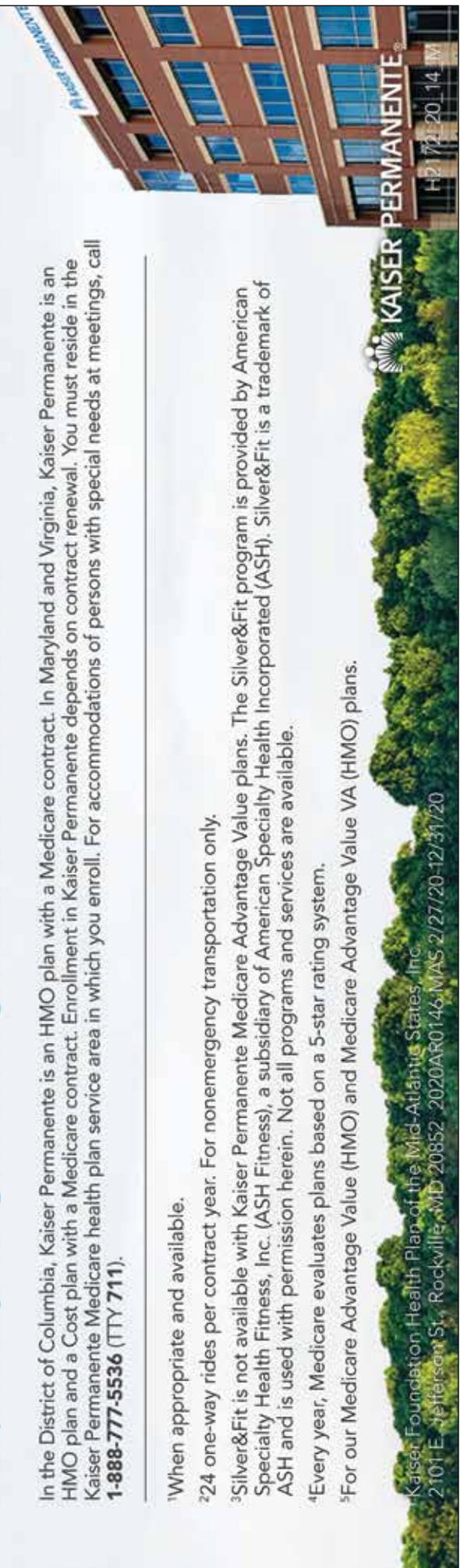
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“It’s a horrible place to work under this chief. ... In a police department, there’s always going to be dissatisfaction with the chief. That’s normal. There’s going to be some dissatisfaction, but the level that we’re seeing right now, I feel is very abnormal.”

– Anonymous

APD

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problems at the department. However, opinions vary when it comes to who’s at fault.

There are employees, including some who resigned after allegedly being subjected to retribution, who blame Chief Michael L. Brown for establishing an environment without discipline or accountability, where misconduct is swept under the rug. They say that under Chief Brown’s leadership, problems have gotten worse, which has fueled retirements and resignations from the department.

Others, including the president of the police union, see Brown as a breath of fresh air. They allege that APD’s problems began long before Brown was in the picture and that he is bringing about much needed change in the department’s operations and organization.

In light of George Floyd’s murder, the leaders of police departments, their practices and the officers they hire are more important than ever.

### Anonymous email hints at conflict

On Feb. 25, all Alexandria Police Department staff received an email with the subject, “Open Letter to the Chief.” The letter – sent from a pseudonym account and signed “Your Employees” – criticized Brown’s leadership.

The writers identify themselves as employees of the Criminal Investigation



COURTESY PHOTO

Police Chief Michael L. Brown.

Division. As such, they accuse Brown of placing “incompetent, unskilled, vindictive and inexperienced” command staff in charge of criminal investigations, causing a lack of discipline and accountability in the division. The writers apply this sentiment to the department as a whole, expressing a lack of confidence in those Brown chooses to promote and place in leadership roles.

The writers go on to say they feel devalued and unappreciated. They write that the current climate of the department has “detrimental effects on morale, motivation and performance.”

Several current and former employees said the sentiments expressed in the anonymous letter are felt throughout the department.

“It’s a horrible place to work under this chief,” a current APD employee who spoke with the Times on the condition of anonymity said. “... In a police department, there’s always going to be dissatisfaction with the chief. That’s normal. There’s going to be some dissatisfaction, but the level that we’re seeing right now, I feel is very abnormal. It wasn’t anywhere like this.”

SEE APD

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COURTESY PHOTO

Gwen Diggs, middle left, with her family when she was promoted to lieutenant.

## APD

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The anonymous employee will be called the pseudonym “Jane” in subsequent references in this article.

Brown’s defenders refute the accusations in the letter and the way it was handled.

“I think it’s inappropriate for somebody to be that negative but hide behind a screen,” Diana Barrett, a crime scene investigator, said. “I’ve been here for 15 years, and we’ve never had a chief that’s had such an open-door policy. You can literally just walk right into his office, no matter what he’s doing [and] sit down, talk to him.”

Regardless of who wrote the letter and how many APD employees agree with its contents, it hints at a culture of discontentment within the department.

### The old vs. the new regime

Some argue that problems with the culture of the department began long before Chief Brown was appointed in January 2017.

Prior to joining APD, Brown spent the majority of

his career with the California Highway Patrol, including a stint as state commissioner from 2004 to 2008. After briefly serving as deputy secretary for public safety for the State of California from 2008 to 2009, he spent seven years as director of the Office of Impaired Driving and Occupant Protection at the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration before joining APD.

Brown’s predecessor, Earl Cook, served as chief of APD from 2009 to 2016. While current and former employees differ in their opinion on whose leadership was preferable, they largely agree that Cook had stricter disciplinary practices than Brown.

“The previous culture ... everyone was on eggshells,” Michael Rodriguez, president of the Alexandria chapter of the International Union of Police Associations, which represents nearly 200 officers, said. “It was very heavy-handed with punishment and internal investigation, and the punishment, it was egregious.”

Brown said that he has changed APD’s disciplinary practices, but not the department’s policies.

“It was common knowledge that we used to be a little heavy-handed in our discipline for minor offenses, and so in looking at the policy, we did what we call the concept of progressive discipline,” Brown said. “I’m not going to give somebody a significant penalty because they dented the fender of a car for the first time.”

Rodriguez said the union largely supports the changes Brown has made. Critics argue that they have led to a lack of accountability.

“If somebody does stray or there’s an issue, cracking down on someone and disciplining them for that harshly isn’t necessarily the wrong thing,” Jane said. “If you’re in his favorites group, ... things will be brushed under the rug for you.”

Nick Ruggiero, a former employee and union vice president who resigned in April after becoming the subject of an internal investigation, said that Brown’s lax disciplinary action fueled poor leadership.

“When Brown came on, we thought he was going to be the savior. He was going to change the culture. Then

“I would call out injustices. I would try to report other people, and instead of rectifying the issue, it got turned on me. I kind of jokingly called myself the Norma Rae of the police department. As soon as you whistle blow, they target you.”

– Gwen Diggs,  
former APD lieutenant

also you have commanders that he inherited that were the same exact way [under the Cook administration]” Ruggiero said. “[Brown] never ... corrected any of the performance deficiencies in these commanders, so they continued to create hostile work environments.”

### A culture of retaliation

The lack of discipline caused an atmosphere of “lawlessness,” Ruggiero said, where employees stopped following the rules because they knew they wouldn’t be punished.

Several former employees, including Gwen Diggs, a 20-year APD employee who left in August 2019, said that when they tried to report wrongdoings and “do the right thing,” they were subjected to retaliation.

“[APD] let people do whatever they want to. Run amuck,” Diggs said. “People come in when they wanted to, leave when they wanted to, not answer the radio. ... I would call out injustices. I would try to report other people, and instead of rectifying the issue, it got turned on me. I kind of jokingly called myself the Norma Rae of the police department. As

soon as you whistle blow, they target you.”

Diggs said she was chastised by her supervisors for not getting along with the people whom she had reported. She began to receive negative evaluations and write ups that she felt were undeserved. Eventually, the targeting and retaliation led Diggs to retire early from APD, she said. She now works for the Prince William County Sheriff’s Department.

“That just went on for too long, and I had had enough,” Diggs said. “I’m much happier at Prince William. I’m not happy I left when I did because technically, I should not have left for another four years when I did, because technically I’m losing 17 percent [of my pension] because I just couldn’t take it anymore. I was in counseling. I was in therapy. I have never felt at a loss as I felt working in Alexandria.”

Another former employee, Leah Tolliver, who served as administrative support to Chief Brown, said she experienced similar retaliation when she filed a formal complaint in APD’s internal investigations after being sub-

“There’s no way that I would ever want to start over in looking for another job at my age. I planned on being there until I retired, but I could not stay in that hostile and harassing work environment.”

– Leah Tolliver,  
former APD employee



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jected to what she considered verbal harassment and racial insensitivities at work.

After filing the complaint with APD’s internal investigations officers on Dec. 11, 2019, Tolliver said she was subjected to retaliation from the employee she complained about, another sergeant and Chief Brown. She cited an instance where Brown revoked her regular keycard access to his office.

Tolliver said the hostile work environment led to her resignation on Feb. 7, 2020. Her complaint is still unresolved, she said.

“I started to have anxiety, I started to have some health-related issues, I was getting depressed and those are just not characteristics of my personality,” Tolliver said. “There’s no way that I would ever want to start over in looking for another job at my age. I planned on being there until I retired, but I could not stay in that hostile and harassing work environment.”

Brown denied ever retal-

iating against an employee.

“It’s fundamentally against my management philosophy to retaliate,” Brown said. “I have never, to my knowledge, thought about retaliating. I know I have made some decisions that have upset people, and I explained them to them in every case.”

Like Diggs and Tolliver, there are stories of other employees who have allegedly resigned or retired from APD because of the culture.

“They have lost so many tenured employees since [Brown has] been in charge because they’re just fed up,” Tolliver said. “They’ve got 15 or 16 years in, but they’re just so tired of the politics that they said, ‘I’ll cut my losses’ and left. Everybody is miserable.”

**Decision-making**

One recurring theme in the testimonies of those unhappy with Brown’s leadership is his decision-making process. Multiple current and former employees of the department have accused Brown of entrusting responsibilities to incompetent staff.

“He definitely plays favorites among everyone,” Jane said. “There is a small group of people that he trusts. Those people oftentimes aren’t in a position where they should be making decisions for the department, and he doesn’t care, and that’s how he runs his operations.”

Brown adamantly denied “playing favorites.” He explained that when making decisions, he intentionally seeks input from his patrol officers and those who are regularly interacting with the community.

“When I got here, ... the chief made all the decisions,” Brown said. “One of the cultural changes that I’m doing – and I’ve been doing for three and a half years – is to push that down for other people to make decisions besides me, because that’s how they’re going to develop and grow.”

Rodriguez said the union supported the change.

“What he has implemented is a lot of coaching, to build people, to build their career and try to reinitiate that culture and build morale back up to be in a positive po-

sition,” Rodriguez said.

What Brown and his supporters consider an effective decision-making tactic, others have found dismissive.

“He sought input from

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“One of the cultural changes that I’m doing – and I’ve been doing for three and a half years – is to push that down for other people to make decisions besides me, because that’s how they’re going to develop and grow.”

– Michael Brown,  
chief, Alexandria Police Department



PHOTOS/MISSY SCHROTT

**Top:** A police cruiser.

**Bottom:** A crest on the side of the Alexandria Police Department Headquarters.

## APD

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at times to those that you just knew he really didn't care for."

patrol officers or those that didn't have the knowledge or expertise in certain areas," a former employee, who recently retired after nearly 30 years with APD and agreed to interview on the condition of anonymity, said. "Very dismissive. He could be dismissive

Recently, Brown has come under fire in the media for his decision to allow APD employees to telework for about a month from April 6 to May 2 because of the coronavirus pandemic. Brown defended the decision, saying it was to protect his officers

and did not cause any missed calls for service or increase in response time.

"I will protect the officers," Brown said. "If you look at some of the military folks, they never commit all their resources to an unknown enemy, and we had an unknown enemy. If I commit them all there, and they all get sick in that nonsterile environment out there and I've got everyone in quarantine, then when the city really needs it, what do I have? I can't afford it. I won't afford that risk."

Before coming to Alexandria, Brown was criticized for his decision-making during his time as commissioner of the California Highway Patrol.

State lawmakers called for Brown's resignation after criticizing Brown's oversight of the Highway Patrol and called him an "ineffective leader," according to a Feb. 13, 2008 article in the East Bay Times. In addition, there were reports of alleged misconduct by command officers while Brown was overseeing the CHP, according to the article.

Brown announced his resignation less than a year later after CHP was criticized in a state audit for wasteful spending.

## Demoting the deputy chiefs

**“I’ve never seen a more transparent person in such a position of power.”**

– Michael Rodriguez,  
union president, IUPA Local 5

One of Brown's more controversial decisions at APD was a reorganization that took place about a year after he became chief. Brown scrapped his four deputy chiefs, giving them the option to either retire or be demoted.

"That was atrocious when he did that to the people that have been there for years and years and years," Jane said. "To demote at the deputy chief level is outrageous. He seemed to do it under the guise of reorganization but it's not. They're flat out demotions."

Brown explained that his intent was to unify the department with the reorganization. With four deputy chiefs, the department had become siloed, he said.

"[APD was] functioning basically as four different departments, and each one was a bureau, and for 10 months I tried to get them to work together," Brown said. "Sometimes they would work together, and many other times they wouldn't, so that became a functional obstacle for us to do our business."

Two officers elected to retire and the other two took the demotion. Those who were demoted did not have a decrease in pay or status, Brown said.

## A changing department

The reorganization, which was backed by the union, was one of Brown's attempts to change the culture at APD, he said.

"Some of the problems I was hearing before I even applied to this job was the internal culture and the problems it presented for the

people that worked in this facility," Brown said. "It was totally something I knew had to change and there was a willingness to do it."

Defenders of the chief say that the changes that Brown has made are for the better, despite receiving opposition from some employees. They denied the accusations against Brown and applauded the direction in which he's leading the department.

"Cops hate change," Officer Bennie Evans said. "We hate change, but that was a necessary change. Chief Brown, [Assistant Chief] Don Hayes, those were necessary changes, because we were headed for a bad place for a police department."

"I've never seen a more transparent person in such a position of power," Rodriguez said.

Critics caution that the change is causing more trouble than it's worth, to the point where employees will continue to leave, and APD's work will be compromised.

"There's such chaos that's going on within that department and bad leadership, it's astounding that any work or any crime gets solved whatsoever," Ruggiero said.

"There's no other option for me right now other than to leave this department," Jane said. "There's no upward career growth, but there's no respect. ... I can't constantly be belittled and demoted, especially for working hard and doing the right thing all the time. It's a toxic department that this chief has created."

–mschrott@alextimes.com

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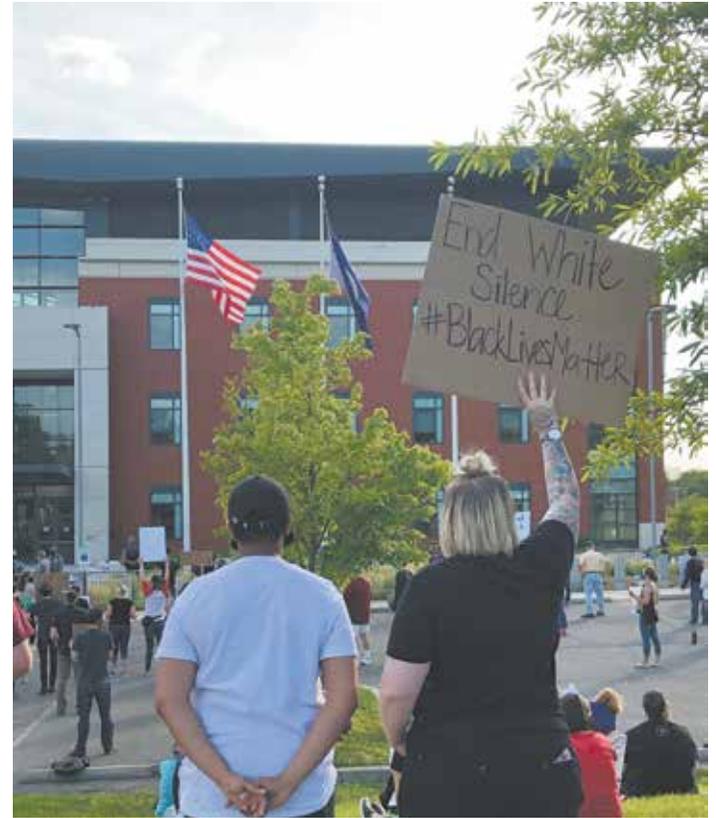
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PHOTOS/CODY MELLO-KLEIN

**Left:** The protest on Tuesday was organized by Showing Up for Racial Justice, an organization that aims to engage white individuals in fighting the root causes of racism.

**Right:** The first half of the vigil on Tuesday was silent, while the second half was dedicated to reading the names of black men and women who have been killed by police.

“There’s a lot of weight on me because people look to me to be this God voice in the midst of all this, and sometimes it’s hard for me to find the voice of God when I’m just stuck in black man anger and fear.”

– Rev. Dr. Howard-John Wesley,  
Alfred Street Baptist Church

## GEORGE FLOYD FROM | 1

of the death of George Floyd, a 46-year-old black security guard who died after a white Minneapolis police officer pinned his knee on Floyd’s neck for nearly nine minutes.

Floyd told all four officers involved in his arrest that he could not breathe and begged with them, saying “please” and “mama,” according to a statement of probable cause released by the prosecutors in the case.

The now former officer, Derek Chauvin, was charged with third degree murder and

second-degree manslaughter on May 29 after a video of the incident came out. Chauvin’s charge was upgraded to second degree murder and the three other officers present at the scene, Thomas Lane, Alexander Kueng and Tou Thao, were charged with aiding and abetting murder on Wednesday.

Since then, a wave of both peaceful and violent protests has spread across the country, decrying Floyd’s death, and the deaths of many other unarmed blacks at the hands of police.

The vigil on Tuesday

was held to honor not only George Floyd but Ahmaud Arbery and Breonna Taylor, two other African Americans who have been killed recently. Leaders of SURJ, which is dedicated to organizing white people to engage and fight the root causes of racism, said that the peaceful demonstration aimed to show that those responsible for the murders of these individuals represent the systemic conditions of racist policing across the country, including in Northern Virginia.

“Police in our communities, right here in Northern Virginia, regularly profile, stop, harass, arrest, abuse, and otherwise harm black people in disproportionate numbers,” Cat Clark, an organizer for SURJ, said in an email. “Local governments have failed to hold police accountable for systemic racism and violence in our communities. White people need to be seen opposing police violence; we need to follow the lead of black or-

ganizers for racial justice and amplify their voices. Black lives matter.”

The #EndWhiteSilence vigil was the first such event in Alexandria, but it is not the last. Another vigil is set for Thursday night at 7 p.m. in the parking lot of the Charles Houston Recreation Center. The event, organized by two residents, is also designed to be peaceful and to “[express that] anger through violence is not welcome,” according to the Facebook event page.

Like the rest of the country, the Alexandria community has been hit hard by Floyd’s death, as evidenced by cries for social justice that have echoed across social media and other platforms.

“I’m angry as hell, to be honest with you, and I’m afraid,” the Rev. Dr. Howard-John Wesley of Alfred Street Baptist Church said.

Floyd’s death shook Wesley, who organized a peaceful march after Michael Brown was shot and killed by po-

lice in Ferguson, Missouri in 2014, he said.

The reverend’s next sermon – titled “I’m Mad as Hell” – reflects those feelings and the challenges that have come with trying to serve as a spiritual leader in his community while feeling and grieving Floyd’s death as a black man.

“There’s a lot of weight on me because people look to me to be this God voice in the midst of all this, and sometimes it’s hard for me to find the voice of God when I’m just stuck in black man anger and fear,” Wesley said.

With protesters beginning to organize in Alexandria, city leaders have expressed support for those who wish to demonstrate peacefully.

“Our goal is to allow first amendment protests if they want to do that, make sure that they’re done safely and to protect them. That’s our job,” APD Chief Michael Brown said.

SEE **GEORGE FLOYD** | 14

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PHOTO/CODY MELLO-KLEIN

Alexandrians of all ages, races and genders were in attendance at the #EndWhiteSilence vigil at the Alexandria Police Department Headquarters on Tuesday to honor George Floyd.

## Port City Profile

# Union Square

**Location:** 204 S. Royal St.  
**Neighborhood:** Old Town  
**Owner:** BCG / Union Square LLC  
**Year opened:** 2017  
**Type of business:** Meetings, receptions, overnight accommodations  
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**Email:** [bird22314@gmail.com](mailto:bird22314@gmail.com)  
**Website:** [www.unionsquarealexandria.net](http://www.unionsquarealexandria.net)

Simply put, there is nothing else like Union Square in the Washington Metro area. Built in 1880 as the Concordia Hotel, Union Square was skillfully refurbished and renovated starting in the fall of 2017. This 19th-century space is exactly where the prominent community leaders of the time met, dined and discussed issues of the day.

Union Square is the perfect event venue for a business meeting, community event or formal dinner – and makes it easy to respect social distance guidelines. The 14-foot ceilings add to the feeling of spaciousness, and guests have access to all of the 1,779 square feet in the space.

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### GEORGE FLOYD FROM | 12

“People need to be able to address their grievances to the government and the way that has always happened in this country is through peaceful protest,” Commonwealth’s Attorney Bryan Porter said. “I stand with the protestors and they’re right to assemble and protest what they see.”

Wesley doesn’t condone the violence of both protesters and police officers at protests across the country, but said he understands where the protesters’ anger is coming from.

“This is the language America taught its own people. Malcolm X got in a lot of trouble saying this, but he was on to something: Chickens do come home to roost,” Wesley said. “America is reaping the violence it has sown in communities of color and poor and impoverished countries across the world, and I hope she’s listening.”

After Floyd’s death, APD officers condemned Chauvin’s actions.

“Last week, I too watched a video that shocked me in many ways. Personally and professionally, I was appalled at what I saw. I witnessed a homicide at the hands of a

cop, and the victim of that homicide was Mr. George Floyd,” Brown wrote in an open letter to the community on Monday.

“Am I upset? I’m angry. I want to burn some stuff too. ... I want to burn something too, but I know it’s not right,” Officer Bennie Evans, a 26-year veteran of the APD, said. “... I’m just angry enough to say I’m going to go into work and make a change. It hurt me to put this uniform on. Because I’m a black man way before I’m a cop.”

As unfortunate as Floyd’s death is, local leaders hope that this is an opportunity to re-evaluate city policies around policing and equity.

“We have to recognize and acknowledge that within our institutions, within our society there is systemic racism,” Canek Aguirre said. “It’s deeply embedded and deeply rooted. This goes to planning and zoning codes. It goes to the ways highways were built and where they were built. Everything is connected back to this in one way or another.”

The city held the first in a series of virtual town halls on Tuesday night to honor Floyd and discuss how systemic racism impacts the city.

The APD conducts an annual review of the 21st Century Policing initiative that was implemented in 2015 after the protests that occurred in the wake of Brown’s death. Specific programs involved in the policy include community-oriented policing and the collection and analysis of demographic data on all stops and detentions.

Data collection is one tool the city can use to assess policing issues, Aguirre, who has promoted increased data transparency in the APD since 2016 when he helped create a data transparency coalition, said. However, pushing policies like this have proved a challenge in a city where an event like Floyd’s death hasn’t occurred in recent years.

“People were saying, ‘We don’t have this problem. Why do it?’” Aguirre said. “But we can’t identify problems if we don’t have the information to identify them.”

“For all of us, current council members and past, it’s tough for us to say, ‘Hey, things aren’t going bad with us right now, so let’s

**GEORGE FLOYD** FROM | 14

look at how we do law enforcement,” Councilor John Chapman said. “So, I think [a situation] like right now is definitely an opportunity to talk about that, challenge our perspectives on that.”

Alexandria is known for its strong nonprofit and volunteer-driven culture, but there’s always room for improvement, Chapman said.

“Regardless of the socio-economic or racial background of folks across the street or next door, we still care about that person. ... But I think we have to have a greater conversation about how that care works, how it’s shown, what are the areas that we’re still missing,” Chapman said.

The APD provides access to its information on citizen complaints and cases involving use of force to both residents and the Human Rights Commission, Brown said.

According to the 2019 review, the only policy the APD is not currently addressing is APD officers wearing body cameras.

However, Aguirre said the city’s priority should be on changing policy and training and hiring practices.

“Training is something that’s very important, and this is something I’m very proud of the police department on: the impressive bias training that all officers are going through,” Aguirre said. “Not everyone has gone through de-escalation training, but there are some officers that have been specifically trained in that.”

If incidents do occur, local officials want to ensure that misconduct – and outright violent misconduct – remain a part of an officer’s record so they can’t get rehired a few jurisdictions away.

“In the teaching profession, you’re not having a teacher that has a whole lot of misconduct allowed to work

and stay in a school system. That’s usually frowned upon,” Chapman said. “So how do we have that same type of culture with law enforcement so you don’t have people that are racking up complaints – and valid complaints – and remain in a neighborhood or a city where something like that could happen.”

For cases involving deadly force, Porter and Brown signed a memorandum of understanding that requires Virginia State Police to conduct investigations, rather than the APD itself.

The city is already responding to the conversation that is swirling around its own complicated history with race.

The controversial Appomattox statue, which sat at the intersection of Prince and Washington streets and was erected in 1889 to honor the city’s fallen Confederate soldiers, was partially removed by the United Daughters of the Confederacy on Tuesday. After years of conversation, the statue was due to be removed in July, but the UDC decided to accelerate the project due to the protests that have resulted in other Confederate-era statues in the South being defaced.

For residents, it can be hard to find a way forward. How can an individual bring about change?

Wesley has been advocating for community review boards to evaluate police processes and protocols but has put even more emphasis on the power of the vote. Despite his anger and fear, Wesley said he still has faith in what people can do to initiate change.

“I continue to believe in the possibilities of America. Regardless of the injustices we see, the leadership that I believe is immoral and incompetent, I believe in the power of the people to change this nation,” Wesley said.

-cmelloklein@alextimes.com



PHOTO/HAL HARDAWAY

The windows of Bishop Boutique in Old Town are protected with plywood and decorated with messages calling for racial justice.

## Frontline and Furloughed Workers Scholarship Fund

In response to those who are feeling the effects of the coronavirus crisis more acutely, The Art League has established a tuition waiver program for qualifying coronavirus-related furloughed workers and frontline workers. The scholarship is available to Alexandria and DMV based workers furloughed due to the coronavirus crisis, as well as Alexandria and DMV based frontline health care or service industry workers, and postal and package carriers.

All online and future onsite classes will be eligible for Furloughed & Frontline Scholarship applications.

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[theartleague.org/classes/scholarships](http://theartleague.org/classes/scholarships)



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**MARY ASHLEY RHULE**



**ALLEN FROM SAFEWAY**



**ANDREW MACDONALD**



**BABS BECKWITH**

Below are the photos of the remainder of the mask-wearers from our "Wear a mask. Save a life." competition. Check out the names beneath the photos to see who you guessed right and wrong. We've also included a list of businesses who have pledged to have their employees wear masks at least through the end of Gov. Ralph Northam's stay at home order.

- Alexandria Cupcake 1022 King St.
- Alexandria Pastry 3690 H King St.
- Balducci's 600 Franklin St.
- Bastille Brasserie & Bar 606 N. Fayette St.
- Cafe du Soleil 215 S. Union St.
- Chadwicks 203 Strand St.
- Extra Perks 822 N. Fairfax St.
- Fontaine Cafe 119 S. Royal St.
- Glory Days Grill 3141 Duke St.
- Greenstreet Gardens 1721 W. Braddock Rd.
- Inq 1011 King St.
- Kaizen Tavern 1909 Mt. Vernon Ave.
- Kilwins 212 King St.
- Landini Brothers 115 King St.
- Lena's 401 E. Braddock Rd.
- Maribeth's Bakery 3103 Colvin St.
- Mia's 100 King St.
- Misha's 917 King St.
- Old Town Ace Hardware 809 S. Washington St.
- Passionately Pets 1 E. Bellefonte Ave.
- Port City Brewing 3950 Wheeler Ave.
- R&B 1710 Mt. Vernon Ave.
- Sonoma Cellar 207 King St.
- Ten Thousand Villages 915 King St.
- The Executive Diner 1400 Duke St.
- The Majestic at Mia's 100 King St.
- The Old Town Shop 105 S Union St.
- TJ Fannon and Sons 1200 Duke St.
- Virtue Feed & Grain 106 S. Union St.
- Whole Dogz 4748 Eisenhower Ave.
- Wine Gallery 108 108 N. Patrick St.



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**SUE GOODHART**



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PHOTO/CODY MELLO-KLEIN

Mia's Italian Kitchen, owned by Alexandria Restaurant Partners, has been able to expand outdoor seating into the parking spaces in front of its business on the 100 block of King Street.



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**KING STREET** FROM | 1

phase one of reopening, restaurants are allowed to offer outdoor dining. While there were plans to convert lower King Street into a pedestrian zone as part of a pilot program this summer, the recent 100 block closure is not part of that pilot.

The street closure resulted in crowds of excited diners and residents eager to leave their homes after months of being cooped up.

“People were great. People wanted to get out. The response was awesome,” Dave Nicholas, partner at Alexandria Restaurant Partners, said. “I love what they did with the 100 block and hopefully it’s something that will be more permanent. The feel was awesome. I just heard all weekend, over and over, ‘Oh, this is so awesome. This is great. This feels great.’”

Under the new design for the 100 block, the street is completely closed to vehicu-

lar traffic, with a 22-foot pedestrian walkway down the center of the street flanked on either side by outdoor seating for restaurants.

Phase one of Gov. Ralph Northam’s (VA-D) reopening plan allows restaurants to offer outdoor dining at a limited capacity in order to ensure tables are distanced from one another in accordance with the state’s social distancing guidelines. Phase one will continue for at least another week in Northern Virginia, Northam announced on Tuesday.

To help restaurants make more room, the city has relaxed its outdoor dining regulations. Restaurant owners can apply to expand outdoor dining onto sidewalks, into parking spaces and in parking lots in front of or adjacent to their businesses, with some restrictions.

Restaurateurs throughout the city are eligible to apply. Del Ray Café was approved to use its parking lot for outdoor dining and Fontaine Café and Creperie, which is just outside the

100 block of King Street on South Royal Street, has set up tables and chairs in a few parking spots.

“Basically, anything we can do that doesn’t impact overall quality of life but facilitates socially distanced outdoor dining, we’re trying to do,” Mayor Justin Wilson said.

The 100 block of King Street stands as the city’s most dramatic outdoor dining hub. Although the current design for the block is not attached to the city’s King Street Place concept – a proposed pedestrian zone pilot program that council was supposed to vote on before COVID-19 hit the region – it’s still informed by research and conversations staff had with local businesses, Wilson said.

The King Street Place concept involved keeping one lane of traffic open as a dedicated pick-up and drop-off lane.

Maintaining the balance

KING STREET FROM | 18

between the restaurant community’s need to get on its feet and the public safety of the broader Alexandria community has become the city’s priority.

“The restaurants have been hurting and we really wanted to give them an opportunity to safely take advantage of moving to phase one,” Karl Moritz, director of the Department of Planning and Zoning, said. “You want some crowds, but you don’t want too many because you want people to be able to socially distance. It seemed like there was a pretty good balance this weekend.”

For restaurants in and around the 100 block, the beginning of phase one and the street closure have brought some business back to their doors – even if it’s nowhere near enough.

“Business was good, but it’s sad to say when you’re

“The restaurants have been hurting and we really wanted to give them an opportunity to safely take advantage of moving to phase one. ... You want some crowds, but you don’t want too many because you want people to be able to socially distance. It seemed like there was a pretty good balance this weekend.”

– Karl Moritz, director, Department of Planning and Zoning,

doing 40 percent of your normal volume that you’re happy – and we were happy,” Nicholas said.

Business might not technically be booming, but being able to get employees working again and give customers the experience of eating at their favorite restaurant was a morale boost for restaurants in the area.

“Everybody’s just been so happy. A lot of the customers have been extremely

happy and that’s reflected not only in their attitude but in how people have been tipping, really taking care of the staff,” Will Smith, owner of Virtue Feed and Grain, said.

Not everybody is happy with the new King Street design. Some residents and businesses have expressed concern about overcrowding on the now closed street and customers’ disregard for Virginia’s alcohol laws



PHOTO/CODY MELLO-KLEIN

The closure of the 100 block of King Street to vehicular traffic is set to last for the duration of phase one for the reopening with the potential for an extension.

and the governor’s face covering mandate.

Under the governor’s orders, the Alexandria Health Department is primarily tasked with making sure businesses are complying with state health guidelines, including the face covering rules, which re-

quire all Virginians to wear masks when they are inside businesses.

Outside, things are different. Restaurants can control what goes on inside the limits of their property, but things get more compli-

SEE KING STREET

| 20

# Wear a mask. Save a life.

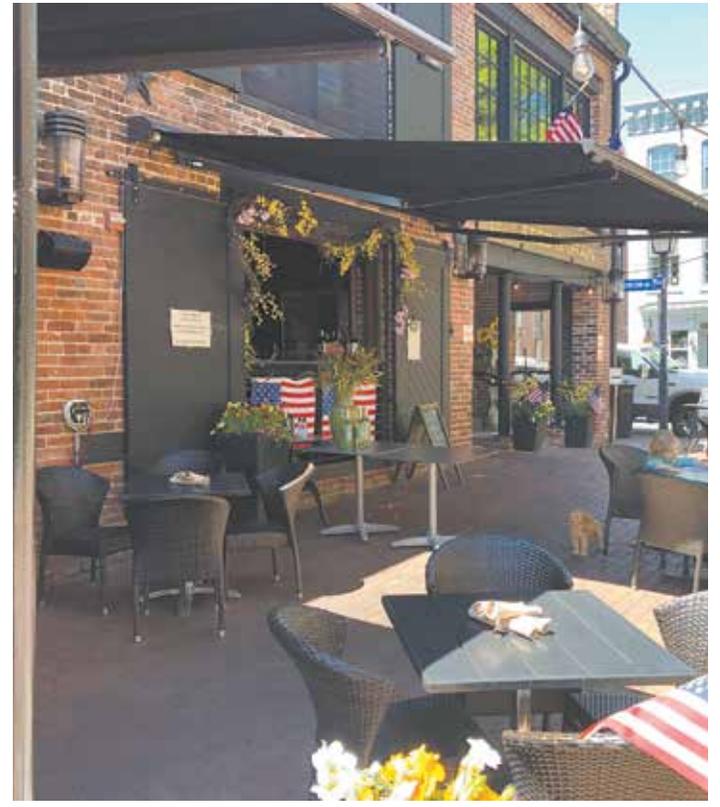


You can proactively help rid Alexandria of the new coronavirus by wearing a cloth facemask when you must go out in public. By wearing a mask, you help prevent community spread of the coronavirus and help protect the most vulnerable in our community.





COURTESY PHOTO



PHOTO/CODY MELLO-KLEIN

**Left:** The 100 block of King Street on May 30. Concerns around overcrowding and lack of face coverings persist around the street closure.

**Right:** Virtue Feed and Grain can seat about 60 people outside, which is still only a fraction of its overall capacity.

## KING STREET FROM | 19

cated when people are congregating on curbsides and just off property.

“We’re trying to mark out spaces on the sidewalk to let people know to keep a safe distance. Other than that, you have to just hope that people will practice that safe distance because we really can’t have control over what happens beyond this alleyway here,” Smith said.

When the situation does get more concerning, as it did on a few weekends in May when King Street was filled with crowds in the streets, the police have a limited ability to take action.

“I happened to be down there checking on it and I noticed it was a little bit out of control, one of those warm Sundays,” Alexandria Police Chief Michael Brown said. “So, we started putting an assigned group of officers down there. ... We have a continuing detail down there seven days a week, re-

duced on the weekdays.”

The police can address crowds of 10 or more people, which are still prohibited in Virginia’s phase one reopening, and enforce violations of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority.

In response to complaints about customers treating the city’s new take home alcohol service like takeout and congregating to drink in the streets, representatives from Virginia ABC, the AHD and APD met with restaurateurs in the area in May.

“Our goal is not so much to put people out of business or harass them,” Brown said. “It’s for the public health emergency that we’re in, to get people to wear the mask as appropriate and social distance. As yet, we have not had to put anyone in jail or give a ticket for that stuff.”

With limited enforcement capabilities, city officials hope residents abide by the rules around social

distancing and mask wearing of their own volition, the mayor said.

“The last thing we want is for police to arrest anyone or anything like that or write a ticket for that matter. The goal is voluntary compliance, so hopefully with visibility and encouragement, folks are going to play by the rules and be safe,” Wilson said.

Outside of public health concerns, some restaurants expressed frustration with what the reopening means for those outside the 100 block of King Street. These restaurant owners declined to speak on the record.

In some cases, it’s proven hard to get approved for expanded outdoor dining without the resources of large restaurant groups, one restaurant owner said. For smaller restaurants, the prospect of reopening with such limited capacity can seem questionable at best.

“... In working with some of these restaurateurs,

there’s been the concern, ‘Can I make enough money? Is it worth my while to do two parking spaces?’” Charlotte Hall, the advocacy chair for the Old Town Business Association, said.

Hall has been working to assist those outside the 100 block. As a liaison between businesses and the city, part of Hall’s job has involved working with city officials to turn a constant stream of “nos” into a workable plan for outdoor seating.

“The restaurateur is stressed to the hilt already. I want to be there to say, ‘Ok, you’ve told him everything he can’t do. Now I want you tell him what he can do,’” Hall said.

The city has been turning around applications for expanded outdoor dining in 24 to 36 hours, but some businesses still feel left out in the cold, especially with the 100 block of King Street drawing in so many people.

Restaurant owners on the 200 block have already ex-

pressed interest in extending the closure up to their block, and the city is evaluating whether or not a similar concept on the 200 block could work, Moritz said.

Critics of what’s happening on King Street fear that the summer sun and expanded outdoor dining could create a troubling scenario in the middle of a pandemic that’s still hitting the region. In the meantime, supporters hope the change could be a model for how to keep restaurant owners, employees and customers going during the crisis.

“Now’s not the time to say, ‘Well, I don’t think it’s gonna work.’ Right now it’s a plus, an enhancement,” Hall said. “It’s putting money into the pockets of our businesses. It’s keeping our businesses open another day, another week. And people are coming out. Better to give them something to enjoy and something that is memorable in Alexandria.”

-cmelloklein@alextimes.com

# ALEX KIDS

## Three ways the coronavirus has impacted an eighth grader

BY JEREMY YOUNG

As a 14-year-old eighth grader with some time on his hands, I thought it would be nice to share the three main ways that the coronavirus has affected my life: athletically, academically and socially.

### Athletics

As everyone knows, all athletics for the spring have been canceled, which is definitely a major downside to this virus. The Alexandria Country Day School boys' varsity basketball team finished the regular season 8-3, and we had won in the semifinals, which landed us our spot to play in the league championship.

For eighth grade basketball players like me, this was a big deal. We worked all season long to play on the playoff stage against a team that had beaten us before. To have the game canceled was definitely not the way we planned to finish our ACDS basketball careers.

The other way this affected my sports plans was through baseball. Last year, the intermediate Alexandria All Star team, which I was a part of, won the district, beating out Arlington and Mclean. We traveled to

Hampton, Virginia to play in the state tournament, where we finished third in the state. For those of us who were hoping to return to All Stars this year and make another run for the state, this was definitely unfortunate.

### Academics

Academically, as someone who already has high school plans, I may not be affected as much. However, one thing I am missing is unique to ACDS.

We have a program for fifth through eighth graders called "Speeches and Sweets," where every student writes a speech and performs it in front of a live audience. This is one of the most important programs at ACDS. For eighth graders, it is the last time they will perform a speech in front of the audience, and it is a big deal.

Eighth graders were supposed to perform at school at the end of May, but because of the virus, we will instead be performing via Zoom. While this will definitely take away some of the stress of having to stand at the podium and look out at the many parents and other students, it will also take away some of the satisfaction when we are done.

Another important event

at ACDS that will be changed because of the coronavirus is graduation. While middle school graduation is by no means as big of a deal as high school or college graduation, it is still very important for parents, teachers and students.

I have spent nine years at ACDS, and since my brother and sister are two years older than me, I have spent 11 years in or around the school. Because of this, I am glad that ACDS is having a graduation with everyone in their cars. The graduate will get out when their name is called. While this is very different from the normal graduation, I am glad that we will be able to be at the school and see everyone else.

### Social life

In many ways, the social aspect of being an eighth grader has been hit the hardest by the coronavirus. Zoom doesn't give us the same chance to interact with our classmates that we



JEREMY YOUNG



FILE IMAGE

would have at school, and I know that we all miss being able to see and talk to our friends. Two of the events that my classmates and I will be missing the most at ACDS are our last dance and the trip to Puerto Rico.

At ACDS, there are three dances throughout the year for sixth, seventh and eighth graders. The last dance for eighth graders is especially important because they get to stay after for an extra thirty minutes. Because our last dance was canceled, it looks like the only one we'll get to see is the Michael Jordan documentary "The Last Dance" on ESPN.

The most disappointing event, in my opinion, that we are missing is the eighth-grade trip to Puerto Rico. For many people, it is a highlight from their time at ACDS. We spent the beginning part of

the year raising money for the trip and getting excited for it, and now, we are never going to be able to go there together as a grade.

I can't forget to mention that ACDS is already planning to make up some of the events that we are missing, which should definitely help make up for what we are missing out on. We have had chances to talk with our classmates in our advisories about plans for the end of the year events.

In addition to having graduation take place in person from our cars, ACDS is also planning a gathering when it is safe to be together again, which will be great because most of my classmates and friends are going to different schools next year.

*The writer is an eighth grader at Alexandria Country Day School.*

## MAKE-A-WISH

### Lucia's wish

Alexandria resident Lucia goes on a princess cruise with her family. | Page 22

## ACTIVITY

### Word search

Put your investigating skills to the test with a quarantine-themed word search. | Page 23

# MAKE-A-WISH

## Lucia's wish

**Alexandria child goes on a cruise with Make-A-Wish**

BYKAYA ROBERTS

When a pair of wish-granting volunteers from Make-A-Wish strolled up to a front door in Alexandria, they were greeted by Lucia, dressed as Moana, and her younger sister, Danielle, dressed as Cinderella.

As her parents began filling out paperwork, 5-year-old Lucia told the volunteers all about herself. She was diagnosed with leukemia, a type of cancer, in 2018.

After she was diagnosed, Lucia visited the clinic at Pediatric Specialists of Virginia for her treatments every day. While at the clinic, Lucia saw a commercial for a special cruise. She became obsessed with the idea of being on a big boat, playing on the beach during port stops, swimming in the pools, meeting her fa-



**Left:** Lucia and her family on their cruise vacation.

**Right:** Lucia and her sister, Danielle, dress as princesses.



COURTESY PHOTOS

vorite princesses and even going snorkeling.

When Lucia found out she was eligible for a wish from Make-A-Wish Mid-Atlantic, she knew she wanted to experience the cruise. Make-A-Wish is a nonprofit

organization that fulfills the wishes of children with critical illnesses – whether they want to go to the Super Bowl, ride in a hot air balloon or, in Lucia's case, go on a cruise.

Although she was still going to the clinic for her treatment, Lucia was full of

energy and excitement. She told the volunteers all about the commercial she had seen and activities she would love to do while on the cruise.

Lucia hit the deck one year later, and her cruise was all she imagined and more. She met all the prin-

cesses, relaxed in a hammock on the beach and built sandcastles with Danielle.

Lucia and Danielle brought costumes ranging from princesses to sea pirates for every day they were on board. Lucia especially loved getting a princess makeover at the boutique onboard.

Lucia and her family were grateful for the bonding experience. While the family was reflecting after their trip, Lucia declared, "It wasn't amazing, it was the best!"

Since returning from the cruise, Lucia and her family have remained involved with Make-A-Wish Mid-Atlantic and all the events hosted in the D.C. area. Lucia proudly represents wish kids like herself who have battled a critical illness and continues to share her family's experience.

*The writer is a communications coordinator for Make-A-Wish Mid-Atlantic.*



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# WORD SEARCH

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 L H W O R K F R O M H O M E T  
 Z O R I X Z B P P U L W C J N  
 Q S O C I A L D I S T A N C E  
 U C F I N S I D E Z E L C X T  
 A G L S G J F A V Q F K V S E  
 R R S I X F E E T D Z I O K I  
 A D V I D E O C H A T N C E S  
 N C V D R I J P X U S G U B R  
 T O Q C O R O N A V I R U S E  
 I V X G I R T U Z O O M T R K  
 N I R E S P O N S I B L E Y I  
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 COVID  
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 HOME  
 INSIDE

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# OBITUARY

## Jerry Murray

### Sergeant First Class, U.S. Army (Ret.)

Jerry Murray died peacefully at his home in Hyattsville, Maryland on May 24, 2020 after a long illness, at age 89.

Born and raised in Macon, Georgia, Sgt. Murray honorably served in the U.S. Army, in both the Korean and Vietnam Wars. While in the military, he received numerous awards, among them a Good Conduct Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Meritorious Service Medal and numerous Best Mess awards. During his 21 years of military service, he had the opportunity to travel and was stationed in Korea, Germany, France, Maryland and Virginia, retiring from the military at Fort Lee, Virginia on Sept. 30, 1971.

Jerry's love of food and skill of supervising food services in the military led to his af-

ter-military life of owning and running Sargeant's Restaurant for many years in Alexandria. He first started as a partner in Allen's Restaurant and eventually purchased it and turned it into his own business in 1973. It was well known as a neighborhood gathering place in the Parker-Gray African American community where members of the community would meet to socialize, watch sports and get good home-cooked southern cuisine. Individuals would travel for miles to eat "Sarge's" famous chitterlings and pig feet. The restaurant would serve as a landmark in the Parker-Gray community for more than 40 years.

"Sarge," as he came to be affectionately known, was a leading force in the Parker-Gray community, the African American part of Al-



COURTESY PHOTO

exandria, at a tumultuous time when segregation was still prevalent. He was one of the few African American business and property owners in Old Town Alexandria. Sarge believed in giving back to the community. He sponsored many local youth sports teams, providing opportunities for young people, becoming a father figure for

many young people in the surrounding community. He acted as a liaison between the Parker-Gray community, city leadership and the Alexandria Police Department, among others. He was a key force in expanding opportunities to the community of Alexandria. He was well respected by many elected officials in the city, including the mayor, chief of police and members of the city council. He also served on many organizations including his civic association and the Chamber of Commerce. He always gave a helping hand to people in the community, and they would remember this. He was known as an institution in the community, was blessed and wanted everyone else to be blessed. Even after he retired, he enjoyed going

back and spending time with people in the community.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Doris H. Murray, their son Kirkland J. Murray, and his son, Jerry M. Battle (Kathy) and his sister Estella King, both of Macon, Georgia, and many other devoted family and friends. He will be missed by the community of Alexandria, who remember his kindness and generosity. Sarge's legacy will be left and revered by them.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. For more information on Sarge's life, please visit [waddyfuneralhome.com](http://waddyfuneralhome.com).

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in memory of Jerry Murray to the Hospice of the Chesapeake at [hospicechesapeake.org](http://hospicechesapeake.org).



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# Times Living

## Alexandria

## Celebrates Women

# Honoring Alexandria's Kate Waller Barrett

BY GAYLE CONVERSE  
AND PAT MILLER

Kate Waller Barrett was an Alexandria suffragist who helped the city and nation during the 1918 flu pandemic and was asked to run for governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia. After her death, the Winchester Star wrote, "If women had had equal rights 20 years ago, [Kate Waller Barrett] would have been elected president of the United States."

Katherine Waller was born in 1857 on her father's large plantation in Stafford County, Virginia. After attending the Arlington Institute for Girls in Alexandria, she married the Rev. Robert South Barrett and moved to Richmond, where one evening a young unwed mother appeared at their door – beginning Barrett's lifelong passion for empowering women and girls.

Barrett proved to be a dynamic woman – suffragist, social reformer, author and physician – in the days before women were considered equal at the ballot box. She earned an M.D., received an honorary Sc.D. degree and completed the nursing course at the Florence Nightingale Training School in London.

She became superintendent and eventually president of the National Florence Crittenton Mission, a progressive

organization established in 1883 to assist unmarried women and teenage girls, including girls and women of color, who either had children or were attempting to leave the prostitution profession. She also published several books.

In 1917, while suffragists were imprisoned at the nearby Occoquan Workhouse, she continued her support of state and national suffrage associations. She served as honorary vice president of the Equal Suffrage League of Virginia and was a charter member of the League of Women Voters. Barrett served as president of the American Legion Auxiliary, state president of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and was active in the National Council of Women, the National Congress of Mothers and the National Prison Association.

During the 1918 flu pandemic and World War I, Barrett opened her own home in Alexandria to ill and disabled returning soldiers. She was asked by the U.S. War Department Commission on Training Camp Activities to speak to American soldiers regarding venereal disease.

Barrett's work became international in 1919, when she journeyed to France and Turkey as a special agent of the United States Immigration Bureau to examine the intended



A painting of Kate Waller Barrett.

PHOTO/ALEXANDRIA LIBRARY

U.S. deportation of women and girls on moral grounds. She partnered with John D. Rockefeller to create an anti-traffic-ficking film titled, "Traffic in Souls." In 1919, President Woodrow Wilson sent Barrett, via a U.S. battleship, to serve as one of 10 women observers at the Versailles Peace Conference, then as a delegate to the Zurich Peace Conference.

She was appointed as a

delegate to the 1924 Democratic National Convention in New York where she received a standing ovation for her speech. Barrett also sat on the board of the College of William and Mary.

Barrett died at her home in Alexandria in 1925. Upon her death, both state and national flags were flown at half-mast – an honor bestowed to no other woman before her.

### REGISTER TO VOTE

To promote social distancing, the Office of Voter Registration and Elections is open by appointment only. Voters are encouraged to request absentee ballots online and to register to vote online through the Virginia Department of Elections.

For questions regarding registration, absentee voting or to request and appointment, email [voters@alexandriava.gov](mailto:voters@alexandriava.gov), or call 703-746-4050. For information about upcoming elections, go to [www.alexandriava.gov/Elections](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Elections).

The Kate Waller Barrett Branch of the Alexandria Library was built in 1937 as a memorial to this pioneering local heroine. An elementary school in Stafford, Virginia also bears her name.

Alexandria's Kate Waller Barrett has an inspiring story to be remembered as Alexandria Celebrates Women during the centennial of women's suffrage.

*The writers are founders of Alexandria Celebrates Women, a new nonprofit that is commemorating the centennial of women's suffrage and highlighting influential women throughout the city's history. Contact them at [Alexandria-CelebratesWomen@gmail.com](mailto:Alexandria-CelebratesWomen@gmail.com).*

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# PETS

## Caring for your cat during COVID-19

BY SARAH LIU



SARAH LIU

The COVID-19 pandemic and stay-at-home orders have drastically changed the daily routines of entire families – humans and pets.

Dog parks and day cares have been closed, and social distancing may reduce or curtail daily walks. Likewise, cats – full-time indoor and indoor-outdoor – find their routines disrupted simply because human family members are now home all day.

As pet parents, it is our responsibility to minimize the stress of changes and take the proper precautions to ensure our companions' mental and physical health during the outbreak. Below are a few tips for cat owners to support and protect your feline friends during these uncertain times.

### Practice good hygiene

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the risk of animals spreading COVID-19 to people is considered to be low, but it appears that in some situa-

tions, the virus can spread from people to animals.

To prevent spread, keep your cat indoors if possible, and do not let it interact with people or animals outside your household. Wash your hands before and after interacting with your cat, regularly clean food and water bowls, and do not share food, dishes or eating utensils.

### Have a plan

Are you the primary caretaker for your cat? Reach out to trusted friends and family to make arrangements for back-up care should you become sick or require hospitalization. If you lack a support network, contact your

SEE CAT CARE

| 27

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# PETS

## CAT CARE FROM | 26

veterinarian or local shelter for options in temporary boarding or subsidized care.

For example, the Animal Welfare League of Arlington's Companions in Crisis program can provide short-term care for pets in health or housing emergencies. Always have carriers, food and necessary supplies available for relocation. Make sure vaccinations are up-to-date and necessary medications are clearly labeled with names and dosing requirements.

### Use caution when cleaning

During the outbreak, it is important to keep your home clean. However, most of the chemical products that prevent the spread of COVID-19 are toxic to pets. Cats can be poisoned a number of ways, whether ingesting a product directly, indirectly ingesting via self-cleaning, absorbing chemicals through the skin or inhaling through the mouth and nose.

Signs of poisoning can include drooling, lack of appetite, vomiting, diarrhea, redness or inflammation of affected areas or respiratory signs such as sneezing, coughing or difficulty

breathing. If you suspect your cat has been exposed to toxic household cleaners, contact your veterinarian immediately or call Animal Poison Control.

### Get help with expenses

The pandemic has caused financial hardship to many. If you're having trouble affording pet food or veterinary expenses, look into programs designed to assist pet owners.

The Animal Welfare League of Arlington has a pet food pantry and low-cost veterinary assistance, including spay and neuter services. The shelter even maintains social distancing by delivering food directly to your door. The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria also hosts a community pet pantry, and Senior Services of Alexandria offers a delivery service, "AniMeals" on Wheels, to eligible area seniors.

### Enjoy the quality time

Social distancing and sheltering in place are great opportunities to spend extra time bonding with your cat. If you've gotten lazy about Fluffy's grooming or hygiene, this is a perfect chance to develop daily or weekly routines for brushing, nail trimming or even tooth brushing.

In addition, with more hours at home, you can find time to bring out your cat's inner kitten. Dust off some old cat toys, or find internet tips for making new ones, and spend a part of the day playing. The exercise will benefit your cat, and watch-

ing their antics will be a relaxing stress reliever for you.

In addition, cuddling with your cat can improve your overall mental and even physical health. Studies have shown that the sound of a cat's purr can calm stress, lower blood pressure and even heal infec-

tions, bones and muscles.

*The writer is a longtime volunteer with King Street Cats. She lives and works in Alexandria. For more information about King Street Cats, go to [www.kingstreetcats.org](http://www.kingstreetcats.org).*

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## HOMES

# Designing a multi-use media room

BY MARY G. PEPITONE

A blockbuster-designed media room really entertains at home. While a full-service home theater includes everything from the big screen and sound system to seating in a controlled environment, a family's media room can have multiple uses in a more relaxed social space.

Home confinement during the coronavirus pandemic has led to families engaging in everything from movie marathons to online gaming, often from the same communal space at different times, according to Giles Sutton, senior vice president of Industry Engagement with Custom Electronic Design and Installation Association.

"While people are spending more time at home with family, we are all aware of wellness and how one works and plays from home," Sutton said. "Now is the time when homeowners are considering how to upgrade the family room into one with a home entertainment system that can be used in many ways."

Sutton said there's an important distinction between having a home theater and creating a multi-use media room.

"A dedicated home theater is often a space that is designed when building a house," Sutton said. "The architecture of a home theater room should emulate that of a movie theater, which is, ideally, a larger enclosed, rectangular room with very little outside light, great acoustics and an immersive cinematic experience."

By contrast, a media room allows for a more flexible use of space and may require a smaller budget when compared to a home theater's top-of-the-line projector,



PHOTO/ CEDIA

This media room, designed by The Premier Group, is a retreat at a lake house, where the owners come to relax and get away. Speakers are hidden, and ambient lighting on the ceiling is plentiful.

screen and sound system. Because of advances in technology – along with more affordable electronic components – a media room can be easier for professionals to retrofit and a more realistic option for homeowners wanting to upgrade their home entertainment system.

But no matter how elaborate a home becomes with audio and visual equipment, Sutton said the first step toward a streaming media room is to make sure the internet connection is a robust one. While fewer wires may be needed as more electronic components become compatible with wireless equipment and controllers, the network for wireless systems still has to be hardwired into a home.

"Involve a certified inte-

grator to make a technology plan for your media room before just adding the latest television technology and speaker system," Sutton said. "There's nothing worse than music or movie buffering due to a lack of Wi-Fi connectivity in your home."

## Space

A media room can be open, both in design and functionality. Updating the audiovisual technology in a home with an open floor plan family room can make for a compelling couch-side cinematic experience, Sutton said.

"Wherever the media room is located – a converted garage, unused attic or basement – the space should also be conducive to social interaction," he said. "Whether

you're watching the big game or streaming a yoga session, the space needs to also feel comfortable."

## Screen

After the space has been determined for a media room, the size and placement of the television screen is the next step. The picture should be large enough to be easily visible, but not so large that viewers have to crane their necks to take in all the on-screen action.

"Obviously, a 15-foot-wide screen wouldn't work in everyone's media room, but some people want to make that big statement," Sutton said. "The best in today's home electronics is more affordable and attainable than ever with a 4K

ultra-high-definition television."

## Seating

Creating the "best seat in the house" for everyone in the media room is not a task to take lying down. The size of the screen and the placement of the speakers are all interconnected to the seating setup.

Choose seating that is comfortable, but also opt for pieces that can be reconfigured and moved as needed in the media room. A sturdy sectional in an easy-to-clean neutral microfiber or denim fabric is a thoroughly modern and modular choice.

## Surround-sound

SEE MEDIA ROOM

# HOMES

## MEDIA ROOM FROM | 28

Soft surfaces on the walls and floor – such as curtains and carpeting – cut down on disruptive echoes in a media room.

“The quality of audio in thinner televisions is lacking, so it’s important to strategically have speakers placed throughout the room,” Sutton said.

For a proper surround-sound system, the media room setup requires two or more speakers in the front of the room – from where the primary sounds emanate – and two or more speakers toward the back of the room, which will fill in background sounds, such as

birds chirping, dogs barking or water rushing.

Having a subwoofer speaker strategically placed on the floor or against a wall will help the low-pitched frequencies carry throughout the room.

### Lighting

A media room setup shouldn’t be made completely in the dark, either. While there shouldn’t be a lot of ambient light in the room to cause glare on the screen, a completely dark room may strain eyes or cause a hazard, should someone have to leave while a movie is rolling.

Ideally, a media room should have soft ambient lighting, which is connected to a dimmer and adjusted by



PHOTO/ CEDIA

Audio Images designed this media room for a homeowner who likes to entertain. The inside-out experience includes an entire wall that consists of movable glass panels, which opens into a large courtyard.

a single remote or voice-control device. If a television screen is mounted near a bank of windows, having mo-

torized shades can draw the curtain on distractions.

While the do-it-yourself route may seem like a

less-expensive alternative to setting up a media room, in the long run it’s always better to have a technology strategy session with a professional, Sutton said.

“Now, through the aid of technology, there’s a do-it-with-me movement, in which professional electronic designers and installers can ship the exact equipment you need and be available remotely to help the homeowner put components in place,” Sutton said. “By planning with a professional, a homeowner can avoid the nest of cables and the purchase of unusable componentry, all while creating a show-stopping media room that can continue to grow with your needs.”

## HOME OF THE WEEK

# Find your forever home in Rosemont



**Left:** The façade of 400 N. View Terrace.

**Middle:** This kitchen features a large center island with breakfast bar and storage plus granite countertops, stainless appliances and ample cabinets and shelves.

**Right:** The lower level features a wine cellar that can store hundreds of bottles of wine.

COURTESY PHOTOS

A classic center hall colonial in Rosemont, 400 N. View Terrace is filled with comfort, space and sophistication. The home is nestled in a location where convenience and lifestyle come together.

Landscaping and a welcoming front porch with a swing set the tone. High ceilings, hardwood floors, fresh paint, crown molding and grand rooms complete the versatile layout and provide a variety of ways to en-

ertain guests.

The living and dining rooms both have gas fireplaces framed by original mantels with intricate designs. Pocket doors separate the living room from the family room with custom built-in bookshelves.

The kitchen features a large center island with a breakfast bar and storage, granite countertops, stainless appliances and ample cabinets and shelves.

The first upper level has

three bedrooms, including the master. Two of the bedrooms share a Jack-and-Jill bathroom, while the master provides a sitting room, decorative fireplace, walk-in closet and ensuite bath with a double vanity, Jacuzzi tub and glass-enclosed walk-in shower.

The top-level is complete with a half bath and two bedrooms. The lower level has space for a pool table, bar with seating, laundry room and wine cellar that holds

### AT A GLANCE

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## Our View

# The power of silent protest

Silence can be a mighty force. Those who practice prayer or meditation already know what a difference it can make on a personal level. But group silence has a different power of its own, which can be both negative and positive.

When several hundred people gathered in front of Alexandria's beautiful police station on Tuesday night, for the first 15 to 20 minutes they sat or stood in silence. Many in the crowd held signs reading "End White Silence" and "Black Lives Matter." They then began chanting "Black Lives Matter," before reading aloud a list of black Americans who had been killed by police.

The silence was particularly powerful, perhaps because it stood in contrast to the tornado of disturbing images we have seen since, and including, the death of George Floyd, whose neck was crushed beneath the knee of a white Minneapolis police officer.

The silent protest was a symbol of positive silence. The silence condemned in the signs is another story. That is the silence of complicity, of pretending not to notice. That kind of silence is at heart an expression of fear and cowardice, and a lack of caring – a harmfully powerful silence when large groups partake in it.

The silence of complicity leads police officers to stand by while one of their colleagues brutalizes another human being over a petty crime. The silence of complicity is also the silence of white people who feel anger and sadness over racial injustice, but do nothing about it. Racial injustice isn't a black issue, and until white people play a role with their actions and words, the systemic racism in our country cannot be fixed.

In contrast to complicity, silent protest is the power of shaming. It's the power of being morally right. And just below the surface of silent protest is the unspoken threat of violence. It's the tacit acknowledgment that, while destruction is not the preferred path to change, it is most definitely a tool in the toolbox.

Some people have obviously decided that peaceful protest is not advancing the cause of racial equality fast enough. And so police officers have been shot, stores looted, police cars destroyed and even churches burned.

There is not room here to discuss who is behind this violence or what additional political motives may be in play. Instead, it is instructive to turn once again to the example of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

King's brilliance wasn't just his moral leadership, though that was remarkable and led many people, black and white, to follow him. But King's effectiveness was also rooted in his understanding of human nature.

King understood that violence simply begets more violence. That even if one group temporarily attains control or achieves its objectives by violence, authority attained in that way isn't lasting.

Instead, King worked to change hearts by consistently taking the moral high road – because he understood that change within individuals is ultimately what changes society. In "Bearing the Cross," David J. Garrow's Pulitzer Prize-winning biography of King, the author cites incidence after incidence of King's almost superhuman restraint and patience in the face of setbacks and violence at the hands of segregationists.

It bears repeating that King's response in the face of those setbacks was both moral and tactical. King knew that if his supporters rioted they would likely lose not only their lives – they would lose the battle of public opinion.

Likewise, those rioting in the past week have only harmed the cause they seek to advance, as their actions have given cover to those who wish to continue excusing systemic racism.

Silent protest ultimately forces people to look in the mirror and to change, but it's slow. Violence shatters the mirror, and while it's quick and gratifying in the short run, it harms the long-term cause.

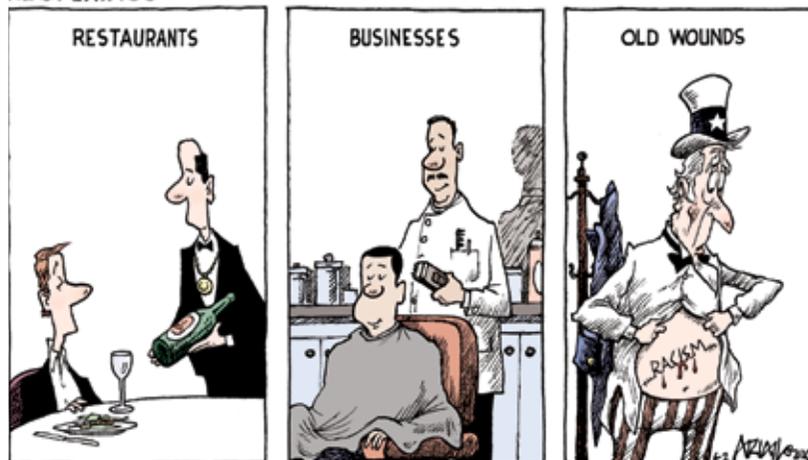
There's more power in silent protest.

# Opinion

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

- Thomas Jefferson

REOPENINGS :



## Your Views

# Human Rights Commission members on George Floyd

To the editor:

We, the undersigned, are members of the Alexandria Human Rights Commission, but we submit this letter in our own capacity as residents of this great city we call home.

Recent events have underscored that prejudice, implicit bias and racism are very much alive in this country – specifically as it pertains to the African-American community. We are aware of the pain and sense of hopelessness that only intensify among African-American men, women and children every time another African-American is killed as a result of unjust and racist policing and profiling.

We unwaveringly denounce the actions that resulted in George Floyd's murder and are committed to ensuring similar incidents do not occur in the City of Alexandria.

Our role as members of the Human Rights Commission is to safeguard and build upon the many civil and human rights afforded to you innately and statutorily, and we do not take this role lightly. As commissioners, we want you to know that we are re-

sponsible to you and want every resident to feel empowered to contact the Human Rights Commission with concerns affecting your rights including but not limited to racism, discrimination and wrongful policing practices.

The Commission is here for every resident of Alexandria and has the ability to hear complaints, hold public hearings and commence investigations. Please do not hesitate to utilize it.

No city is immune to the symptoms of racism and discrimination. Even in Alexandria, these symptoms exist. Our goal is to identify these symptoms early and condemn them before it becomes a disease that results in yet another unjust killing of a human being who did not deserve to die.

We stand in solidarity with every person, group and locality speaking out against social and racial injustice and the killing of George Floyd. Finally, we pledge to prevent the sprout of racism in Alexandria and hold those who exhibit such behavior accountable.

-Kevin Edwards II, Matt Harris,  
Alexandria

The opinions expressed in letters and columns are those of the writers only and do not reflect the views, nor receive the endorsement, of the Alexandria Times.

My View | Allison Silberberg

# A moment for change

The murder of George Floyd is shocking and heartbreaking. He deserves justice. He should be alive today. His loved ones, including a 6-year-old daughter, deserve justice.

How do we explain this tragedy to our children? The only way is to share the story of a torn nation. Despite the soaring words of our Founding Fathers, America has not lived up to its promise to be a place where all are created equal and have the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Systemic racism has prevented communities of color from realizing their potential. Racism has kept America from being that shining beacon on the hill for all our people. Slavery ended more than 150 years ago, but like a cancer, its remnants never left our soil.

Racism, the belief that one is superior to another, is a hollow religion. Yet, it has gripped America since our founding. It has survived because of practices such as redlining, school segregation, an unequal justice system and a lack of access to health care. The list is long. It is not fair and not right. Our country must have a moral compass.

Now with cellphones, we see. Americans can no longer ignore nor deny what has taken place in plain sight. Racism eats at the foundation of our country.

Each of us, regardless of who we are, deserves to be free from fear. A life of fear and sorrow creates trauma. Trauma shortens life. It is shameful that millions of Americans because of the color of their skin must steel themselves every day of their lives and worry if they will become the next George Floyd or Emmett Till.

Can America change? Our collective sorrow and pain that we see on full display today in the

protests of millions of Americans can and should mean collective change. If not now, when? We must take actions that will begin to heal the wounds in our country.

In such times, I often ask myself, "What would Dr. King say?"

I believe Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. would be proud of the peaceful civil disobedience. Clearly, we must address the disparities that have brought us to this point.

Law enforcement must have the public trust. We applaud Chief Michael Brown and our

Alexandria Police Department that proclaimed to the protestors, "We stand with you." Nationally, rules governing the use of force must change, and hate crimes must be vigorously prosecuted.

We as individuals must also be part of the change we seek for America. It is a time to reflect on who we are as a nation and who we wish to be.

This is our time to commit to end racism in America, and then there can be a renewal of spirit in our country. It shouldn't have taken the tragic deaths of so many. Fairness, equity, justice, transparency and accountability must be for all.

Dr. King said, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

America must do far better. If we balance the scales of justice, we will be a stronger country.

We pray for the Floyd family. We pray for healing. We pray for our nation. We must ensure inalienable rights for all. We must do this together, and then the healing can begin.

*The writer was mayor of Alexandria from 2016 through 2018.*



**ALLISON SILBERBERG**



The Business Plan

with Bill Reagan

# Down the rabbit hole

We've been in this strange reality so long that we might begin to wonder what efforts will be required to get us back to a semblance of our earlier routines. The prognosticators are already telling us that some aspects of our lives have permanently changed.

We've suffered our own personal scars and losses and grieve for the lives and fortunes ruined by COVID-19. We're likely to be further dejected by the loss of some establishments that have become fixtures in our lives and pillars in our community.

Now it's time to begin a gradual reopening. We'll ponder how altered things might be and highlight where there could be opportunities for imaginative solutions.

One step forward is that we're likely to be much more attentive and mutually respectful during future cold and flu seasons. Ideally, our behavior will comfortably settle somewhere between today's paranoia and yesterday's indifference.

Summertime used to mean beaches and vacations. It also used to be the time for the internships and fellowships that often laid the groundwork for future careers. Industrious youths are now considering volunteer and community service alternatives that could become new traditions with substantial societal benefits.

Predicting consumer behavior is fraught with so much conflicting data that savvy entrepreneurs recognize they're just going to have to monitor shifting shopper preferences and make adjustments on the fly. Consumers still look for convenience and place value on the shopping and dining experience. Throughout this crisis, innovative business owners have found ways to deliver. Customers have shown how accommodating they are about all sorts of restrictions when they're for the common good

and have become loyal followers of creative merchants.

Generations of younger adults who have shunned individual transportation in favor of mass transit now face daunting choices because many are now reluctant to travel in crowded conveyances. Coworkers are also wary of working alongside those who do.

With more of our population reaching retirement age and still being active and affluent, upscale retirement facilities with amenities seemed to be the wave of the future. That industry now must make creative adjustments.

"Contactless" has become essential for payments, check-in and delivery and it will be intriguing to watch how

all businesses revise such processes. It will be especially interesting to see those changes in the travel and hospitality industries.

Office buildings are engaged now in enormous redesigns for physical layout, social distancing for personnel protection, schedule changes and extra cleaning. Remote working is likely to continue as a prevalent option. There is little consensus on when local offices expect to be opened. Some say later this summer, and others in the fall or even into 2021.

These are just a few examples of some dramatic shifts ahead. Both the virus and circumstances we've endured for weeks were novel. The reopening and recovery processes will also be novel.

Alexandria and its business community are engaged in a wholehearted, collaborative effort to thrive again.

Business owners can find COVID-19 assistance and recovery updates at [www.alexandriasbdc.org](http://www.alexandriasbdc.org).

*The writer is executive director of the Alexandria Small Business Development Center.*



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# A memorial of slavery in Alexandria

To the editor:

First, the City of Alexandria, the Commonwealth of Virginia and the United Daughters of the Confederacy should be commended for the removal of the Appomattox statue without the profile or violence in places such as Charlottesville, Richmond and elsewhere. Now the community of Alexandria must consider what, if anything, to do with the site at Prince Street and the George Washington Parkway – whether to replace, erase or do nothing.

The only thing commensurate with the Civil War, which Appomattox represents, is slavery itself. In addition to the institution of slavery, Alexandria was integral to the domestic slave trade, where thousands were sold to plantations farther South. Moreover, this trade was critical to the retrocession of Alexandria to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Some may find a memorial too painful or an indelible reminder of their ancestral condition, indistinguishable to the Confederacy, and would rather expunge that slavery ever existed or replace it with an exclusively positive monument. That is understandable and the same debate as in nearby Fredericksburg about the spot where humans were sold at auction. However, the erasure and revisionism of Alexandria's role in slavery, the Civil War, Reconstruction and segregation would be a mistake.

Likewise, it would be a mistake

to commandeer this opportunity to exact retribution against more than a century of supporters or against the descendants of the Confederacy, but who have no allegiance with slavery or segregation today. There is some distinction between monuments and battlefields dedicated in the North and South by the first generation after the Civil War in the late-1800s, a step in reconciliation – at least for some people – and those constructed later at the peak of the Klu Klux Klan and in opposition to desegregation.

Alexandria was not and is not a bystander of history. The 131-year existence of Appomattox, from 1889 to 2020, is a testament to the severity of slavery, the Civil War, Reconstruction and segregation, which continues to reverberate today. How about:

“This site is rededicated to the lives sold, destroyed and lost to slavery in Alexandria.

From 1695 to 1861 thousands were held or traded into slavery, where Alexandria was one of the largest trading posts in the nation.

From 1889 to 2020 a monument to the Confederate States of America stood on this spot, a legacy of slavery, the Civil War, Reconstruction and segregation.

From 2020 to present, this memorial is in remembrance of the scourge of slavery, Alexandria's role and responsibility in history and continued reconciliation.”

-Matt Quan,  
 Alexandria

# Why remove the Appomattox?

To the editor:

Why couldn't he have been renamed to “The Civil War Contemplator” or just “Contemplation?” He could stand for a generic soldier of the time in deep thought, arms crossed over chest and head bowed as if thinking, praying, wondering what is all this about? Why are we doing this? What will it mean in the future? Why am I here? And many other questions. He had stood there not hurting anyone since 1889, I believe.

Where is he going?

-Phyllis Welch,  
 Alexandria

# All in this together

To the editor:

So, only people 50 years and older, especially those old-timers 70 years-plus, are recommended to wear masks “whenever they leave the house,” says your May 28 editorial, “Right in time.”

Your editorial prescription is a placebo. As you undoubtedly know, the type of mask available to most of us functions mainly to protect others from picking up the virus from the wearer. It doesn't really do much to protect the wearer. Safety – physically, economically, ethically – only results when most people wear masks, and protect one another.

Why not recommend that every adult wear a mask outside the house, as well as for all to “religiously practice physical distancing?” Aren't we all in this together?

-Tom O'Neill,  
 Alexandria

#### NOTE:

Out of the Attic will return next week (6/11/20) in this spot.

## Weekly Poll

### Last Week

Are you satisfied with Alexandria entering phase one of reopening on Friday, given that we have met four of the six metrics?

40% No, there are still too many cases, hospitalizations and deaths.

30% Yes, it's time.

25% Yes, if the city enforces physical distancing and mask wearing.

5% I'm not sure.

### This Week

[Take the poll at alextimes.com](https://www.alextimes.com)

Have you patronized restaurants during the coronavirus shutdown and reopening?

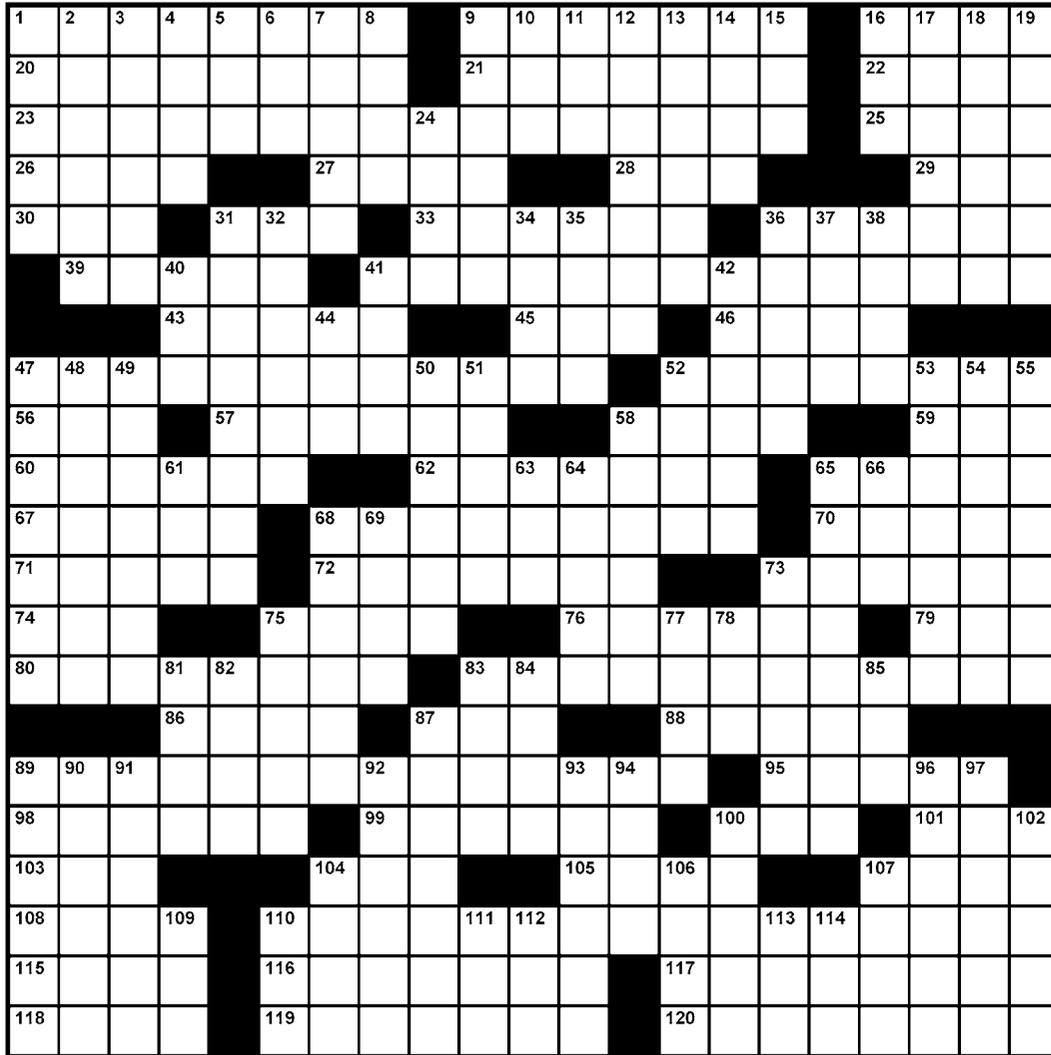
A) Yes, I've ordered takeout and have eaten outside since phase one began.

B) Yes, I've ordered takeout and plan to soon eat outside at a restaurant.

C) I've ordered takeout but won't be eating at a restaurant anytime soon.

D) I have not ordered restaurant food since the pandemic began.

# Weekly Words



# DEATH NOTICES

- SAMUEL FREMPONG** (77), of Alexandria, May 21, 2020
- WILLIAM MATTISON** (89), of Alexandria, May 9, 2020
- VERONA MCCARTHY** (89), of Alexandria, May 13, 2020
- JERRY MURRAY** (89), formerly of Alexandria, May 24, 2020.
- THERESA OLIVARES** (93), of Alexandria, May 26, 2020
- ROSS TAYLOR** (77), formerly of Alexandria, May 18, 2020
- DANIEL I. WACHSPRESS** (62), of Alexandria, May 29, 2020

Solutions from last week



## DONE WITH EASE by Chase Dittrich and Jeff Chen, edited by David Steinberg

### ACROSS

1. "Might regret knowing the answer, but ..."
9. Employee's security card
16. Crush, as an avocado
20. Forever and a day
21. Eerily close to home
22. Court great Arthur
23. Hollywood paraoh?
25. Monumental
26. Supermodel Sastre
27. Lean (on)
28. Actor Stephen
29. Vex
30. Anemone's home
31. Marshy area
33. Goldie Hawn, to Kate Hudson
36. Lacking ethics
39. Pens for tablets
41. Aerial attraction for circus visitors?
43. Alice's cake directive
45. Approx.
46. Socially aware, slangily
47. Where one can find heavenly horns?
52. Homemade jam container, perhaps
56. Outlaw
57. Pandemonium
58. Digit on no Scrabble tile
59. Columbus or Park (Abbr.)

60. Playwright Eve
62. Giving a name to
65. Trojan War tale
67. Speedy
68. Collaborative sites that focus on toilets?
70. Nurse Barton
71. Clickable images
72. Pizza seasoning
73. Like moon phases
74. Acrobat's safety device
75. Asian PC giant
76. Glue brand
79. Play a character
80. They're filled at stations
83. Like an officer who constantly has to write tickets for certain turns?
86. Back in the day
87. Actress Gadot
88. Former U.N. chief Kofi
89. "Be sure your Instagram doesn't contain anything embarrassing"?
95. Church symbol
98. Asian island split between three countries
99. No longer sailing
100. \_\_\_ Hague
101. One may hold a tool
103. 15%, often
104. Floored feeling

105. Blacken on the stove
107. Home to most alpacas
108. Workplace watcher, for short
110. "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" and "Dude, Where's My Car?" in giant letters?
115. Pro votes
116. Rookie's opposite
117. "This is too generous!"
118. Invoice figs.
119. End of a house sale
120. Junctions between neurons

### DOWN

1. Sliced-meat sellers
2. Makes up (for)
3. Do an usher's job
4. Some are named after presidents
5. Roadside stopover
6. 2008 bailout recipient
7. Severe
8. "South Park" boy
9. Compliment in a fitting room
10. Palme \_\_\_ (Cannes award)
11. Feathery neckwear
12. Subject of an in-flight dispute
13. Sonoran, e.g.
14. Mother Earth, to Greeks
15. Chi-Town trains
16. Astronaut Jemison
17. Strive
18. Red wine from Australia

19. Disturb, as a comedian
24. Red Muppet
31. Some trailers
32. One or the other
34. Holder of a nest egg?
35. Greet a villain, say
36. Came about
37. Powerful shark
38. Make the first bid, in bridge
40. Japanese currency
41. Blue-green
42. Nasal accents
44. \_\_\_ school
47. Traveling in a certain hired car
48. Cure-all
49. Popular places
50. Quite
51. Contacting via WhatsApp
52. Small candy size
53. Handball relative
54. Extreme greed
55. Prepares to declassify
58. Scientist Tesla
61. "Star Trek Beyond" director Justin
63. Airline until 2001
64. Like some jackets and paper
65. Hostile look
66. Business name letters
68. Rider in a horse race
69. Assayed materials
73. Situp relative

75. Dried chili pepper
77. Degrees for many CEOs
78. Forever and a day
81. \_\_\_ crier
82. Pay to play
83. Place to visit Santa
84. Italian sports car, for short
85. Game with Skip cards
87. Origins
89. Former playthings chain
90. Cacophony parts
91. Jane Eyre or Oliver Twist
92. Historic Johannesburg township
93. How to break out on Broadway?
94. Perfect garden
96. Tempos
97. Tranquil
100. Morgan of "30 Rock"
102. Breezes' stronger relatives
104. "The Clan of the Cave Bear" author Jean
106. Pals, in Paris
107. Option for orange juice
109. Braying animal
110. HSN alternative
111. Prefix for "angular"
112. Actor Somerhalder
113. Friend of Harry and Hermione
114. Sine \_\_\_ non

# Classifieds



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IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

HOWARD G. HOGAN

IN RE: )  
THE ESTATE OF WILMA BOBBIE )  
JEAN McCOY, )  
Deceased, ) No. 195641-1  
RITA M. HILLSTEAD, )  
Personal Representative. ) **Notice of Entry Requested**

LINDA LAKNER and JASMINE LaFON, )  
Plaintiffs, )  
v. )  
RITA M. HILLSTEAD, Personal Representative, )  
RITA M. HILLSTEAD, Co-Trustee, )  
RITA M. HILLSTEAD, Individually, )  
TIFFANY HILLSTEAD, Co-Trustee, )  
SARAH RUMBAUGH, )  
JENIFFER LYNN MATTHEWS, )  
and JOSEPH THOMAS McCOY, )  
Defendants. )

ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

This matter came on for hearing remotely via Zoom on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020, before the Honorable John F. Weaver, Chancellor of the Chancery Court for Knox County, Tennessee, upon the "Motion for Service by Publication" filed on April 9, 2020, by Linda Lakner and Jasmine LaFon, Plaintiffs, and upon a showing that the Motion should be granted for good cause shown. It is therefore ORDERED as follows:

- The "Motion for Service by Publication" filed by Linda Lakner and Jasmine LaFon is hereby GRANTED.
- Defendant Sarah Rumbaugh is hereby required to appear and answer or otherwise defend against the Second Amended Complaint filed by Linda Lakner and Jasmine LaFon, Plaintiffs, whose attorney is Thomas M. Leveille, 1111 N. Northshore Drive, Landmark Center North Tower, Suite N-290, Knoxville, Tennessee 37919, within thirty (30) days after the date of the last publication of this notice; otherwise, default judgment may be entered against Sarah Rumbaugh, Defendant, for the relief demanded in the Second Amended Complaint.
- This notice shall be published in the Alexandria Times, a newspaper of general circulation in Alexandria, Virginia, once weekly for four consecutive weeks.

ENTER this 14<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020.

*John F. Weaver*  
John F. Weaver  
Chancellor

APPROVED FOR ENTRY:

TARPY, COX, FLEISHMAN & LEVEILLE, PLLC EGERTON, MCAFEE, ARMISTEAD & DAVIS, P.C.

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Mathematics and Art; Elementary Education; and Instructional Technology. Must be eligible for state certification. Contact Paige Crewe, [pcrewe@gcps1.com](mailto:pcrewe@gcps1.com) or 434-634-3748, or visit our website at [www.gcps1.com](http://www.gcps1.com) for more information.

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**DIVORCE-** Uncontested, \$395+\$86 court cost. WILLS \$195.00. No court appearance. Estimated completion time twenty-one days. Hilton Oliver, Attorney (Facebook). 757-490-0126. Se Habla Espanol. BBB Member. <https://hiltonoliverattorneyva.com>.

## LEGAL NOTICE



### ACPS 2025 Strategic Plan Virtual Public Hearings

The Alexandria City School Board will hold online public hearings on the ACPS 2025 Strategic Plan during the Virtual Special Called School Board Meetings on Tuesday, June 9, 2020 at 12:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

A draft of the 2025 Strategic Plan is available for review at <https://www.acps.k12.va.us/>

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# Classifieds

Page/3036.

Members of the public may sign up to participate in one of the virtual public hearings or submit written comments through the sign-up form located at <https://www.acps.k12.va.us/board/meetings> or by contacting the Clerk of the Board by the methods listed below.

In addition to the online form, public comments for the School Board may be submitted in the following ways:

- Written comments (via email) send to: [boardclerk@acps.k12.va.us](mailto:boardclerk@acps.k12.va.us)
- Written comments (via U.S. Mail) send to: Clerk of the Board, Alexandria City School Board, 1340 Braddock Place, Alexandria, VA 22314
- Telephone (via voice message): call 703-619-8316

## LEGAL NOTICE



### Board of Architectural Review LEGAL NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Architectural Review (BAR) will hold an Electronic Public Hearing on WEDNESDAY, June 17, 2020 beginning at 7:00 p.m. to review the following item(s):

BAR #2020-00148 OHAD  
Request for partial demolition/encapsulation at 277 South Washington Street  
Applicant: 277 South Washington Street, LLC

BAR #2020-00139 OHAD  
Request for alterations at 277 South Washington Street  
Applicant: 277 South Washington Street, LLC

BAR #2020-00135 PG  
Request for alterations at 419 North Patrick Street  
Applicants: John Corbin & Ann Riley

BAR #2020-00195 OHAD  
Request for partial demolition/encapsulation at 625 & 635 Slaters

Lane  
Applicant: ELV Associates Inc

BAR #2020-00194 OHAD  
Request for alterations at 625 & 635 Slaters Lane  
Applicant: ELV Associates Inc

BAR #2020-00200 PG  
Request for partial demolition/encapsulation at 902 Oronoco Street  
Applicants: Patricia Harris & Richard LaFace

BAR #2020-00209 PG  
Request for alterations at 902 Oronoco Street  
Applicants: Patricia Harris & Richard LaFace

BAR #2020-00217 OHAD  
Request for partial demolition at 212 Jefferson Street  
Applicant: Julie Guiffre

BAR #2020-00228 OHAD  
Request to install small cell facility on a utility pole on public property adjacent to 300 South Washington Street  
Applicant: Cellco Partnership dba Verizon Wireless

BAR #2020-00235 OHAD  
Request for alterations at 600 North Washington Street  
Applicant: Bank of America, N.A.

BAR #2020-00238 PG  
Request for partial demolition/encapsulation at 225 North West Street  
Applicants: Matt Gray & Erica Gray

BAR #2020-00237 PG

Request for alterations at 225 North West Street  
Applicants: Matt Gray & Erica Gray

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic emergency, the June 17, 2020 meeting of the Board of Architectural Review (BAR) is being held electronically pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3708.2(A)(3), the Continuity of Government ordinance adopted by the City Council on April 18, 2020 or Sections 4-0.00(g) in HB29 and HB30 to undertake essential business. BAR board members and staff are participating from remote locations through Zoom Webinar. This meeting is being held electronically, unless a determination is made that it is safe enough for the meeting to be held in person in the City Council Chamber at 301 King Street, Alexandria, VA. Electronic access will be provided in either event. The meeting can be accessed by the public through: Zoom hyperlink (below), broadcasted live on the government channel 70, and streaming on the City's website.

URL: [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_vBhkd1cYRSCO\\_-BamaQz1Q](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_vBhkd1cYRSCO_-BamaQz1Q)

Zoom Audio Conference:  
Dial in: 301-715-8592  
Webinar ID: 949 5372 0812  
Password: 403793

Public comment will be received at the meeting. The public may submit comments in advance to Lia Niebauer at [lia.niebauer@alexandriava.gov](mailto:lia.niebauer@alexandriava.gov) or make public comments

through the conference call on the day of the hearing.

For reasonable disability accommodation, contact Jackie Cato at [jackie.cato@alexandriava.gov](mailto:jackie.cato@alexandriava.gov) or 703.746.3810, Virginia Relay 711.

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

For further information, call the Department of Planning & Zoning at 703.746.4666 or visit [alexandriava.gov/dockets](http://alexandriava.gov/dockets).

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