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Alexandria's only independent hometown newspaper.

School Board hopefuls debate virtually

Candidates talk SROs. special education and staff retention in forum

BY OLIVIA ANDERSON

Alexandria School Board candidates gathered on Oct. 13 for a virtual debate ahead of the Nov. 2 general election.

Hosted by the Alexandria PTA Council, the forum included all School Board candidates except for Ricardo Roberts.

The debate covered topics like building modernization, school safety and students with disabilities, some of which drew disparate answers from candidates but most of which highlighted many common goals.

There are currently 15 candidates across three districts vying for nine School Board seats, with seven candidates in District B,

SEE SCHOOL | 8

Magistrate fired over comments to Times

Court official filed original complaint against bondsman in Dominguez case

BY OLIVIA ANDERSON

Magistrate Elizabeth Fuller, the woman who filed the complaint that ultimately led to the bondsman in the Karla Dominguez homicide case losing his license, has been fired for comments she made to the Alexandria Times earlier this month.

The Department of Magistrate Services claimed that Fuller violated the Canons of Conduct for Virginia Magistrates by providing public comment about her decision to file a complaint against bail bondsman Man Nguyen, whose gun and car Ibrahim Bouaichi used last summer to allegedly kill Dominguez, his rape accuser.

Fuller was first placed on administrative leave on Oct. 12, which the Times learned through an undisclosed source that was not Fuller herself, and fired Tuesday for commenting on "two matters currently before the court."

The first case in question, Dominguez' murder, has concluded as both Dominguez and Bouaichi are dead; and the second case, Nguyen's criminal contempt of court



ELIZABETH FULLER

charge that was filed by Commonwealth's Attorney Bryan Porter, Fuller did not comment on because she was unaware of it.

The termination letter stated that her firing was effective immediately and health insurance for herself and her son will end in less than two weeks, on Oct. 31. Fuller had been informed on Saturday there would be a meeting on Tuesday, but was provided with no additional information.

In the termination letter, Magistrate Regional Supervisor Elizabeth Edwards said she does not "have confidence" in Fuller's judgment as a magistrate.

"You have demonstrated a flagrant disregard of your responsibility ... which has resulted in a public and wide-spread decimation [sic] of your inappropriate conclusory commentary," Edwards wrote.

Edwards did not respond to the Times' request for comment.

Fuller, meanwhile, defends her decision to file the complaint against Nguyen and said she doesn't regret any comments she made.

"I am not sorry that I did the right thing, and that I know I did the right thing," Fuller said. "Sometimes, in life, the right thing will cost you. I was the only person in a position to speak up for this woman."

Legal permissibility

Fuller was terminated for violating Canon 3, Article B6, which states that "a magistrate shall abstain from public comment about a pending, impending or concluded proceeding in any court or magistrate's office. Furthermore, a magistrate shall not disclose or use, for any purpose unrelated to official duties, nonpublic information acquired in a magistrate capacity."

But some experts are questioning the canon of conduct's legal permis-

Kathryn Foxhall, a long-time free-

SEE FULLER

INSIDE

King Street:

Council makes 100 block closure permanent. Page 9

The Other Alexandria:

Chart one local family's history of service. Page 39



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WEEKLY BRIEFING

City seeks applicants for Community Police Review Board

City Council has put out a call for residents to fill eight upcoming vacancies for the Independent Community Policing Review Board, according to a news release.

The board, which council

established in a unanimous vote in April, will have the authority to investigate severe misconduct and use of force cases as well as incidents that result in death or involve a taser, pepper spray or physical weapon. The board can also issue subpoenas and make recommendations for disciplinary action.

Vacancies include three members from marginalized

communities that have commonly experienced disparate policing; one member who represents an organization that seeks social justice; three at-large members and one nonvoting, ex-officio

member with prior law enforcement experience.

All applicants must complete a personal data record form electronically by Nov.

-oanderson@alextimes.com

APD makes arrest in Arlandria shooting

The Alexandria Police Department made an arrest on Oct. 15 in connection with a shooting that took place on Four Mile Road in the Arlandria neighborhood on Oct. 10, according to a news release.

The assailant, a 17-year-old male, was charged with

malicious wounding, use of a firearm in the commission of a felony and possession of a firearm by a juvenile. He is being held at the Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Center, according to the release.

The arrest followed APD's investigation of the

shooting at the Park Vue of Alexandria Apartments on Oct. 10 and discovered a juvenile male with a gunshot wound to the upper body. The victim was taken to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

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Lee Street reopens for trick or treating this year

After a years' hiatus due to COVID-19, residents of South Lee Street are making plans to resume the tradition of entertaining hundreds of visitors for an eight-block long trick or treat fest.

An annual Halloween for residents tradition throughout the city - and even those outside the city - the event on Lee Street is not an official public or private event. Instead, the tradition - and crowds - have grown steadily and organically over time. Labelled by community members as "a Mardi Gras for children," residents are uncertain when the tradition began; however, some point to a block party between Old Town residents that started in the 400 block in the mid 1970s.

Now, hundreds of tricks or treaters of all ages roam South Lee Street from be-



PHOTO/MARTY DEVINE

Police estimate that, prior to the pandemic, about 5,000 people would come through Lee Street to trick or treat.

ginning to end, while South Lee Street residents decorate their houses and spend hundreds or even thousands of dollars on Halloween candy.

This year, the city will again provide law enforcement protection, as it has since 2009, and will barricade some of the east-west cross streets for the safety of the participants, from about 5 to

8:30 p.m.

New residents of South Lee Street who didn't experience the festivites last year said they are happy it is happening this year.

"We've heard so much about this since we moved in. We can't wait," Juliana Nicoletti, who now lives on the 700 block of South Lee Street, said.

-cmelloklein@alextimes.com



~ Neo, our Dogo Argentino ~

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WEEKLY BRIEFING

Run Geek Run! 5K proceeds go to nonprofit

The annual Run Geek Run! 5K race held in collaboration with Ironistic raised \$33,000 for local education and childcare nonprofit Child & Family Networks Center. The event organizers presented a check to the nonprofit on Oct. 15, according to a news release.

The race, which occurred on Sept. 26 this year, raises money for a different nonprofit each year. This year, the race also involved the members

of the Alexandria City High School IROTC program presenting the colors; members of Carl Sandburg Middle School leading the National Anthem; volunteers and runners from the West Potomac and Bishop Ireton cross country teams; students from Saint Stephens and Saint Agnes Upper School volunteering and the Yellow Door Concert Series Youth Ensemble providing entertainment at the turn-around point.

-cmelloklein@alextimes.com



COURTESY PHOTO

Organizers behind the Run Geek Run! 5K race present a check for \$33,000 to the Child & Family Network Centers.

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City to hold Drug Take Back Day on Saturday

Residents will be able to safely dispose of prescription and over-the-counter drugs during the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day this Saturday, according to a news release.

Collections will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, 2932 King St.; Alexandria Police Department headquarters, 3600 Wheeler Ave.; Fire Station 210, 5255 Eisenhower Ave., and the Neighborhood Pharmacy of Del Ray, 2204 Mt. Vernon Ave.

In addition to APD headquarters and the Neighborhood Pharmacy of Del Ray, Inova Alexandria Hospital offers drop boxes for yearround disposal. Needles are not accepted during the event or at the permanent drop boxes.

Masks are encouraged at all collection sites, according

to the release. According to the release, in 2020 the city collected 1,325 pounds of unused medication at drug take back events and year-round permanent drop boxes, a 33% reduction from the previous year which is attributed to social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Visit alexandriava.gov/ Opioids to learn more about safe medicine disposal.

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FULLER FROM | 1

dom of information reporter and recipient of multiple Society of Professional Journalists awards, highlighted the canon's curiously – and arguably aggressively – broad scope.

"I can imagine that in some limited cases that might be necessary. But to make it that broad, which is probably not necessary, is simply to give people in power the ability to do whatever they want, and it's alarming," Foxhall said.

In the courtroom, there exists an ongoing debate of whether to interpret a law broadly or narrowly. Frank Lo-Monte, director of the Brechner Center for Freedom of Information and a former attorney, said this particular canon might work if interpreted narrowly.

"If it's interpreted to mean, 'Don't give away confidential information that you learn because you are judging a case,' then it's probably a perfectly legitimate use of the canon," LoMonte said. "But to say that judges are forbidden from speaking to the media about anything they can learn in the course of their employment would be an overly broad interpretation. ... If it is understood to include even proceedings that are concluded, then that seems indefensibly broad."

Perhaps the larger question this situation raises, then, is whether or not the canon is actually constitutional.

Enshrined at the beginning of the constitution, the First Amendment Freedom of Press clause reads: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

As part of the Supreme Court law of the United States, the First Amendment overrides much else in a courtroom even for public employees. In Fuller's case, this may indicate that the department's repression of magistrates from making any kind of public comment whatsoever regarding their work could potentially be deemed unconstitutional.

LoMonte pointed out that the First Amendment clearly protects the rights of public employees to discuss their work, stressing that one does not inherently sign away all rights to talk about their work upon assuming a government position. He said that a literal interpretation of the canon "raises real constitutional red flags."

"I think there's a pretty strong argument that that canon would be unconstitutionally broad if it is understood to include comments made about cases you're not assigned to," he said. "I think they can probably enforce it as to a pending case a judge is presiding over ... but I don't think it can be broadly applied to anything and everything you learn in the course of your job without crossing the line of the First Amendment."

Fuller's case resembles several recent free speech lawsuits, including a 460-member immigration judges' union that sued three Department of Justice officials in Alexandria last year.

The union sought to block a policy by the DOJ's Executive Office for Immigration Review that prohibits immigration judges from speaking personally about immigration issues and operations of the courts they preside over, according to Reuters.

DOJ's policy supports that all speech by immigration judges about immigration law or court operations is "official speech that arises from judges' duties as DOJ employees," but the complaint argued, citing U.S. v. National Treasury Employees Union, that DOJ's constraints on immigration-related comments by immigration judges is "outweighed by the

You have demonstrated a flagrant disregard of your responsibility ... which has resulted in a public and wide-spread decimation [sic] of your inappropriate conclusory commentary."

– Elizabeth Edwards, magistrate regional supervisor

public's profound interest in immigration issues."

The lawsuit, while still in litigation, argues that the DOJ policy violates judges' First and Fifth Amendment rights because it is "unconstitutionally vague."

That there is an abundance of free speech cases across the country is nothing new, but what makes Fuller's situation unique are the tragic circumstances surrounding it that some say yielded a disproportionate, particularly cruel punishment.

Foxhall speculated that the decision could be an abuse of power and attempt at censorship.

"We shouldn't be silencing people across the board in cases where the information should be coming out. That's a recipe for rot; it's a recipe for corrosion within the public sector," Foxhall said. "The public has the right to this information as much as they have a right to well-spent tax dollars."

Shedding light

According to Fuller, Chief Magistrate Adam Willard discouraged her from filing the complaint against Nguyen in August 2020 after she learned that not only did the weapon and vehicle used in the Dominguez murder belong to Nguyen, but that he came to work "nearly joking" to officers about it.

"[Willard] used the same canons I got fired over to say, 'We're supposed to remain impartial; I don't think you should do anything about it," Fuller said. "I just didn't tell him that I did it and just did it anyway.... This magistrate system didn't even want me to file the motion [to terminate Nguyen's bondsman's license]."

Due to Fuller's complaint, the Department of Criminal Justice Services held an informal fact finding conference that led to the revocation of Nguyen's bondsman license.

Both Willard and the Office of the Executive Secretary's Legislative and Public Relations Director Alisa Padden declined the Times' request for comment.

At the time she filed the complaint, Fuller emphasized that her main priority was pursuing accountability and hoping the news of Dominguez' murder got picked up because in her eyes, it appeared that mostly everyone else desired to bury the case.

"Her death was forgotten," Fuller said. "I was like, 'I could still sit here at this office and keep my mouth shut and have this job for a little while longer, but it would not be the truth. It would be like sitting on the truth."

Fast forward one year to the resulting pandemonium and eventual termination, and Fuller said the word "hypocrisy" comes to mind.

According to Fuller, one chief magistrate in the system ran for public office during his tenure, and two others that she is aware of committed acts which breach the canons of conduct with-

out facing repercussions.

"We're supposed to uphold all of this integrity, and nobody has integrity. I know of a lot of people that violated canons, and they did not end up fired," Fuller said. "It's hypocritical and it shows that this is an embarrassment. All I did was confirm the embarrassment of the courts and that's why I'm being punished."

The juxtaposition of the other alleged offenses with Fuller's fate raises questions as to why exactly her actions in particular were met with such severity. The Times has filed a FOIA request seeking answers to this question.

As far as next steps, Lo-Monte postulated that Fuller has a strong case in a court of law, should she decide to sue the state.

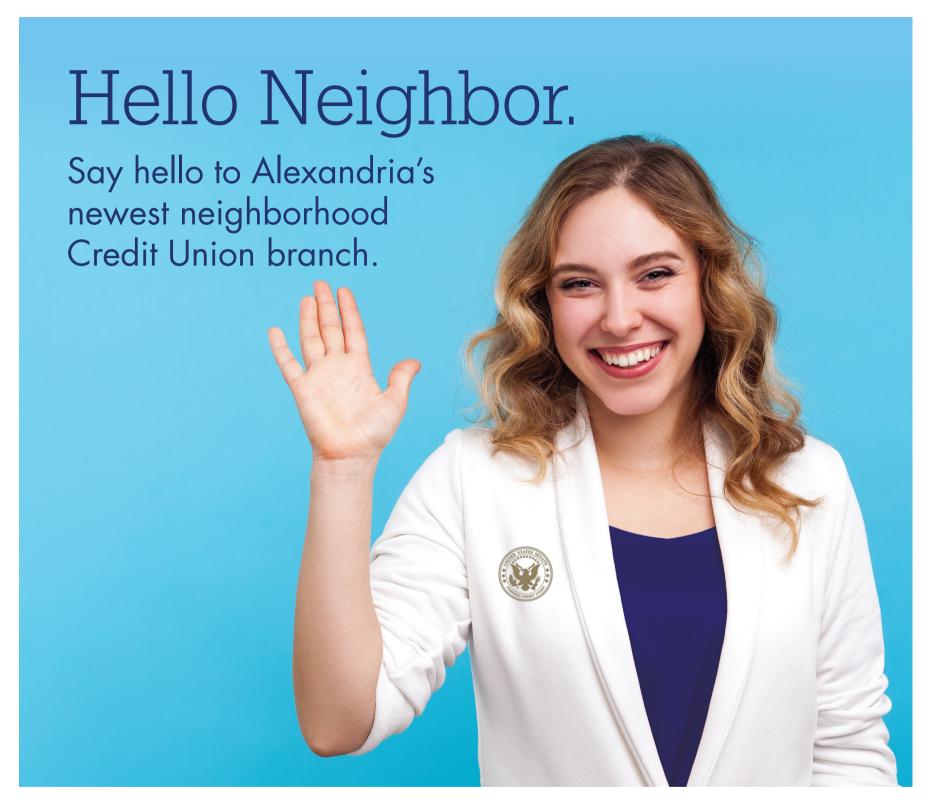
LoMonte called attention to the fact that Fuller's perspective as someone with "unique, firsthand eyewitness information" is particularly valuable due to the compelling public interest in the case.

"The idea of a canon is not to prejudice the outcome of a case, not to indicate that you're biased or to indicate that you think another judge is biased," LoMonte said. "I understand why [that part of it] exists, but if it's literally understood to mean that you can never, ever talk about anything that has happened inside of your courthouse, that feels like it would be quite hard to defend if it were challenged under the First Amendment."

While Fuller does plan to seek legal counsel going forward, she said the overarching goals are much bigger than just her.

"At the end of the day, I had to speak up for someone who did not receive justice, who we did not protect," Fuller said. "The courts did not protect this woman. Nobody who could have protected her [did so], and if I don't have a job because I'm the one saying that, and I'm the only one saying that, so be it."

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SCHOOL FROM | 1

five in District A and three in District C. After delving deeply into a District B forum in our Oct. 14 issue, the Times is focusing this story on the District A and C candidates who did not have as much of an opportunity to share their views last time around. For video of the full Oct. 13 District B debate, visit https://www.facebook.com/alexandriaptac/ videos/2630773467231429.

District A

Moderators April Bryant

and Megan Reing asked District A candidates open-ended questions, most of which yielded generally unanimous responses.

The first question asked how candidates would go about working with fellow city leaders and community members with differing political views to best support students. Resulting answers emphasized the importance of listening, collaborating and prioritizing the shared core values outlined in ACPS' strategic plan.

"We will have differences

in how to enact those values, but we have to agree on what the values are that we're working towards," candidate Deanna "D" Ohlandt, an educator, said.

When candidates were asked about how to address ACPS' years' worth of deferred facility maintenance, Willie Bailey, a former City Council member, and Ish Boyle, a former infantry officer in the U.S. Marine Corps, advocated for bringing in neutral third parties to evaluate the conditions of existing buildings. Calling the issue a "Herculean challenge" and insisting some of the onus be removed from staff members, Boyle urged the consideration of public-private partnerships for maintenance.

Incumbent School Board members Iacinta Greene and Michelle Rief both said the current board has placed an immense focus on addressing building issues, pointing to the Douglas MacArthur Elementary School modernization, new Minnie Howard Campus and recent purchase of a building on the West End.

"One of the things that's going to improve our buildings is to build new ones because they're so old, and we've really prioritized that," Rief said. "... I'm proud we've adopted a very ambitious capital improvement plan and my number one goal is really just keeping it on track and continuing to make progress."

On the topic of school safety and what resources should be allocated in the budget to address safety

SEE SCHOOL

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PHOTO/CODY MELLO-KLEIN

Restaurants all along King Street have adapted to the changes in dining habits, including using parking spaces as additional outdoor seating.

Council makes closure of lower King Street permanent

City leaders also approve long-term changes to outdoor dining

BY CODY MELLO-KLEIN

Outdoor diners and shoppers have reason to rejoice: City Council voted unanimously during Saturday's public hearing to permanently close the 100 block of King Street to vehicular traffic. The permanent change comes after the block had served as a pedestrian plaza and outdoor dining destination for the past year during the pandemic.

After prior attempts to close the block failed for various reasons, including business and resident resistance, city staff came to council with another plan to transform the 100 block of King Street in early 2020. The initial plan involved a hybrid approach, with one travel lane running down the center of the block. In May 2020, council voted to

See page 52 for more council coverage.

close the entirety of that block to drivers and, in response to the pandemic, allowed businesses to use the sidewalk and parking lane for outdoor dining not only in the 100 block but all along King Street and throughout the city.

Some residents and business owners expressed concerns about crowded sidewalks, traffic at the intersection of Union and King streets and noise. But as the pandemic wore on, most residents and visitors embraced the changes to King Street and the city's dining environment.

Cyrus Coleman, owner of The Wharf at 119 King St., said he supported the closure and what it has done for businesses in the 100 block.

"The temporary closure, in my opinion and the opinion of some other businessowners, has been a huge success," Coleman said.

Representing the Old Town Business Association, Charlotte Hall expressed support for the closure but said there is still room for improvement when it comes to how the city manages the space. Hall said traffic at Union and King remains an issue and that the city needs to better organize buskers, who were an omnipresence in the 100 block even before the changes.

"It's not appropriate for five buskers to play in one block at one time. It does not make for a hospitable environment when you're dining outdoors," Hall said. "We do want to be a part of accommodating our buskers, but let's create some order to the chaos."

Alongside the King Street closure, City Council also voted to set in stone a more permanent structure for the outdoor dining and reKAIZEN T.A. V.E. R.N. FAST MESTS WISST ON THE AVENUE

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CLOSURE

FROM | 9

tail measures it put in place during the pandemic. For the past year and a half, restaurants and businesses in commercial zones have been able to apply for permits to use the sidewalks and parking spots in front of their storefronts for outdoor service.

At a time when indoor dining and shopping posed a genuine health risk, businesses quickly shifted to outdoor operations and "parklet" operations. Parking spots transformed into pa-

tio-style dining with planters and creative design elements; sidewalks became outdoor bazaars. According to the staff report, the city has issued 57 permits for the use of 131 on-street parking spaces; 43 permits for the use of sidewalk space in front of

businesses and 23 permits for the use of parking lots.

Although some residents raised concerns about negative impacts on parking and traffic, the vast majority of the 2,776 residents, visitors and businessowners surveyed expressed overwhelming support to continue both the closure of the 100 block of King Street and the outdoor dining and retail programs.

Staff will later propose a yearly encroachment fee for businesses that utilize parking spaces. Businesses that want to use parking and sidewalk spaces already must apply for permit approval, which involves a set of standards for safe locations, design and Fire Department access, followed by an administrative review to evaluate the impact on the neighborhood.

"It's an incredible opportunity for the customers who are not comfortable inside four enclosed walls," Hall said. "... All of [city staff] accepted the challenge and, with patience and perseverance, each of you have enabled our shops and restaurants to not only survive but thrive."

Steve Milone, president of the Old Town Civic Association, said both changes, while welcome, have curtailed space on King Street sidewalks and created congestion. While staff's proposal requires that businesses maintain a minimum of 5 feet of open space on sidewalks, Milone pushed for an 8-foot minimum.

"If you've tried to walk along King Street in the last year, now again we've all supported these extraordinary measures and trying to maximize on-street and on-sidewalk dining area and retail space, but it's become a hostile pedestrian environment out there," Milone said.

According to Corey Smedley, chief of the Alexandria Fire Department, AFD came up with some solutions to manage the 5-foot minimum,

including the creation of signage that would guide people off sidewalks and into middle pedestrian area. Smedley said he will come to council with recommendation at a later date.

In discussing the city's outdoor dining and retail policy, Vice Mayor Elizabeth Bennett-Parker proposed an amendment to staff's proposal that would allow for more collaboration between retailers.

"The purpose of this would be to make it clear that retailers that have a parklet would be able to collaborate with other businesses to host, essentially, pop-ups," Bennett-Parker said. "I think this flexibility could not only serve to help new businesses or micro-businesses within Alexandria but also would give retailers new marketing opportunities if they choose to use [this]."

After a motion from Bennett-Parker and a second by Councilor Del Pepper, council unanimously approved the outdoor dining and retail text amendment, 7-0.

When speaking about the close of the 100 block of King Street, Mayor Justin Wilson said that the closure and expanded outdoor operations have been a boon for local businesses, which ultimately benefits the city as a whole.

"Obviously, we want to end up in a place where [our businesses] are successful," Wilson said. "As I keep reminding folks, we get 6% out of everything that happens in these spaces, so we clearly want them to have as much economic activity as possible in these spaces."

Councilor John Taylor Chapman ultimately made a motion that was seconded by Councilor Amy Jackson to approve the permanent closure of the 100 block of King Street. Council approved the motion 6-0, after Councilor Mo Seifeldein, who was present virtually, left the meeting early.

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SCHOOL FROM | 8

concerns, candidates unanimously agreed that it must be one of the School Board's very top priorities. Some suggested investing more time and energy in restorative practices like community circles and harm circles. Others lauded City Council's recent reinstatement of school resource officers through the end of the year. Specifically, Bailey advocated for encouraging transparency during the SRO selection process.

"I've spoken to several folks, including the police chief, about bringing a committee together to see the [performance] records of police officers you want to make SROs," Bailey said. "I think we should have a choice of who's in the schools. We must ensure safety in our schools."

As students with disabilities were the only population that experienced an increase in high school dropout rate last year, Reing asked candidates to explain their plan for remediation in this area as well as inclusive education and equity for all students.

Rief highlighted the importance of making special education a strategic area of focus through the budget process, while Boyle suggested adding student and adult roles to all decision-making boards and committees specifically for this population.

"Having diverse voices providing comments, driving decisions and offering solutions will only benefit ACPS as a whole," Boyle said. " ... Those things we focus on will be made important. Teachers and administrators will take this [seriously] if we all take this [seriously]."

Specific to District A, Reing asked candidates to identify the most critical issue for the ACPS elementary and middle school dual language program.

Bailey and Boyle acknowledged that they are not too informed of this topic and plan to conduct deeper research.

Greene called the district's dual program "so important in a diverse and ever-changing world." She expressed support for the program's recent extension into the middle school, but also encouraged placing a higher priority on hiring strong leadership.

"I think that is critical to its success, and that is one area we can work on," Greene said. "Dual language opens the doors to so many opportunities for the future and we need to continue to invest and provide solid resources for it."

District C

Moderators Jenica Patterson and Rhett Christensen alternated asking questions to each of the three individual candidates in District C.

On how to successfully work with fellow leaders and community members who maintain differing political views, candidate and current School Board Chair Meagan Alderton said she "[refuses] to politick on the backs of children."

"It is essential for us when we're making decisions that we [do so] based on the information and the data we have in front of us about our kids," Alderton said. "The tough thing about that is that policy is not always popular, but I will always choose policy over popularity."

Both Abdel-Rahman Elnoubi, former PTA president at Samuel Tucker Elementary School, and Chris Harris, an environmental health and safety engineer, emphasized getting to know fellow leaders and building relationships based on trust.

Regarding how to approach the safety concerns associated with aging school buildings, Harris said that his experience in engineering would be a



MEAGAN ALDERTON

boon to the board, as he has worked on both the front end of building schools and budgeting for such projects.

"When you deal with some general contractors to come in and do the work, if you don't have the experience and knowledge to properly vet the individuals coming to do your building, you're going to pay more than you should because you lack the knowledge," Harris said. "Having two engineers, [Abdel and me], on the School Board would be a great benefit because we know what to look for; we know how to vet."

Elnoubi called on his experience as a project manager for the Washington Metro Area Transit Authority in this particular realm, while Alderton called for listening to experts and sticking with the current Capital Improvement Plan but pushing council when necessary in order to speed up modernization.

Another hot-button issue the District C candidates addressed was where student safety fits into the school and city budget. All three candidates agreed that this issue has become divisive, but differed in their answers. Harris explained his personal belief that safety can be achieved without armed police in schools and expressed support for unarmed security guards or a video security system.

"This is not an indictment on police," Harris said. " ... I just think we can think outside the box and not have tunnel vision when it comes to school security."



ADBEL-RAHMAN ELNOUBI

Alderton expressed support for a robust SRO program but emphasized that it is "not the only element" of school safety and should exist alongside social-emotional safety programs.

Elnoubi outlined specific steps the district can take immediately, such as more supervision during lunch, staggering lunchtimes and hiring security staff with "better training and higher expectations." When it comes to SROs, Elnoubi said he understood both sides of the issue.

"We certainly don't want to over-police our kids by having police presence in the school, but at the same time there are kids I've talked to who like the SROs and who feel safe because the SROs are there," Elnoubi said. "The question becomes, 'How do we together, as a community, have a collaborative dialogue and reimagine the SRO [program] that makes everyone feel safe?'"

On how to best support students with disabilities, candidates pointed to the currently existing multi-tiered systems of support model. The system is designed to address the needs of students and troubleshoot early in hopes of preventing long-term academic failure. They also called for more quantitative and qualitative assessments, continuing the commitment to in-person learning and allocating extra funds for tutoring remediation sessions, behavior specialists and licensed therapists.

District C candidates also



CHRIS HARRIS

generally agreed on providing competitive pay and benefits for staff, opportunities for upward mobility and instilling a sense of appreciation in educators as possible methods to both fill staff positions and retain them.

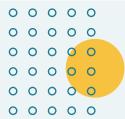
"There is nothing worse than an overtired teacher who feels unheard," Alderton said. "That is a recipe for, one, having zero buy-in and, two, having a revolving door. We can do better than that."

Community members have criticized ACPS' ability to fully engage with many parts of District C, which Christensen pointed out in the final district-specific question. When asked what specific strategies candidates would propose to change this, candidates advocated for "getting creative" in order to reach families.

Harris suggested orchestrating bi-weekly meetings with parents to meet the School Board members; Alderton called out the level of "lopsided" communication that comes through to the board and thus advocated for sending the communications team to the field more frequently; and Elnoubi stressed the importance of reaching out through community liaisons.

"[We should find] that trusted person in the community, especially communities from similar ethnic backgrounds, and build that relationship," Elnoubi said. "That way, when we need to communicate as a school division, we have those channels."

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BETTER AGE

Preparing for Medicare open enrollment

Find the help you need to secure the right health insurance plan

BY NELVA HERNANDEZ

Medicare recipients are overloaded with information throughout the year but especially during the Medicare open enrollment period, which lasts from Oct. 15 to Dec. 7, 2021. During this time, junk mailings increase alongside the bombardment of commercials about Medicare insurance plans promising vision, dental, transportation, meals and other benefits.

Some plans may offer these "supplemental" services, but be careful to read the fine print as you may not be eligible for these extra services.

Selecting or changing your Medicare health insurance plan in response to a tempting mail advertisement or commercial can be a costly decision. Once open enrollment ends on Dec. 15 and your new plan begins on Jan. 1, 2022, you may be locked into the plan until the next year's open enrollment period. You may not be able to change plans even if your

doctors do not participate in the plan, the plan does not meet your needs or it does not cover all your medications or covers them at a cost you cannot afford.

However, there are ways you can avoid falling into this trap or erroneously switching to a plan that seems promising. Carefully read all plan materials, look at the plan's web site and call the provider behind the plan to verify how much the plan will cost and what it will cover. Be sure to ask your health care providers if they participate in the



NELVA HERNANDEZ

plan. Visit the Medicare website to enroll in a My Medicare account, and compare the costs of different plans that cover your medications.

If doing it yourself seems

daunting, the Virginia Insurance Counseling and Assistance Program provides free, unbiased, individualized counseling to help residents understand and navigate the complex world of Medicare. VICAP counselors are available year-round. During open enrollment, counselors can do a benefits check up to assist in reviewing and comparing Medicare prescription plans to ensure you enroll in the plan that best meets your needs.

A benefit checkup con-

| 14

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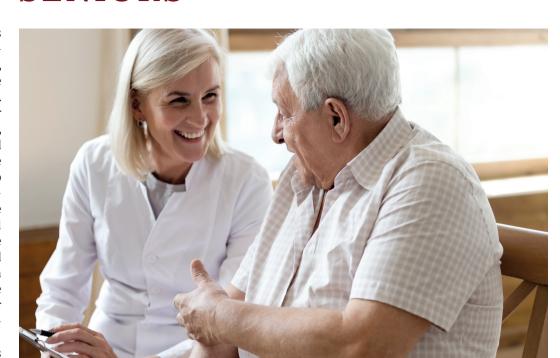
sists of a VICAP counselor doing a personalized comparison to ensure your current plan meets your needs or identifying a new one that does. Counselors can also assist you in creating a My Medicare account, enrolling in the plan that best meets your needs and screening and applying for other money saving programs like Low Income Subsidy, also known as Extra Help, or Medicare savings programs.

Any changes made during the open enrollment period are effective Jan. 1, 2022. Beneficiaries can get started by completing a request online at www.alexandriava. gov/aging or by calling the city's Division of Aging and Adult Services intake line at 703-746-5999.

Medicare beneficiaries are vulnerable to fraud

during open enrollment, as scammers make false promises. During the pandemic, there has been an increase in COVID-19-related scams. To prevent fraud, check your Medicare summary notices, report any discrepancies and avoid giving your Medicare number to people you do not know. The Social Security Administration, Medicare and your doctor's office will not request your Medicare number unless you initiated a call and get a call back from them. To report Medicare fraud or abuse, call Senior Medicare Patrol at 1-800-938-8885.

If the Medicare process is too overwhelming and you're unsure about the right plan for you, make sure to take advantage of VICAP. The VICAP for residents of the City of Alexandria is based in the Department of Community and Human Services,



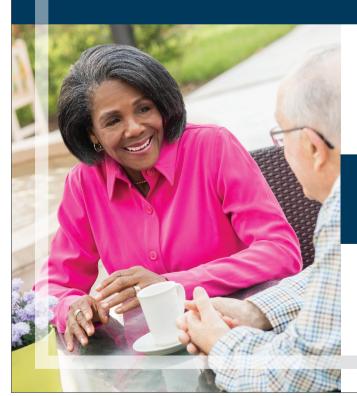
FILE PHOTO

The Virginia Insurance Counseling and Assistance Program is a free service that can help residents find the right Medicare plan during open enrollment.

Division of Aging and Adult Services and is supported by certified volunteers. The writer is a family services specialist for the City of Alexandria's Division of

Aging and Adult Services in the Department of Community and Human Services.

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Seniors make use of popular technology

Older residents have a variety of high-tech tools to help make life easier

BY CELE GARRETT

Recently, I had a chance to ask several of our At Home in Alexandria members to share their favorite technology aids. It turns out, most of their favorite tech features are low cost or even free of charge and easy to use.

According to the Pew Research Center, nearly two thirds of people ages 65 and up now own a smartphone—and they're discovering the vast array of apps designed to make us safer, more comfortable and more organized.

The built-in magnifying glass and flashlight features on iPhones are indispensable for reading tiny print, especially in ambient lighting. Meanwhile, DuoLingo, the language learning app, and Headspace, a mindfulness app that offers guided meditation, are gaining in popularity among seniors. And Happify, a science-based mental health app, provides activities for stress reduction and tasks to overcome negative thoughts. One AHA member, Roberta, shared one of her favorite apps: Tile, a tracker app that helps her find her keys, wallet or even phone.

Google Home and Amazon Echo/Alexa speaker devices continue to be popular among seniors. Some people are uncomfortable with the notion that their device could record their private conversations, but it seems most users feel the lack of privacy is a trade-off for these devices' helpful services. And if you are concerned about privacy, here is a tip: Go to your Alexa app, choose "settings," then choose "Alexa Privacy." There you can select the ways to limit retention and



CELE GARRETT

use of your information.

For many of us, it's merely a convenience to ask Alexa to play our favorite music, check the weather or look up a fun fact, but using these voice commands can be a game-changer for individuals with vision impairment. You can ask Alexa to set a timer or alarm, text, make a phone call, make a list, order groceries and even call 911.

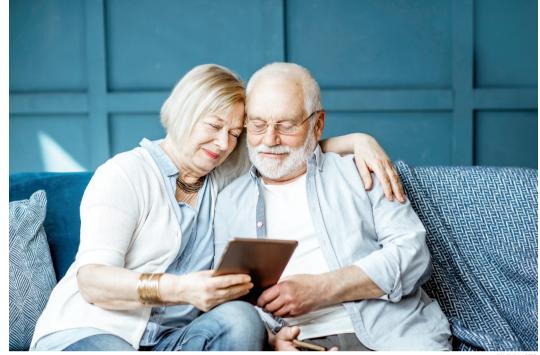
It can be fun to test Alexa's almanac-like knowledge. One AHA member, Babs, sometimes asks her device, "Alexa, tell me a joke" or "Alexa, tell me what happened this day in history."

"The amount of programming available online dwarfs local broadcast. If my local NPR station doesn't carry the second hour of 'Science Friday,' I simply tell my device to stream the station in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania that does," Steve, another AHA member, pointed out.

He also talks with his sister in Washington State, who has an Amazon Echo device of her own, with ease, as if they were connected by an intercom.

You can manage your medications with the help of your speaker device, phone or your Apple Watch.

"At the moment I take three different eye drops. Each one has a different schedule for each eye. I use my calendar to record the times and a timer to remind me," one AHA member who recently had eye surgery said.



FILE PHOTO

Seniors are increasingly taking advantage of apps like DuoLingo, a language learning app, and Head-space, a mindfulness app, to help them learn and stay healthy.

Telehealth and medical appointment scheduling has become easier with health providers' patient portals. I confess I was a skeptic at first: Recently, I called to schedule a medical appointment. The voicemail message gave me the option of getting a call-back since their line was busy. With a meeting that started in 20 minutes and figuring they would call back in the middle of the meeting, I opted to stay on the phone line. The voicemail also gave me the option of scheduling through their portal, but I figured the time spent logging in, choosing the type of appointment, etc. would take too long. Instead, I sat at my desk with my phone on speaker while I worked — for nearly 20 minutes. With current labor shortages and continual medical cost-cutting, we may just have to get used to communicating with our doctor's office through their medical portal.

Digital banking is an area of great promise for seniors.

Postal delays are not uncommon, and we can have an unforeseen event that prevents us from mailing our bills on time. Online banking allows you to access your accounts to transfer money and pay bills wherever you are. Apple Pay and digital wallets are another way to simplify payments. Several AHA members use Web Bill Pay to pay their bills and some use Zelle or Venmo for small peer-to-peer cash payments. Unsurprisingly, news reports about identity theft keep many people from considering online banking, but it can be done safely.

When libraries closed during the pandemic, more people discovered the Libby app, which provides an endless supply of reading opportunities. The Washington Metro jurisdictions of Alexandria, Arlington, D.C. and Fairfax County permit reciprocal memberships by living in one of those jurisdictions.

As one AHA member, Jan, told me: "I love that I can reserve and then borrow e-books

and e-audiobooks from our four local library systems. In addition, each library system offers me the chance to electronically access many resources — like the Wall Street Journal — for no charge. I can search for something to read through all four systems, then reserve it and download it, all on my phone."

A resource worth noting here is the Virginia Assistive Technology System, a program for all kinds of assistive technology, whether it's high-tech electronics or low-tech assistive devices, such as flatware for arthritic hands. Though this is a statewide program, it has an extensive library located in Fairfax where you can learn about and even try various devices to fit every individual's needs. Visit www.vats. org for more information.

The writer is executive director for At Home in Alexandria (AHA), a nonprofit "village" offering practical, social and educational support for its members ages 55 and over in Alexandria.

Upgrade your morning routine to ease joint pain

Starting the day right can mitigate arthritis-related aches and pains

BY BRANDPOINT

The sun rises, you flutter your eyes open and take a deep breath. It's time to start the day, but before you even get out of bed, you know it's going to be a tough one. For the more than 30 million Americans with osteoarthritis, waking up with soreness or stiffness in the joints can make mornings particularly difficult.

"After a night of inactivity due to sleep, people with osteoarthritis may find that their joints tend to feel stiff when they wake up," rheumatologist Dr. Micah Yu said. "While mornings can be difficult, they also can be an opportunity to start your morning routine, soothe aches and pains and set yourself up for a productive day."

According to a recent study conducted by One-Poll, 59% of Americans with osteoarthritis said their arthritis pain makes it difficult to get out of bed in the morning, and 79% said it negatively affects them three or more days a week. Yu wants to help people who experience arthritis symptoms feel their best. Here are his recommendations for a pain-relieving morning routine:

Wake up well

While still in bed, do a body scan and note any areas of pain. Start at the top of your head and mentally scan down for tension and stiffness. Doing gentle stretches in bed can help awaken the mind and body.

For example, open and close your jaw, turn your head slowly from side to side and circle your wrists. For per-

sistent arthritis pain, some people find using a heated blanket or heated mattress pad for 10 to 20 minutes in the morning to be soothing.

Take a warm shower

Heat and moisture work together to effectively soothe arthritis pain, so start your day with a shower. Keep the water warm to help loosen muscles and joints, but not too hot since it may irritate the skin. Try doing stretches while the warm water soothes muscles, such as shoulder rolls and head tilts. Avoid any stretches that require balancing and use a shower chair or hand grips to steady yourself if necessary.

Apply topicals

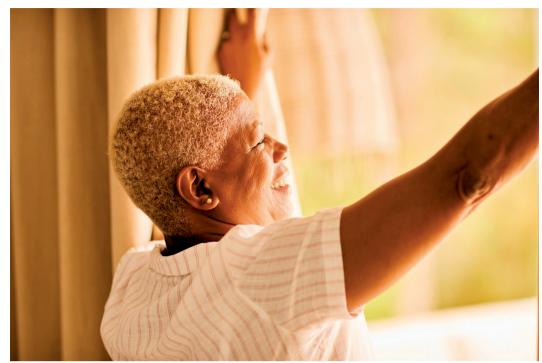
An effective option for treating arthritis is Voltaren Arthritis Pain Gel, the first prescription-strength, overthe-counter nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory gel. It targets arthritis pain directly at the source to provide relief. Voltaren gel treats joint pain by delivering medicine directly at the source. Applying Voltaren gel in the morning and a total of four times per day can help relieve arthritis pain throughout the day.

Fuel up

A good breakfast fuels the body with satisfying nutrients. Joints need to stay lubricated, so start with a glass of water or sip on some green tea. Opt for a breakfast that features foods that fight inflammation and boost the immune system, such as cherries, oranges, broccoli, lowfat dairy products and whole grains, such as oatmeal.

Get moving

Motion is like lotion for your muscles and joints, and light exercise in the morning can help reduce joint



COURTESY PHOTO

Starting out the day with light exercise, stretching and a shower can help ease the pain associated with arthritis.



FILE PHOTO

Stretching or doing yoga in the morning are easy ways to ease arthritic joint pain and start the day off right.

pain and kickstart the day. This could be taking a virtual yoga class or taking a walk through your neighborhood. Exercising increases blood flow, strengthens muscles and helps you maintain a healthy weight, all things

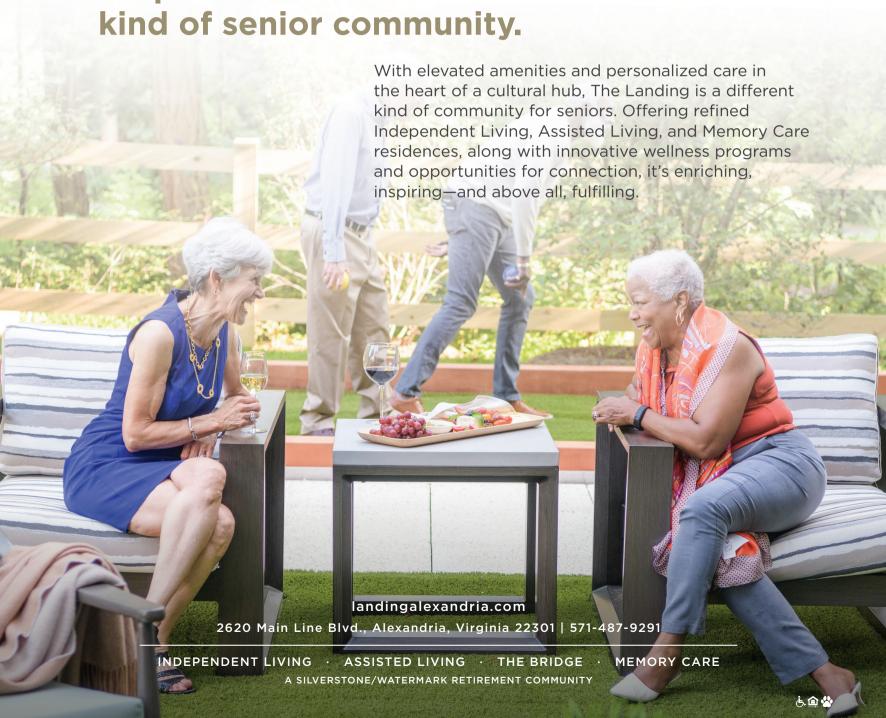
that help with arthritis pain.

If you're not sure which exercises are appropriate for you, speak with your doctor. Even small amounts of movement matter, so start with just five or 10 minutes of exercise.

"Although there is no cure for arthritis, there are things you can do to help reduce pain in your joints," Yu said. "The morning is the optimal time to take steps that help you feel your best all day long."



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Treating kidney failure at home

Debunking common myths about at-home care

BY BRANDPOINT

Kidney failure, also known as end stage kidney disease, affects approximately 750,000 Americans each year. Kidneys are vital organs that contribute to the body's overall well being, helping to remove waste and excess fluid from the bloodstream. When kidneys function at or below 10 to 15% of normal capacity, they cannot effectively do their job. At this point, a kidney transplant or dialysis is usually necessary.

Patients who choose to replace their failed kidney function with dialysis have two options: hemodialysis, or H.D., which can be done at home or in an outpatient center, or

peritoneal dialysis, or P.D., which can be done at home.

P.D. is the most popular home treatment among Da-Vita Kidney Care's patients, thousands of whom are elderly or have disabilities. It's a needle-free dialysis treatment that best replicates natural kidney function and offers flexibility by allowing patients to dialyze at home, work or even on vacation.

There are more and more opportunities for patients to experience the empowering benefits of treating at home with P.D., and it begins with busting common myths.

Myth 1: P.D. is very time consuming.

P.D. may allow you more time to spend with family and friends, or simply do what you love most, because you can perform dialysis outside of a center. Additionally, if you choose to dialyze with a machine instead of manually, you can dialyze while you sleep. However, not all patients can perform P.D. treatments solely at night, and additional daytime sessions may be needed.

Myth 2: P.D. is not an option for older people.

There are no age limitations for this treatment option. Elderly patients should consider performing PD with the assistance of a care partner to feel more confident and comfortable dialyzing at home.

Myth 3: P.D. is not an option for anyone with disabilities.

Although P.D. may be

more challenging for people with certain disabilities, including blindness, deafness and amputation, this treatment may still be an option. Training and safety programs are available to educate you and your care partner on how to perform safe and effective treatments.

Myth 4: P.D. is not practical for anyone who is overweight, tall or muscular.

People with large body masses can do well on P.D. Studies show that mortality and infection rates are similar for people who have a higher body mass and are on P.D. as those on in-center hemodialysis. Your nephrologist will work to tailor a prescription that's right for you.

Myth 5: People on P.D. can't own pets.

Pets cannot be in the room while you are performing P.D., but you can still have them. Be sure to keep your home and designated treatment area clean.

Myth 6: Infections are more common with P.D.

Peritonitis, the most common infection for people on P.D., can actually be prevented with proper training and handwashing techniques. If an infection does develop, it can often be treated at home with antibiotics. In fact, people on P.D. have a lower risk of blood infections and are hospitalized less frequently than people on in-center hemodialysis.





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Alexandria Times voter guide. This guide is the culmination of the Times' 2021 election coverage that kicked off in March, with profiles of all 13 Democratic candidates running for City Council in the Democratic primary, plus mayoral candidates Justin Wilson and Allison Silberberg. Since then, the Times has run profiles of all Republican and independent candidates for council and mayor and profiles of candidates in the race for the 45th District seat.

In the next 20 pages, we present short bio blurbs and photos of all candidates for mayor, City Council and School Board, as well as their responses to a series of short answer questions and basic information on voting, including sample ballots and local precinct information. Our goal has been to let each candidate make their case directly to you, the readers, and to tell their own personal story. We encourage everyone who hasn't yet submitted their ballot to vote either on Election Day itself, Nov. 2, or in early voting, which is available through Oct. 30 at 5 p.m.



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Mayoral candidates

Annetta Catchings



Occupation: Flight attendant, American Airlines

In conjunction with her 31 years at American Airlines, Annetta Catchings has worked as an event planner, hospice care provider, tennis coach and substitute teacher. She believes these industry talents accentuate her ability to be a citizen centric public servant. Annetta is also the mother of two young adult men.

Justin Wilson



Occupation: Mayor/senior director, Amtrak

As mayor, I have focused on ensuring the success of our children, improving our infrastructure and diversifying our economy. I have been with Amtrak for more than 14 years and now lead IT supplier management. My wife and I live with our two children, both ACPS students, in Del Ray.





See the Oct. 28 Alexandria Times opinion pages for our assessments of both mayoral candidates and all contenders for City Council and School Board.

Council candidates

Canek Aguirre

Occupation: Community relations

Canek Aguirre
is a community
advocate and
progressive leader
with a track
record of building
coalitions to
amplify the voices
that aren't always
heard. He spent
three years serving



students and families in Alexandria City Public Schools and currently works to improve health outcomes for Medicaid populations throughout Northern Virginia. Currently in his first term, Canek is the first Latino to serve on Alexandria City Council.

Sarah Bagley

Occupation: Executive director of Chisom Housing Group

A community organizer with the Alexandria Democratic Committee lobbying with MOMS Demand Action, I'm committed to Alexandria. I'm running to bring my analytical legal skills,



collaborative nonprofit experience and grassroots activism toward building a safer, more inclusive Alexandria.

John Chapman

Occupation: Community use specialist at Fairfax County

John is a life-long Alexandrian who works as a community use specialist for Fairfax County Public Schools. John is the owner and founder of the Manumission Tour Company, which provides tours highlighting Alexandria's African American history.



Alyia Gaskins

Occupation: Senior program officer at a national foundation

Alyia Gaskins is a public health expert and urban planner with a decade of experience working in communities across the country. Alyia lives on the West End with her husband, son and beagle.



Amy Jackson

Occupation: Alexandria city councilwoman

I am a hometown girl; a product of ACPS; a mom; wife; daughter and educator. Currently, my family and I live in Marlboro Estates. As an Alexandria city councilwoman, I am currently serving in my first term.



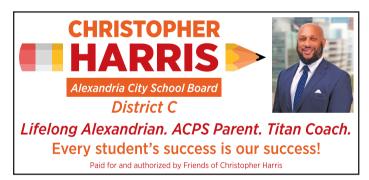
Council candidates

Florence King

Occupation: Owner and operator of financial management business

Florence King has been a proud resident in the city for more than 30 years. In 2018, she was named a "Living Legend of Alexandria." She is dedicated to advocating for seniors, women, children, public safety and small businesses.







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Kirk McPike

Occupation: Chief of staff to Rep. Mark Takano

A 10 plus-year resident, Kirk McPike lives in the West End with his husband, Jason Kaufman and their beagle, Punky. He served as the former chair of the Alexandria Economic Opportunities Commission and currently as a member of Alexandria's Budget and Fiscal Affairs Advisory Committee.



Darryl Nirenberg

Occupation: Partner at Steptoe & Johnson

Darryl Nirenberg is a 22year resident who lives in Northridge with his wife, Lori, and children, Drew and Kelly. Originally from upstate New York, he paid his own way through college and night law school. He is also a leader in youth sports.



Glenda Gail Parker

Occupation: Contractor on government budget analysis

A retired governmental financial analyst and U.S. Air Force officer, mother and grandmother employed supporting the Air Force, Glenda Gail Parker is an advocate for a safer, walkable, bikeable city.



How do you vote by mail?

Early voting by mail has become more common over the last few years, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic when gathering at the polls was a safety hazard. This year, the deadline to submit an application to have a ballot mailed to one's address is 5 p.m. on Friday.

To have a ballot sent your way, first apply online through the Virginia Department of Elections at https:// vote.elections.virginia.gov/ VoterInformation. A social security number and Virginia driver's license or Virginia DMV-issued I.D. number are required to submit an application.

Once you receive a ballot by mail, fill it out and return it by mail or at the drop box in front of the Office of Voter Registration & Elections, 132 N. Royal St., Suite 100.

postmarked before 7 p.m. on Election Day, Nov. 2. and received by an elections officer by noon on Nov. 5.

As of July 1, 2021, registered voters also have the option of being added to the permanent absentee voting

list. Voters on the list will automatically receive a mailed ballot every general and primary election.



Gail Parker, Independent candidate for Alexandria City Council. Your candidate for More Trains, Less Traffic, and safer walkable, bikeable Alexandria.









Contact Rory Callaghan at 301-537-3515 or roryc@mandmappliance.com

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- HIT THE PAUSE BUTTON ON DENSITY
- **FIX THE TRAFFIC MESS**

DARRYLFORCOUNCIL.COM



PHOTOS/DENISE DUNBAR

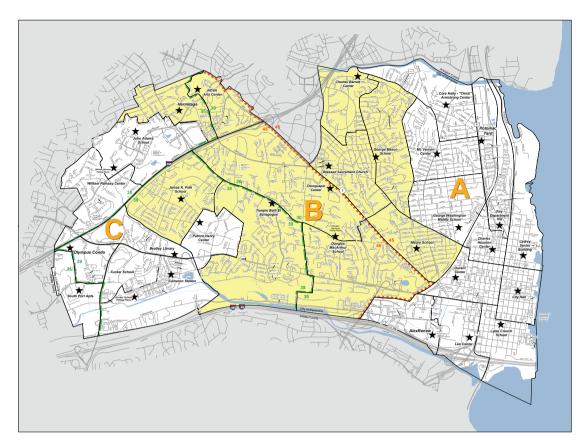
Voters stand socially distanced outside the Office of Voter Registration and Elections on Sept. 18, 2020 for early voting.



PHOTO/CODY MELLO-KLEIN

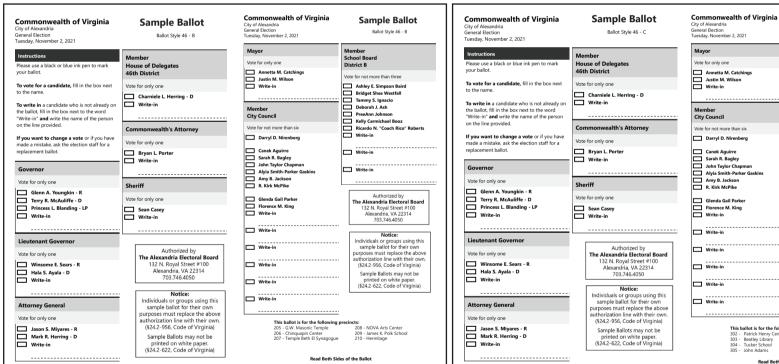
An "I Voted" sticker from the 2020 presidential election.

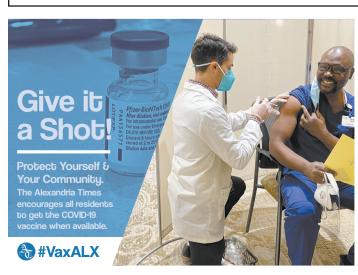
District map and precinct locations



PCT#	Ballot Style	Polling Place Name	Polling Place Address	Zip	VA Senate District	VA House District	School Board District
101	45-A	Ladrey Senior Building	901 Wythe Street For Nov, 2021 the voting location for Ladrey will be the Charles Houston Center	22314	30	45	A
102	45-A	City Hall	301 King Street	22314	30	45	Α
L03	45-A	Lyles Crouch School	530 S. St. Asaph Street	22314	30	45	Α
.04	45-A	Durant Center	1605 Cameron Street	22314	30	45	Α
.05	45-A	Lee Center	1108 Jefferson Street	22314	30	45	Α
.06	45-A	Cora Kelly-Chick Armstrong Ctr	25 W. Reed Avenue	22305	30	45	Α
.07	45-A	Mt. Vernon Center	2701 Commonwealth Ave.	22305	30	45	Α
.08	45-A	George Washington School	1005 Mt. Vernon Avenue	22301	30	45	Α
.09	45-A	Fire Dept. Headquarters	900 Second Street	22314	30	45	Α
.10	45-A	Charles Houston Center	901 Wythe Street	22314	30	45	Α
.11	45-A	Potomac Yard	650 Maskell Street	22301	30	45	Α
.12	45-A	AlexRenew	1800 Limerick Street	22314	30	45	Α
:01	45-B	Naomi L. Brooks School	600 Russell Road	22301	30	45	В
02	45-B	George Mason School	2601 Cameron Mills Road	22302	30	45	В
:03	45-B	Charles Barrett Center	1115 Martha Custis Drive	22302	30	45	В
04	45-B	Blessed Sacrament Church	1427 W. Braddock Road	22302	30	45	В
:05	46-B	G.W. Masonic Temple	101 Callahan Drive	22302	30	46	В
:06	46-B	Chinquapin Rec Center	3210 King Street	22302	30	46	В
:07	46-B	Temple Beth El Synagogue	3830 Seminary Road	22304	39	46	В
:08	46-B	NOVA Arts Center	4915 East Campus Drive	22311	30	46	В
:09	46-B	James K. Polk School	5000 Polk Avenue	22304	39	46	В
210	46-B	Hermitage	5651 Rayburn Avenue For Nov 2021, the voting location for Hermitage will be John Adams School	22311	35	46	В
102	46-C	Patrick Henry Center	4653 Taney Avenue	22304	39	46	С
03	46-C	Beatley Library	5005 Duke Street	22304	39	46	С
04	46-C	Tucker School	435 Ferdinand Day Drive	22304	39	46	С
05	46-C	John Adams School	5651 Rayburn Avenue	22311	35	46	С
06	46-C	William Ramsay Center	5650 Sanger Avenue	22311	35	46	С
07	46-C	South Port Apartments	6112 Edsall Road	22304	35	46	С
808	46-C	Cameron Station	200 Cameron Station Blvd.	22304	39	46	С
09	46-C	Olympus Condo	6301 Stevenson Avenue	22304	39	46	С

Commonwealth of Virginia City of Alexandria General Election Tuesday, November 2, 2021	SAMPLE BALLOT Ballot Style 45 - A	Commonwealth of Virginia City of Alexandria General Election Tuesday, November 2, 2021	SAMPLE BALLOT Ballot Style 45 - A	Commonwealth of Virginia City of Alexandria General Election Tuesday, November 2, 2021	SAMPLE BALLOT Ballot Style 45 - B	Commonwealth of Virginia City of Alexandria General Election Tuesday, November 2, 2021	SAMPLE BALLOT Ballot Style 45 - B
Instructions Please use a black or blue ink pen to mark your ballot.	Member House of Delegates	Mayor Vote for only one	Member School Board District A	Instructions Please use a black or blue ink pen to mark your ballot.	Member House of Delegates 45th District	Mayor Vote for only one	Member School Board District B
To vote for a candidate, fill in the box next to the name.	45th District Vote for only one Justin D. "J.D." Maddox - R	Annetta M. Catchings Justin M. Wilson Write-in	Vote for not more than three Michelle M. Rief Deanna M. R. "D" Ohlandt	To vote for a candidate, fill in the box next to the name.	Vote for only one Justin D. "J.D." Maddox - R	Annetta M. Catchings Justin M. Wilson Write-in	Vote for not more than three Ashley E. Simpson Baird Bridget Shea Westfall
To write in a candidate who is not already on the ballot, fill in the box next to the word "Write-in" and write the name of the person	Elizabeth B. Bennett-Parker - D Write-in	Member City Council	A. M. "Ish" Boyle Willie F. Bailey Sr. Jacinta E. Greene Write-in	To write in a candidate who is not already on the ballot, fill in the box next to the word "Write-in" and write the name of the person on the line provided.	Elizabeth B. Bennett-Parker - D Write-in	Member City Council	
on the line provided. If you want to change a vote or if you have made a mistake, ask the election staff for a	Commonwealth's Attorney	Vote for not more than six Darryl D. Nirenberg	Write-in	If you want to change a vote or if you have made a mistake, ask the election staff for a	Commonwealth's Attorney Vote for only one	Vote for not more than six Darryl D. Nirenberg	Ricardo N. "Coach Rico" Roberts Write-in
replacement ballot. Governor	Vote for only one Bryan L. Porter Write-in	Canek Aguirre Sarah R. Bagley John Taylor Chapman Alyia Smith-Parker Gaskins	Write-in	replacement ballot. Governor	vote for only one Bryan L. Porter Write-in	Canek Aguirre Sarah R. Bagley John Taylor Chapman Alyia Smith-Parker Gaskins	Write-in
Vote for only one Glenn A. Youngkin - R	Sheriff	Anya B. Jackson R. Kirk McPike	Authorized by	Vote for only one Glenn A. Youngkin - R	Sheriff	Amy B. Jackson R. Kirk McPike	Authorized by
Terry R. McAuliffe - D Princess L. Blanding - LP Write-in	Vote for only one Sean Casey	Glenda Gail Parker Florence M. King Write-in	The Alexandria Electoral Board 132 N. Royal Street #100 Alexandria, VA 22314 703 746 4050	Terry R. McAuliffe - D Princess L. Blanding - LP Write-in	Vote for only one Sean Casey	Glenda Gail Parker Florence M. King Write-in	The Alexandria Electoral Board 132 N. Royal Street #100 Alexandria, VA 22314 703.746.4050
Lieutenant Governor	Write-in	Write-in	Notice:	Lieutenant Governor	Write-in	Write-in	Notice:
Vote for only one Winsome E. Sears - R	Authorized by The Alexandria Electoral Board	Write-in	Individuals or groups using this sample ballot for their own purposes must replace the above authorization line with their own.	Vote for only one Winsome E. Sears - R	Authorized by The Alexandria Electoral Board 132 N. Royal Street #100	Write-in Write-in	sample ballot for their own purposes must replace the above authorization line with their own (§24,2-956, Code of Virginia)
Hala S. Ayala - D Write-in	132 N. Royal Street #100 Alexandria, VA 22314 703.746.4050	Write-in	printed on white paper.	Hala S. Ayala - D Write-in	Alexandria, VA 22314 703.746.4050	Write-in	6 1 5 11
Attorney General Vote for only one	Notice: Individuals or groups using this	Write-in	(§24.2-622, Code of Virginia)	Attorney General	Notice: Individuals or groups using this sample ballot for their own	Write-in	
vote for only one ☐ Jason S. Miyares - R ☐ Mark R. Herring - D ☐ Write-in	sample ballot for their own purposes must replace the above authorization line with their own. (§24.2-956, Code of Virginia) Sample Ballots may not be printed on white paper. (§24.2-652. Code of Virginia)	This ballot is for the following pro 101 - Ladrey Senior Building 102 - City Hall 103 - Lyles Crouch School 104 - Durant Center 105 - Lee Center 106 - Cora Kelly – Chick Armstrong	107 – Mt. Vernon Center 108 – George Washington School 109 - Fire Department HQ 110 - Charles Houston Center 111 - Potomac Yard	Vote for only one Jason S. Miyares - R Mark R. Herring - D Write-in	purposes must replace the above authorization line with their own. (§24.2-956, Code of Virginia) Sample Ballots may not be printed on white paper. (§24.2-622, Code of Virginia)	201 - Naomi L. 202 - George M 203 - Charles Bi 204 - Blessed Si	ason School irrett Center









ASHLEY
SIMPSONBAIRD
FOR SCHOOL BOARD

Improving public education is my life's work. I am an education expert with 20 years of experience largely outside of ACPS.

 \square

QUALIFICATIONS:

- P.H.D AND MASTER'S DEGREES IN EDUCATION
- EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND
- **POLICY EXPERT**
- FORMER TEACHER
- FLUENT SPANISH SPEAKER

PUBLISHED AUTHOR

BUSINESS OWNER

ACPS PARENT

Read Both Sides of the Ballot

ASHLEYSIMPSONBAIRD.COM

Sample Ballot

Authorized by **The Alexandria Electoral Board** 132 N. Royal Street #100 Alexandria, VA 22314 703.746.4050

Notice: Individuals or groups using this sample ballot for their own purposes must replace the above authorization line with their own. (§24.2-956, Code of Virginia)

Sample Ballots may not be printed on white paper. (§24.2-622, Code of Virginia)

ote for not more than three

Abdel S. Elnoubi
W. Christopher Harr
Meagan L. Alderton
Write-in

Write-in

ASHLEY SIMPSON BAIRD FOR ALEXANDRIA SCHOOL BOARD - DISTRICT B

WHERE DO

MAYORAL CANDIDATES

What would you hope to accomplish in the next three years as mayor?

What's the biggest problem facing Alexandria?

How do you think the city should address the ongoing issue around flooding?

Annetta Catchings

I advocate for: increased ARPA funding to help mitigate flooding; raising first responders' compensation and working conditions; creating a publicly vetted comprehensive master plan; creating wards for City Council elections and getting a new Metro rail line to the new hospital site at Landmark with money from the infrastructure bill.

Allowing divisive partisan politics and absolutist politicians who do not listen to their constituents drive the decisions that affect our day to day lives.

Make/keep flood mitigation, restoration and maintenance of drains and pipes a financial priority for the city through additional federal funds. Deploy stormwater holding tanks.

Justin Wilson

The next City Council will guide our community out of the pandemic and must ensure Alexandria not only recovers, but leads the region beyond COVID-19. Leading the region's recovery requires that we support our children, invest in our infrastructure and expand our economy.

We cannot continue the cycle of infrastructure investment delay. Investing in infrastructure is good for Alexandria, good for our environment and good for our economy.

Protecting Alexandrians from devastating harm from flooding requires massive infrastructure investment and maintenance, financial assistance to impacted residents and development policy reform.

VOTE FOR TAMMY IGNACIO for ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD - DISTRICT B

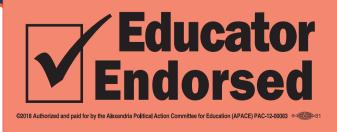
We can trust **TAMMY IGNACIO** to fight for our students **BECAUSE SHE HAS FOR 30 YEARS.**

As an educator with 30 years of experience and the mother of three ACPS graduates, Tammy Ignacio is running for School Board to ensure all students have equitable access to programs and services.

EXPERIENCE • TRANSPARENCY • EQUITY
INCREASING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT
ACCOUNTABILITY • FACILITIES AND MODERNIZATION
DEVELOPING A FIRST-RATE WORKFORCE







THE EXPERIENCED
CHOICE FOR
ACPS SCHOOL BOARD

www.ignacio4schoolboard.com

Instagram: IGNACIO4SB

Paid for by Tammy Ignacio for School Board



THEY STAND?

Do you think the city's flooding problem is partially the result of development and the city's rapid population growth? Why or why not?

What role should the city play in assisting with resettlement of Afghan refugees?

Are you satisfied with the city's response to the COVID-19 pandemic? What could be improved?

What qualities are you looking for in Alexandria's new city manager?

Yes. There is tangible evidence that increased density is the culprit. This is why smart planning for our city is long overdue.

Our assistance should be proportional. The federal government should develop a program. To leave this massive task to municipalities is a poor representation of who we are as Americans.

Our health department has done an excellent job. However, I would accelerate the slow progression to "return to normal," which has been detrimental to the economy.

A willingness to listen to and address citizens' concerns; fiscal conservatism; focus on supporting small businesses; increasing corporate revenue; integrity and ethics.

Alexandria's flooding challenges are the result of storms that have grown in intensity and frequency without storm sewer capacity to accommodate the resulting rainfall.

Alexandria should continue its long tradition of partnering with nonprofits and government agencies to welcome Afghan refugees to the safety of our city.

The city has led with an effective public health response, equitable vaccination effort, innovative support for small businesses and rapid response to human service needs.

Alexandria's next city manager must have the experiences, knowledge and proven record of success to provide effective, efficient and transparent services to our community.

4 PILLARS OF PERFORMANCE

✓Infrastructure

- Prioritize flood prevention, mitigation, and restoration.
- Restore road diet traffic patterns where appropriate.

✓ Education

• Involve organizations as well as our faith-based community to assist with youth outreach and tutoring.

• Focus on academics while offering more workforce development, raise SÓL scores and provide. more online classes to our kids.

Support school choice.

✓ Safety

- Restore SROs to schools for student safety and mentoring, and prohibit co-location of housing on school grounds.
- Support salary increases for our first responders, and fund body cameras for police.

✓ Representation

- Support efforts to elect officials by neighborhood wards and give the residents a direct link to their council member.
- Ensure that "stakeholder group input" prioritizes Alexandria residents.

www. Annet a Catchings For Mayor. com

Paid for and authorized by Annetta Catchings for Mayor

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www.facebook.com/catchingsAnnetta

ANNETTA CATCHINGS

Alexandria Mayor



COUNCIL	What would you hope to accomplish in the next three years on City Council?	What's the biggest problem facing Alexandria?	How do you think the city should address the ongoing issue around flooding?
Canek Aguirre	I will continue to work to ensure that the ideas and policies I have advanced to make our government more accessible and inclusive become permanent. I'm especially excited to continue the equity work the city has embarked upon and see to completion our updated language access plan.	An equitable recovery from COVID-19 and how to pay for and address the decades of underinvestment in our aging infrastructure.	Council allocated millions and created a citizen advisory board to ensure transparency and accountability for the funding and completion of flooding infrastructure projects.
Sarah Bagley	I hope to contribute to a safer Alexandria, where gun violence is reduced, where first responders are properly compensated, where people are less inclined to leave for affordable options but find those options expanding here in Alexandria and where community engagement is increased and COVID-19 recovery is equitable and sustainable.	Creating and supporting safe affordable communities means addressing aging infrastructure, including schools, sewage and stormwater, and transit, and recognizing our environmental crisis are all connected.	Accelerate projects with 2022 ARPA funds, increase communication regarding projects, support Dr. Medina as flood action manager and continue the pilot Flood Mitigation program.
John Chapman	I will be focused on strengthening our aging infrastructure and making Alexandria a more affordable community for our families and seniors. I'll be working with members of our community on how we reimagine public safety in neighborhoods. Continued small businesses support remains paramount to our COVID-19 recovery efforts.	As a city, we continue to face enormous infrastructure and housing challenges. Prioritizing mitigation efforts from stormwater management to housing and transportation needs are critical.	We must use ARPA funds and other resources to address these issues immediately with a strict focus on accountability from the city with results.
Alyia Gaskins	Expand opportunities for community engagement and co-decision making; protect and produce affordable housing while increasing pathways to homeownership and preventing displacement; accelerate stormwater management and flood mitigation efforts; advance sustainability commitments in the Environmental Action Plan with a focus on equity and expand high-quality early child care.	Community engagement. Our response to the problems we face must be shaped by the community so all can be part of solutions that impact their lives.	Allocate a significant portion of the second tranche of ARP dollars, track how funds are spent and progress and collect real-time data and resident experiences to respond quicker.
Amy Jackson	I am positive that we will continue to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic due in large part to our city's creativity, collaboration and strength. We need to focus on the health of our residents, the health of our schools, the health of our environment and revive a once healthy economy.	Upgrading and maintaining our infrastructure in a timely manner, being cautious in acceleration of development and the stress that adds to our roads, sewers and drains.	The city is working on flood mitigation initiatives and bringing potential solutions to council. These measures would benefit the waterfront and mitigate in-land and sunny day flooding.
Florence King	In the next three years I would like to play a key role in the eradication or modification of our most pressing problems pertaining to flooding, raw sewage, School Resource Officers and road diets.	The biggest problem facing Alexandria is the gradual flight of our middle class citizens who cannot afford to live here due to the cost of housing and taxes.	Immediate financial resources and subject matter experts should be put in place to mitigate the reoccurrence of more flooding.
Kirk McPike	I hope that as a member of council that I can help build a future for Alexandria that is even brighter than its present by standing up for our city's progressive values, supporting our schools and taking on long-term challenges such as flooding, housing affordability and climate change.	The greatest challenge facing the next council will be overcoming the lingering impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on our city's schools, businesses and families.	We must expedite improvements to our stormwater sewers by finding ways to bring in more funding from Richmond, Washington and developers working in our city.
Darryl Nirenberg	Alexandria deserves a council that listens to citizens, respects their opinions and focuses on our quality of life: Fix our storm drains. Keep our schools and community safe. Get traffic moving. Manage our growth. Preserve our green space. Give neighborhoods a voice. Bring back checks and balances to our council.	Council pushing a political agenda — removing SROs; promoting density without a plan; neglecting storm drains; road diets — when the community just wants their concerns met.	This needs to be a top priority. We need a flood czar to take charge, accelerate the plan – 10 years is too long – and implement a strategy for federal funding.
Glenda Gail Parker	I would hope to facilitate the end of emptying raw sewage into the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay; make the City of Alexandria more walkable and safer for pedestrians and bikers; move toward smaller, community schools and increase the amount of accessible, affordable housing.	The biggest problem is the same issue facing all large cities in the US: translating positive solutions/goals to mitigate climate extremes into approved budget lines.	Appoint a program manager to define the problem and offer positive solutions. Then, follow through with funded, positive solution lines in the approved budget.

Do you think the city's flooding problem is partially the result of development and the city's rapid population growth? Why or why not?	What role should the city play in assisting with resettlement of Afghan refugees?	Are you satisfied with the city's response to the COVID-19 pandemic? What could be improved?	What qualities are you looking for in Alexandria's new city manager?
We are experiencing the impacts of decades of underinvestment in aging infrastructure. This council has rolled up its sleeves to address the issue head on.	Alexandria has a history of receiving refugees, and we will continue to do so. The three refugee resettlement agencies and DCHS staff are leading these efforts.	While I'm proud of our overall response, one of my biggest frustrations was the unnecessary delay in producing multilingual, multimedia communications for our diverse community.	A leader with a record of fiscal responsibility and a demonstrated commitment to clear communication, diversity, equity and inclusion.
We have significantly underfunded and deferred maintenance on our systems separate from development. However, we must continue to require development design to incorporate mitigation strategies.	City agencies should work alongside Catholic Charities and Lutheran Social Services in helping refugees gain medical help, housing, job placements and school enrollment.	Our high vaccination and testing rates and local business support are admirable. We must ensure ongoing recovery is equitable and we commit to ongoing outreach.	They will inherit urgent challenges: COVID-19 recovery, overdue infrastructure investment and a renewed commitment to equity. They must be prepared to act quickly and transparently.
Partially. We've delayed critical infrastructure enhancements alongside development for far too long and this is the unfortunate result of those decisions.	Since the beginning of the refugee crisis, our DCHS team has been working in partnership with others to support the families settling in the city.	We've worked hard, but more work remains to ensure schools are safe and that we do all we can to buttress our small business community.	Someone with a demonstrated record of inclusive, transparent and inspirational leadership in guiding an organization and clear commitments to making a difference through public service.
New development is not itself a bad thing, but we need a coordinated approach that considers the impacts on infrastructure and establishes new requirements.	We should help provide food, shelter and other resources to ensure refugees feel welcomed in our community. We should do the same for Hatian refugees.	Alexandria responded quickly and creatively to COVID-19. We need more investments in communications and our public health workforce to address emerging variants and new challenges.	They must actively engage the community; have the trust and confidence of council and residents; think innovatively; steward cross-sector partnerships and have a sense of urgency.
I think the increase in density, although beneficial for expanding our tax base, does add stress to our aging infrastructure issues that need replacement.	Connection, assistance and stability. In partnership with resettlement agencies, we should identify resources, allocate funding, including federal, and assist in health, home and food services needed for resettlement.	Our city's proactive messaging of safety measures in partnership with AHD have provided education and assurance. We'll continue to provide testing, vaccinations and boosters.	Important qualities needed include leadership and experience in successful project, city budget and policy-making procedure and implementation, community respect, expert communication skills and a collaborative nature.
There are many factors that come into play with flooding. Our infrastructure is broken and outdated; our rapid overgrowth and development only exacerbates the problem.	A collaborative effort should take place with our neighboring jurisdictions. Alexandria should not take on the resettlement of Afghan refugees on its own.	The city's response to COVID-19 started out a little bumpy, however, I am satisfied with how it is currently being addressed. We could improve transportation for homebound people.	They have to not only visualize the city's direction but plan and organize this direction while transparently ensuring the city's financial integrity.
Poorly designed infrastructure installed decades ago and neglected ever since and climate change-driven increases in rain are the root causes of our flooding crisis.	Helping people fleeing oppression is an essential progressive value, and Alexandria should work with nonprofits, the Commonwealth and federal government to do exactly that.	Alexandria's response to the pandemic was exemplary, but the crisis has highlighted problems regarding access to health care and broadband service that must be addressed.	Alexandria's next city manager must be someone who is deeply committed to improving communication between the city government and the many communities within Alexandria.
Paving green space, as well as aging and neglected infrastructure and climate change, lead to more flooding. Hit the pause button on density and manage our growth.	Let's welcome Afghan refugees, especially those who stood by us and served alongside our soldiers. It's a defining characteristic of our community.	The city did a good job getting the community vaccinated and creatively helping our restaurants. Let's put that creativity to work solving other challenges.	A focus on quality of life and getting the job done. Don't play politics. Listen to the community and residents and respect their opinions. Be transparent.
Partially, but flooding is also partially due to climate extremes coupled with the lack of funded positive solutions and lack of good city planning practices.	Unless the state or federal government directs, assistance should be provided by nonprofit groups, with the city advising and assisting in understanding the benefits available.	Yes. Blocking of traffic and side-walk restaurant service is excellent. More of this should be done to assist local businesses to survive, while making residents safer.	A city manager should be well versed in walkable city rules and actions necessary to make the city walkable, safer and healthier for residents and visitors.

School Board candidates

Willie Bailey, District A

Occupation: Deputy fire chief for the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department

I'm a lifelong
Alexandrian with
strong roots in
public service.
I'm a veteran,
firefighter and
advocate for
children in need.



Aloysius "Ish" Boyle, District A

Occupation: Co-founder of venture capital fund FirstIn, cybersecurity specialist

Ish Boyle is a proud husband, father of two ACPS students and experienced leader and board member on various nonprofit and for-profit entities. Prior to working in cybersecurity, he served in the United States Marine Corps.





Check out the monthly Alexandria Times podcast SpeakEasy. Listen on Spotify or visit https://alextimes.com/2021/04/speakeasy/ to view past episodes.

Jacinta Greene, District A

Occupation: Marketing consultant

Jacinta Green has been an Alexandria School Board member since 2018. She is a lifelong education advocate and community leader.



Deanna "D" Ohlandt, District A

Occupation: Educator

D. Ohlandt is a parent of three current ACPS students and an educator with classroom experience from preschool to adult education.



Michelle Rief, District A

Occupation: Educator, former college professor

Incumbent Michelle Rief is an experienced college professor and education nonprofit executive. She is the parent of three current ACPS students.



School Board candidates

Deborah "D." Ash, District B

Occupation: Retired federal employee

Debbie has been an Alexandria resident since 2017 and retired from the Department of State Foreign Service this year. She has a daughter, three grandchildren – one in ACHS – and a great granddaughter.



Kelly Carmichael Booz, District B

Occupation: Educator

Kelly Carmichael Booz is an educator with more than 20 years of experience, an ACPS mom and a former Alexandria School Board member.



PreeAnn Johnson, District B

Occupation: Former principal of James K. Polk Elementary School

PreeAnn Johnson recently retired as principal of James K. Polk Elementary School after 36 years in ACPS, where she also served as a coach, special education teacher and assistant principal.



Ashley Simpson Baird, District B

Occupation: Founder and principal, Merit Research, Policy and Evaluation

Ashley Simpson Baird, Ph.D. has 20 years of experience in public education as a teacher, policy expert, researcher and ACPS parent.



Tammy Ignacio, District B

Occupation: Former ACPS administrator

Tammy has 30 years of experience serving as a classroom teacher, school administrator and central office personnel in ACPS. In addition, three of her children are graduates of ACPS.



Bridget Shea Westfall, District B

Occupation: Social worker

Bridget Shea Westfall is an ACPS parent and social worker running as an advocate for children and public schools.



School Board candidates

Meagan Alderton, District C

Occupation: Educator, School Board chair

Meagan, an 18- year veteran public educator, is the second Black woman in the history of ACPS to be elected as chair of the School Board.



Vote for **Willie Bailey** for Alexandria School Board

I'm a proud father, veteran, and firefighter, and for nearly 5 decades I've called Alexandria my home. With my proven experience and years of service, I know that I can be the strong voice our School Board needs.

Please visit **https://willforalxschoolboard.com** for more information about my campaign.





Vote for **Deborah Ash**ALEXANDRIA SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT B



- ▶ Focus on academics not activism; raise SOL scores.
- ▶ Restore School Resource Officers for student safety.
- ▶ Ensure parental control over masks and vaccines.
 - ▶ Prohibit adult housing on school grounds.
 - Increase "fresh air" opportunities during the school day.
 - Offer school choice and vouchers.

www.friendsofdebbieash.com Authorized and paid for by Friends of Debbie Ash

Abdel Elnoubi, District C

Occupation: Project manager at WMATA

Abdel Elnoubi is a parent of two ACPS students, a PTA president and a child of immigrants from Alexandria, Egypt.



W. Christopher Harris, District C

Occupation: Business owner, former coach

I am a graduate of ACPS, along with my three children, and West End resident.
I have served Alexandria through mentorship, coaching, as a public servant and a business owner.



SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES, DISTRCT A	What would you hope to accomplish as a School Board member?	What's the biggest problem facing ACPS?	How would you evaluate the performance of Superintendent Dr. Gregory Hutchings, Ed.D.?	Should ACPS staff be required to be vaccinated, only allowing for medical exemptions issued by doctors, or should it be a personal choice?	Do you think police belong in schools? Why or why not? If so, what and how much of a role/ presence should they have?
Willie Bailey	I want to ensure every child receives a great education, that every parent has strong representation, and that every teacher receives fair compensation. My top priorities will be addressing COVID and its variants, closing the achievement gap, solving capacity issues, and ensuring fair pay for our educators.	COVID-19, its variants and the downstream impacts affecting our students and teachers collectively is the largest problem facing ACPS today.	The past two years have been tough on every school system in the country, so with that, I feel he has done a good job.	We need to follow the advice of medical experts to navigate COVID-19 safely. I support requiring our students, educators and support staff to be vaccinated.	Trained School Resource Officers help ensure students receive their education in a safe environment. I support greater transparency in SRO records and their selection.
Aloysius "Ish" Boyle	I would restore trust and pave a path to academic excellence through communication, transparency and accountability. Let's cultivate academic environments that attract, retain and appropriately compensate talented teachers and staff who ensure achievement and differentiation so all students can thrive and create schools that students are proud to attend.	Lack of leadership, which impacts our schools on many levels. We need strong leaders to address learning loss and ensure safe learning environments.	Disappointing and self- promoting. He did not prioritize the return of students during COVID-19, especially the most vulnerable special needs and English Language Learners.	Medical health decisions are personal and private and should be kept between a patient and their medical provider.	I support specially trained SROs who serve as mentors and positive influences within our schools. There is need for both SROs and mental health support.
Jacinta Greene	I want to: close the achievement gap because all of Alexandria's children deserve a quality education; strengthen the relationship between our schools, families and the community; achieve educational equity; help students recover from COVID-19 related learning loss and ensure we recruit and retain highly-qualified teachers by supporting them inside and outside the classroom.	The academic achievement gap, particularly among our Black and brown students, who make up 60% of our student body is the biggest issue facing ACPS.	Superintendent Hutchings is an effective leader who wants to make a difference in the school system he grew up in. An area for improvement is his style of communication with the community.	Yes. All staff should be required to be vaccinated with exemptions for medical necessity and religious beliefs.	I strongly believe that the safety of our students, teachers and staff is our number one priority. We as elected officials must come together to devise an effective plan to keep our schools safe.
Deanna "D" Ohlandt	Leading ACPS into its next chapter: overseeing the High School Project planning to ensure that every student, regardless of family background or intended career path, receives high quality academic education in a safe, supportive social environment. I'll advocate for differentiation and individualized instruction for every student in every classroom.	Improving communication with families, students and staff and ensuring equitable access for all students to the wealth of resources available across our division.	Meaningful progress requires some stability in leadership. Dr. Hutchings has accomplished much but needs to prioritize open communication with families and staff.	Once approved by the FDA, COVID-19 vaccines should be required for all school staff and students until the community transmission levels drop to "low."	Everyone deserves a school environment where they feel safe. School security professionals should report to school leadership and should not rely on firearms.
Michelle Rief	I will work to ensure that Alexandria City Public Schools is a high-performing school division that promotes academic achievement and wellness for each and every student. I will advocate to include the voices of ACPS students, families and teachers in the decision-making process.	The biggest challenge is ensuring that every student has what they need to be successful and that families feel valued and well-informed of school policies.	Dr. Hutchings aligned the ACPS budget with data-driven goals. Our graduation rate is at an all-time high. There is room for growth in community relations.	COVID-19 vaccines should be required because public health experts advise they are safe, effective and the best way to combat the spread of the virus.	This issue deserves more than 25 words to answer, but no, I don't think police belong in schools.

SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES, DISTRCT B	What would you hope to accomplish as a School Board member?	What's the biggest problem facing ACPS?
Deborah Ash	My platform is as easy as ABC: Academic excellence; back to basics, choices for families. We must focus on education, not equity; a return to reading, writing and arithmetic; and make school choice a reality for the parents that want to move their child(ren) to a school that meets their needs.	Alexandria City High School has had many fights and a shooting nearby. Return School Resource Officers to all schools to establish a safer environment.
Ashley Simpson Baird	I am an education researcher and policy expert who would bring unique and important experience to the School Board. I will be keenly focused on decisions that improve academic outcomes, further equity for all students, retain highly effective educators, prioritize student and staff safety, address capacity issues and modernize facilities.	Currently, the biggest problem facing ACPS is addressing unfinished learning from the pandemic while simultaneously providing adequate social and emotional supports for educators and students.
Kelly Carmichael Booz	More than anything, I hope to help us trust and believe in ACPS again. My experience in education and previous School Board service shows I'll be a tireless advocate for students, families and staff. I will focus on academic recovery, social-emotional recovery, safety and security, capacity and communication and transparency.	With schools open again, we must prioritize health and physical safety as we pursue long-term learning and social-emotional recovery from COVID-19.
Tammy Ignacio	As a School Board member, I hope to increase access to appropriate education for all students, especially students with disabilities, English Language Learners and students of color, oversee a seamless build and transition to the High School Project and work with the City/schools on a plan to address mental health, safety and security.	The immediate problems include the social emotional concerns of our staff and students and learning recovery after virtual learning. Long-term problems include capacity, facilities maintenance and infrastructure.
PreeAnn Johnson	I have first-hand experience with the workings of ACPS. My experience is extensive, and I am well-versed in all aspects of the organization. As such, I hope that I would adequately address issues and offer support in ways that ensure the safety, welfare and efficient operations of our schools.	Physical and mental health of our school community is vital. In person learning is the right choice, but we still have to be vigilant.
Bridget Shea Westfall	My primary goal as a School Board member is to improve communications and transparency in decision making. We need more opportunities for community feedback and interaction with the School Board and to make ACPS information easily accessible and in plain language. I would improve board management and operations.	ACPS' biggest problem is clear communication and transparent decision making. Communication is the key to understanding. All voices need to be represented and heard.

How would you evaluate the performance of Superintendent Dr. Gregory Hutchings, Ed.D.?	Should ACPS staff be required to be vaccinated, only allowing for medical exemptions issued by doctors, or should it be a personal choice?	Do you think police belong in schools? Why or why not? If so, what and how much of a role/presence should they have?
B+ in hypocrisy. D- in leadership. He transitioned his child to private school to assure she would continue to excel, while moving the goalpost when reopening ACPS.	No, vaccines are a personal choice; let's have a dialogue. Trust the science. Those that have had COVID-19 have the antibodies and have natural immunity.	Schools are responsible for a safe learning environment. Return SROs to schools, and adjust roles/presence based on a panel of police, parents, teachers and students.
The superintendent's performance has been a mixed bag, but I am committed to working with him while simultaneously providing oversight, sound guidance and advice.	I support mandates for staff and students to receive an FDA-approved COVID-19 vaccine with medical and religious exemptions. Widespread vaccine uptake is critical to keeping kids in school.	We can have police in schools, but it needs to be part of a larger, concerted plan to address school safety, security and support.
A critical area for growth for the superintendent is communication and collaboration with families in Alexandria. Families must become partners in ACPS again.	We should absolutely require ACPS staff be vaccinated. We must protect students, teachers and their families from COVID-19 and keep schools open for in-person learning.	Until additional security officers and mental health professionals are hired and trained, we should consider adding police details or SROs at the secondary schools.
A structure is in place to evaluate the Superintendent. If that process is flawed, or needs restructuring, the School Board would review and make necessary changes.	I feel very strongly about vaccinations and keeping children and staff safe. ACPS monitors all vaccines, and COVID-19 should be no different. Vaccines save lives.	SROs are trained to work with juveniles and should be in schools as long as school leaders feel they are needed to keep students and staff safe.
He has made good decisions and some bad ones. However, he is committed to the success of our schools and heading in the right direction.	As adults we make choices that impact our individual lives. The school division is obligated to make choices in the best interest of all students.	We have had great success with officers in the secondary schools as SROs. We should explore ways to build law enforcement partnerships at all levels.
Dr. Hutchings acted conservatively, without a plan. I would like to see a time-based approach for managing the superintendent with specific, measurable and objective goals.	Yes, staff should be required to be vaccinated, with limited medical or religious exemptions. We have students under 12 who are not eligible for vaccines.	SROs are part of a collaborative approach to keep schools safe. SROs team up with mental health providers and community partners along with restorative justice.

SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES, DISTRICT C	What would you hope to accomplish as a School Board member?	What's the biggest problem facing ACPS?	How would you evaluate the performance of Superintendent Dr. Gregory Hutchings, Ed.D.?	Should ACPS staff be required to be vaccinated, only allowing for medical exemptions issued by doctors, or should it be a personal choice?	Do you think police belong in schools? Why or why not? If so, what and how much of a role/presence should they have?
Meagan Alderton	In my second term, the following will be essential: Consistently supporting our educators and pushing for top tier compensation; implementing the Equity for ALL 2025 Strategic Plan and closing opportunity gaps; using our multitiered systems of support to propel our students through academic and social emotional recovery.	Social-emotional and academic growth and recovery will require a lot of hard work and focus in the years ahead. Capacity constraints are equally pressing.	The current board developed and approved a comprehensive evaluation tool for the superintendent. Boardestablished goals should be used to support that evaluation process.	Staff should be required to be vaccinated, excluding medical and religious exemptions. This mandate has already been approved by the current board and should remain.	Schools benefit from the presence of high-quality School Resource Officers trained in high-quality programs. They should work in schools and can do so successfully.
Abdel Elnoubi	As an ACPS parent and PTA president, I want a robust education system, where every student has equitable opportunities and a clear path to success. I seek to establish an ACPS that meets students' social, emotional and academic needs by addressing long standing dilemmas within our system.	ACPS' predominant issue is the impact of COVID-19 on students and staff. This is highlighted by facility overcrowding and a widely growing opportunity gap.	Dr. Hutchings is doing a good job. I support his vision and view him as a highly experienced and well- performing asset for ACPS.	Yes, for both our ACPS students and staff just as other FDA- approved vaccines are mandated, except for those with health- related or religious exemptions.	Police don't belong inside the building. For security, detailed officers can be stationed outside the school patrolling the perimeter. The soccer league and outreach can happen after school.
W. Christopher Harris	I hope to ensure that every student enrolled in ACPS has everything they need to thrive and be successful. I aim to support policies and practices that focus on the individualized needs of students, parents and staff. Resources should be equitable across the division, and I look forward to ensuring our budgetary priorities are in alignment.	The biggest challenge facing ACPS is school climate and ensuring students, parents and staff have the adequate resources to support academics and socio-emotional needs of each other.	Dr. Hutchings made decisions to support families with recommendations from public health organizations and the intention of ensuring safety for all. There is always room for improvement when it comes to communication.	I believe in the safety of vaccinations. I also believe that vaccinations are a personal choice and individuals/families should make that very personal choice without being mandated.	Police do not belong in schools. There is data that supports their presence has been detrimental to Black and brown students and their practices contribute to the school to prison pipeline.

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If you answer **YES** on these big issues, then vote for our candidates!

Alexandrians, do you:

Think the rise in local **crime** (assaults, thefts, fentanyl, human trafficking, etc.) must be addressed by rejecting efforts to 'defund' police programs? Want to **support police** in their efforts to protect and serve us all?

Oppose City Council's decision to overrule the wishes of parents, students, and the School Board by eliminating funding for **School Resource Officers (SROs)**, who mentor and protect students, and discourage bullying, violence, and gang activity? Want to restore SROs to schools?

Believe that our schools should attain **academic excellence**, while challenging and assisting students of all races, backgrounds, and ability levels? Oppose **housing co-location** on school grounds?

Want parents, not schools, to **teach values** and morals?

Oppose the city's obvious 'war on cars' plan to reduce the number of both: **traffic lanes** on heavily-traveled roads; and the **parking spaces** in residential and commercial areas?

Believe that **high-rise buildings** should be subject to regular, third-party safety inspections? Want limits on **population density**?

Believe that Alexandria City's decade of one-party rule isn't providing **political diversity** or transparency in project planning? Think city surveys should be unbiased? Want elected representation by neighborhood wards?

Support immediate increased **infrastructure** capacity for stormwater and local fire and rescue services, particularly in areas with more density, growth, and flooding?

Want the Virginia House of Delegates to listen to constituents, ensure election integrity with **voter photo IDs**, and stop imposing an elitist agenda on the people?

Justin "JD" Maddox Delegate District 45



Annetta Catchings
Mayor



Kyle Rooney (Write-In)
Delegate District 46



Darryl Nirenberg City Council

Paid for and authorized by the Alexandria Republican City Committee. www.AlexGOP.org

Where can you vote early?

In-person early voting for the Nov. 2 general election has already started, but there is still time to submit your in-person ballot by Oct. 30 at 5 p.m. No appointment is necessary, and there are two voting locations available, depending on where you live.

The Office of Voter Registration and Elections, located at 132 N. Royal St., Suite 100, is open for early in-person voting on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. with expanded hours from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Oct. 25 through 28.

Early in-person voting is also available at the Office of Voter Registration and Elections on specific weekends: Saturday, Oct. 23 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday Oct. 24 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 30 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Beatley Library, located in the West End at 5005 Duke St., is also available as a voting location starting on Friday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The library will be open to voters on Oct. 23 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Oct. 24 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Oct. 25 to 28 from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m.; Oct. 29 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. and Oct. 30 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

As of July 1, 2020, Virginia voters must provide identification at the polls in order to cast their ballot. For a full list of acceptable IDs, visit the Virginia Department of Elections website at https://www.elections.virginia.gov/casting-a-ballot/in-person-voting/.

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- •Rethink Economic Growth for the 21st Century
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The Other Alexandria

A history of service

The Banks family's legacy in the military goes back decades

BY CHAR MCCARGO BAH

Every time Aaron Banks sees the military or hears about it, he thinks about his own family that has served in the various branches of the armed forces. His father and uncles served in World War II; his brother, nieces and great nephew also served in the military at various times.

In 1943, Roscoe Banks Sr. and his two brothers enlisted in the military. Roscoe enlisted in the U.S. Army in Richmond, Virginia on Oct. 30, 1943. He stayed in the Army for two years and was discharged on Feb. 26, 1946. He returned to his parents' house at 610 N. Columbus

St. and to his part-time job as a cook at Dixie Pig Barbeque Restaurant on Powhatan Street. While at Dixie Pig, he started working for his brother, Orlando Banks, a successful auto business owner. Before long, he began working full-time for his brother and part-time for the restaurant.

In 1952, Roscoe married Rita Mae Samuels, a native Alexandrian. They had five children: Melva Johnson, Roscoe Banks Jr., Aaron Banks, Tanya Hawkins and Bonita Mickles. Roscoe and his wife raised their children at 913 N. Henry St., and their son, Roscoe Jr., graduated from T.C. Williams High School, now Alexandria City High School, in 1972.

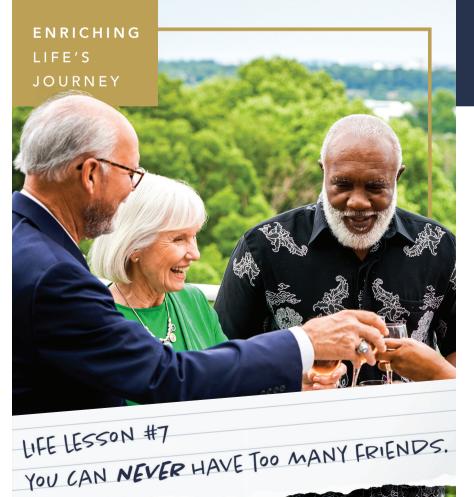
Following his father's footsteps, Roscoe Jr. joined

the military in the fall of 1973, enlisting in the United States Marine Corps and eventually rising to the rank of Gunnery Sergeant. After his basic training, he married Juanita Elizabeth Vaughn on Dec. 29, 1973.

He spent 22 years in the marines, based at Camp Hansen in Okinawa, Japan from

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The Other Alexandria

SERVICE

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1973 to 1975; the marine barracks in Bermuda from 1975 to 1978; Camp Lejeune, North Carolina from 1978 to 1982; Quantico, Virginia from 1982 to 1986; Port Hueneme in Oxnard, California from 1986 to 1989 and finally Camp Pendleton in Oceanside, California from 1989 to 1993. He also spent time in the Mediterranean and in Turkey, Israel, Jordan and Germany.

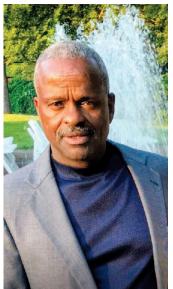
In 1994, Roscoe Jr. was diagnosed with cancer. He retired from the marines with 22 years of service, and used his G.I. Bill to enroll in culinary school. Upon graduating, he found a job working in a restaurant and, after gaining some experience, he was promoted to chef. His health began to deteriorate rapidly and although he survived cancer for 27 years, it eventually claimed his life in 2020. He was buried at Ouantico.

Roscoe Jr. had four children: Bernice Smith, now deceased, Annetta Banks, April Jackson and Jasmine Mitchell. Just like her father, April enlisted in the marines after graduating from T.C. Williams. She retired as a Gunnery Sergeant in 2020 with 20 years of service. Her sister, Jasmine, is in the Army Reserves, and April's son, Trey Batts, enlisted in the marines in 2020.

Other members of the Banks family served their country too. Roscoe Sr.'s two brothers, Algie H. Banks Jr and Marshall L. Banks, were in the military. Algie enlisted in the Navy in May 1943 and was discharged in April of 1946; Marshall enlisted in the Navy in October 1943, around the same time Roscoe Sr. enlisted in the Army, and was discharged in March 1946.

Unlike his brother, Roscoe Jr., Aaron L. Banks did not join the military. Aaron graduated from T.C. Williams in 1973 and for 15 years, he coached young people in basketball and football in Alexandria. He married Judith Renee Allen in 1991 and had two children, Omeara Banks and Aaron Banks Jr.

After working on several jobs, Aaron got a job with a glass company. For the next 20 years, he continued working for different glass companies until he established



COURTESY PHOTO

Aaron Lamont Banks, unlike most of his family, did not serve in the military but instead owns his own business, ASG Glass Company, Inc.

his own business, ASG Glass Company, Inc., in Maryland. He has owned this company for 27 years and has been in the glass business for 47 years. With a family legacy of military service and entrepreneurship, Aaron is now known as the businessperson in his family.

As our country approaches Veterans Day, Aaron will be remembering his Army veteran father, his Marine brother and his two Navy uncles who are no longer here. Aaron will spend time with his Marine and Army Reserve nieces and talk to his Marine great nephew who might share his experience in the military with the family on that day.

We salute all veterans for the service they rendered and the sacrifice they made to protect our country.

The writer is a published author, columnist, freelance writer, independent historian, genealogist and a Living Legend of Alexandria. She maintains two blogs, http://www.theotheralexandria.com and http://www.findingthingsforu.com.



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Alexandria — Gelebrates Women

Women of the Commonwealth: Women of politics

At the Civil War's close, a new era for Virginia women was beginning

BY GAYLE CONVERSE AND PAT MILLER

Countless Virginia women assumed traditional male roles during the American Civil War. Many had worked in dangerous munitions factories. Many had worked as nurses. Some had served in the military, disguised as soldiers.

Many were more than ready for the right to vote. Here is a somewhat abridged timeline of Virginia women's fight to secure their right to vote.

1870

Five years after the end of the Civil War, the women's suffrage movement gained strength in Virginia.

1890

It would take another 20 years before Southern women organized.

1909

Twenty years later, on Nov. 27, 1909, Alexandria's Dr. Kate Waller Barrett traveled to Richmond to meet with six women to expand the suffrage movement in the Commonwealth. The result was the Equal Suffrage League of Virginia.

Barrett would later become honorary vice president of the Equal Suffrage League of Virginia, a charter member of the Virginia League of Women Voters and a delegate to the 1924

Democratic National Convention in New York. Barrett received a standing ovation for her speech at the convention, and it was here that she was asked to run for governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia - an honor she declined.

1914

Reporting a membership of 32,000, the Equal Suffrage League of Virginia had grown into one of the largest state organizations in the country.

1918

Amid the backdrop of World War I, the flu pandemic and the fight for the vote, Virginia women again stepped up to fill traditional men's jobs.

1920

In an effort to gain equality at the ballot box, Virginia's Equal Suffrage League partnered with national suffrage associations. The 19th Amendment granting American women the right to vote was ratified by the necessary 38 states in 1920. Virginia delayed its ratification of the 19th Amendment an additional 32 years, until 1952.

Equal enfranchisement did not mean that all female voters received equal treatment: Black women - thousands of whom had registered to vote in Virginia in the 1920 election - were continually banned from joining the Virginia League of Women Voters.

1924

Sarah Lee Fain, of Norfolk, Virginia, and Helen Timmons Henderson, of Buchanan County, Virginia, became the first two women elected to the Virginia House of Delegates. Six women served by

1933. Most held backgrounds as educators, having run on platforms emphasizing public education improvements, business regulation and public health initiatives.

1954

Two decades passed be-

fore another woman was elected to state office. Two more women were elected in 1958 and another in 1960.

2018

Virginia elected its first

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transgender woman, Danica Roem, to state office. Roem became the first openly transgender person to serve in any state legislature. More than 85 women ran for a Virginia state office in 2019.

Today

Following the 2019 election, more women won state offices than at any other moment in the 400-year history of Virginia politics. Women from both the Democratic and Republican party currently serve in the General Assembly. Since 2020, Eileen Filler-Corn, of District 41, has served as the first woman Speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates. Leading up to the Nov. 2, 2021 election, women hold 41 of the 140 seats in the Virginia General Assembly.

Alexandria can celebrate its share of "first woman" political figures. A sampling includes:

1982

Alexandria artist Marian Van Landingham served in the Virginia House of Delegates for 24 years, from 1982 to 2006.

1985

Vola Lawson served as city manager from 1985 until 2001. Throughout her tenure, she developed the Office of Women and further empowered women by improving childcare, early childhood education, economic development and housing.

1991

Patsy Ticer, the city's first woman mayor, was elected in 1991. Following two terms as mayor, she became the first woman from Alexandria elected to the Virginia Senate, serving 15 years, from 1996 to 2011.



PHOTO/VIRGINIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Equal Suffrage League of Richmond.

VOTING INFORMATION

In-person early voting:

In-person, early voting ends Saturday, Oct. 30 at 5 p.m. Vote in-person at the Office of Voter Registration and Elections, 132 N. Royal St., and Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St.

Mail-in Ballots:

The deadline to apply for a mail-in ballot is 5 p.m. on Oct. 22. Applications must be received at the Voter Registration Office by this time. To check the status of your application and ballot, please visit the Virginia Department of Elections at https://

2000

Joyce Woodson, Alexandria's first Black woman City Council member, was elected in May 2000 and served two, three-year terms.

2009

Charniele Herring has represented Virginia's 46th District since 2009. She is the first Black woman from Northern Virginia ever elected to the Virginia state legislature and serves as majority leader and chair of the Dem-

vote.elections.virginia. gov/VoterInformation. Nov. 2, 2021 general election: Polls are open Tuesday Nov. 2, 2021 from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

For more information, visit the city's website at https://www.alexandriava.gov/Elections.

As of July 1, 2020, Virginia law requires all voters to provide an acceptable form of identification at the polls. For a complete list of acceptable IDs, please see Virginia's Department of Elections website: https://www.elections.virginia.gov/

ocratic caucus.

Three women currently serve on Alexandria City Council. The November slate displays a majority of women candidates for city offices and various state races.

Many are more than ready to hold public office.

The writers are founders of Alexandria Celebrates Women, a nonprofit that highlights influential women throughout the city's history. Contact them at AlexandriaCelebratesWomen@gmail.com.

Jaw dropping effects and an excellent cast elevate 'Dune'

BY RICHARD ROEPER

The jaw-dropping visuals and pulse-pounding sound editing in Denis Villeneuve's stunningly gorgeous "Dune" are so awesome they make up for the slow-moving and quite familiar storyline, which is basically the New Testament meets "Mad Max" meets "Star Wars."

Frank Herbert's landmark 1965 novel "Dune" is so dense, layered and enormously complex that many have long believed it was unfilmable, and that was certainly borne out in David Lynch's 1984 version, which even Lynch didn't like.

But Villeneuve ("Blade

Runner 2049," "Arrival") is a master at creating mind-boggling futuristic worlds, and he tops himself with the overwhelmingly striking imagery in "Dune." Whether we're gazing in wonder at some of the most gigantic spacecraft in movie history, the fashionably functional battle costumery or the spectacularly vast and forbidding desert planet Arrakis, aka Dune, this is a feast for the senses.

"Dune" is set in the year 10191, in which the Emperor of the Known Universe has decreed House Atreides should oversee the ongoing colonization of the desert planet Arrakis. The planet is the source

of the most valuable commodity in the world: a glimmering "spice" that is essentially a drug that can produce longer life spans, increased vigor and power spaceships.

The film steadily establishes the key members of House Atreides.

There's Duke Leto Atreides (Oscar Isaac), a wise and bearded and benevolent ruler, and Lady Jessica (Rebecca Ferguson), the Duke's long-time concubine who is, for all intents and purposes, his wife and equal. She also comes from a long line of women known as the Bene Gesserit Sisterhood, a group of mysterious and powerful women

with their own agenda. Then there's our protagonist, Paul Atreides (Timothee Chalamet), the callow son of Leto and Jessica, who some believe is the messiah.

Once Duke Leto, his troops and family are ensconced on Arrakis, they have to contend with the deeply distrustful Arrakis native Fremen, who are tucked away in the most forbidding trenches and corners of the planet, as well as the villainous, grotesque Baron Vladimir Harkonnen (Stellan Skarsgard), the former steward of Arrakis, who has been booted from the planet and will stop at nothing to exact his bloody revenge on House Atreides.

As we continue to marvel at the color-coordinated battle gear, the stark and vast interiors and the beautiful yet daunting outside world of Arrakis, there are some terrific battle sequences and some emotionally impactful deaths along the way.

Titled "Dune, Part 1," the movie ends at the halfway point of the story covered in Herbert's first "Dune" novel. It will quite likely be two or three years before we see part two, but now that the stage has been set in such lavish and epic fashion, it's not unreasonable to expect the remainder of the journey to be even more impressive.

AT A GLANCE

Bedrooms: 5
Bathrooms: 3.5
Year built: 1990
Contact: Joan Shannon
The Shannon Group | Compass

Address: 618 S St. Asaph Street Neighborhood: Old Town Southeast Quadrant Price: \$2,275,000 Square footage: 3850

HOME OF THE WEEK

Spacious living in southeast Old Town







COURTESY PHOTOS

Left: This nearly 4,000 square foot, three-story home is a spacious rarity in Old Town's desirable southeast quadrant.

Middle: The light dining room leads to the gourmet kitchen through a chippendale pocket half door. **Right:** Views of the the sizable patio can be glimpsed through a courtyard door and arched windows.

A rare opportunity in Old Town's desirable southeast quadrant, this home stretches nearly 4,000 square feet on just three levels, all above ground. This all-brick, semi-detached and beautifully renovated home has everything.

The home at 618 S. St. Asaph St. features outstanding natural light, beauti-

ful hardwood floors and off-street parking. Designer wall-framing, a custom designed staircase and voluminous, walk-in, naturally-lighted pantry make this home both classic and current. The first floor living space is gracious and elegant with just the right amount of openness and separation. It is a well arranged for mul-

tiple household members to have separate and joint space.

The classic white, highend gourmet kitchen opens to a sizable family room featuring another wood burning fireplace, custom built-in cabinets/shelves, floor-to-ceiling windows and a courtyard door with arched windows. A large walk-in

pantry and updated powder room are perfectly placed. And don't miss the chippendale pocket half door off the kitchen.

The second-floor primary bedroom features a Palladian window and en suite bath with a huge shower and walkin closet. The third floor has two spacious, high ceiling gabled bedrooms and a bath with a large stall shower.

joan.shannon@compass.com

The third floor also has a kitchenette, with beautiful inset cabinetry and a wine fridge, and it opens to a second family room that leads to a fifth bedroom/yoga room. Located right in Old Town, this home is within walking distance to shopping, restaurants, schools and more.

HOMES ADVERTORIAL



Thinking of sprucing up your home's interior this year? Call us today for a **FREE** estimate, and ask about our winter discount for interior painting performed between Dec. 2021 and Feb. 2022!

Weekly Words

15 22 24 25 23 26 30 32 33 34 35 38 39 40 41 42 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 58 57 63 59 64 66 68 75 69 70 72 73 80 82 78 83 84 85 88 92 94 93 95 102 98 100 101 103 106 108 104 105 111 112 110 113 115 116 118 120 122 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 134 135 133

DEATH NOTICES

EILEEN BARRET (81), of Alexandria, Oct. 2, 2021

LACY M. JACKSON (85), formerly of Alexandria, Oct. 8, 2021

DALE E. MOORE (57), of Alexandria, Oct. 1, 2021

JOHN H. SHOTTON (56), formerly of Alexandria, Oct. 8, 2021

KURT STOUT (56), of Alexandria, Oct. 3, 2021

EVONNE THOMPSON (85), of Alexandria, Oct. 4, 2021

JEAN WIGGINS (87), of Alexandria, Oct. 12, 2021

CLOSE DUCK TOPPLEOVER HATE ADOPT H A S T A L U E G O FOUL PETE Solutions from last week 1 O S DRASTIC ISLE TAMPERS EKEOUTIITERATE MEET SIKHS MOM SPITFETA KNEE DOG C H I S S N L I C E B E R G R A N A T I M A M TENANCY AIOLI POOREST VITO UNLATCH SNOT SSEHOE TOYS P A I R H I S S F E T E A M A C L U M P I T E M H E L M S GAGARIN MYLOSS A M I E DECIMAL ALEC DROPSIN USEEERRS ALOE SNO ELIMINATED SLEW TIMESTAMPS KEEN VAGUE ATON SHES ASKS ABETS

BORDER CROSSING by Morton J. Mendelson, edited by David Steinberg

ACROSS

- Get away 1
- Muscle contraction
- 12 Outshone
- Corned beef sandwich
- 21 And so
- What the Wicked Witch called Dorothy
- Not damaged at all
- 24 Have supper at home
- 25 Like a mimeograph 26 Cats and dogs
- "No Time to Die" actress
- Seydoux 29
- Results in
- 31 Steam engines ushered one
- 32 Most distant
- U. of Maryland athletes 34
- Belittles
- 39 Feeling blue
- 40 Good name for a financial adviser?
- 42 Maximally icky
- 47 Kindergartners' breaks
- Two of hearts, for one 49 51 To a limited extent
- Reef invertebrate
- "There's no accounting for
- Blood bank supply 56
- Hearing-related
- Like french fries, vis-a-vis baked potatoes

- Step up from a meeting for 61 coffee
- Kiss, at Cambridge
- Principles to strive for 64
- 65 Brief argument
- Chunk from a glacier, perhaps
- 68 Field of study
- Smallville's Lang
- Weather Channel graphic ... or this grid, based on what the letters extending beyond each side spell?
- Den, e.g.
- Promote relentlessly, in slang 76
- "Brave New World" drug 79
- "You stay"
- 83 Like a wasteland
- 87 "Well, I guess so"
- 89 **Exciting quality**
- 92 Musical inability
- 93 Livid
- 94 Angelic rings
- 95 Speak your mind 97 Specialized vocabulary
- Wince 100 Shredded cabbage dish
- 102 Worn down 104 Gossips idly
- 106 Alberta driver's meas.
- 107 Knox and Ticonderoga (Abbr.)
- 108 Judo instructor
- 109 Tries to find
- 111 Sunday school disciples?

- 114 Elite group of celebrities
- 118 The sun, for one
- _-haw!" 120
- 121 Ireland Baldwin's dad
- 124 Crocodile or lion
- 126 Former airline
- 128 "Brokeback Mountain" direc-
- 130 Sequence shortener
- 131 Pal, in Panama
- 132 Entry point
- 133 Eurocentric term for Turkey's region
- 134 Forty-
- 135 Modifies slightly

DOWN

- Pennsylvania city by a lake 1
- 2 Fmailed
- 3 Word after "budget" and "cold"
- Lawyers' org.
- 5 Course that makes you sweat
- 6 Pit, for a cherry
- Tennis' Arthur ____ Stadium
- 8 Went ding-dong
- 9 French edict city
- 10 _ nerve, which runs down the leg
- 11 Modify formally
- Bump down in rank 12
- 13 Bionic person
- "The Sound of Music" moun-

- Attaches, as a patch
- FIFA Player of the Century co-winner, 2000
- Goulash, for one
- Suffix with "luncheon"
- One may color cloth
- Out of port 28
- 30 Looked too long
- Be out of sorts 33 Pain in the you-know-what
- Spanish for "first" 35
- Family of chicks
- 37 Eagle's nest
- 38 La (Italian opera venue)
- Overly hasty 41
- 43 Mud bath locales
- Place that makes you sweat
- 45 Typo, e.g.
- 46 Decorate for an open house
- 48 Bering or Gibraltar (Abbr.) 50 Colorless
- Ballerina's skirt
- 55 Tolkien tree creatures
- 57 In ____ (unborn) Those, in Tijuana
- 62 Far from tragic
- Pago Pago's place 65
- Mongolian desert
- Middle of ___ (isolated place)
- 72 Voice below soprano
- Sound similar to "kerplunk" 73
- 75 Makes do 76 Stagger
- Catherine who played Moira

- "Roger that" Hole-punching tools
- 80
- 82 Swindles
- 84 Stale airing
- Parties wildly Wear down 86
- Smallville's Clark 88
- Unpretentious
- 91 "Stat" for a project manager?
- Hanoi holiday 92
- Extremely mean Develop slowly
- Riddle-ending question
- 103 "Oh, that's what you meant"
- 105 Passover feasts
- 107 Try to find food
- 110 Dojo sport
- 112 Italian sandwich
- 113 Quickly reach, as a conclu-
- sion 114 End of a prayer
- 115 Past the deadline
- 116 Native Peruvian 117 One with an eye on the
- future? 119 Brand of shapewear
- 121 Utah ski resort
- 122 Canoe problem
- 123 Sources of hydroelectricity?
- 125 Miami Heat or Calgary Flames
- 127 Artist Chagall
- 129 Test for a certain college sr.

OCTOBER 21

HALLOWEEN BALL AT BARKHAUS

Celebrate one year of Barkhaus with a Halloween-themed event complete with a photo booth, mysterious decor, extended hours, drinks, hors d'oeurvres and more. Admission is \$75 for the public and \$60 for members, and includes a beer and wine bar, yummy bites, a Barkhaus anniversary t-shirt, American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals donation and puppuccinos. Spooky attire is encouraged! **Time:** 7:30 to 10 p.m.

Location: 529 East Howell Avenue **Information:** https://www.visitalexandriava.com/event/halloween-ball-at-barkhaus/18333/

OCTOBER 22

JAPANESE GARDEN GALA In honor of the second anniversary of the enthronement of the Japanese Emperor Naruhito, an avid viola player, the Japanese Garden Gala will support Classical Movements concerts and artists. The gala is inspired by the art and culture of Japan, and will feature musicians of the National Symphony Orchestra and cultural demonstrations of ikenaba, calligraphy, origami, koto and more. There will also be Japanese cuisine, sake, tea and whiskey.

Time: 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. Location: 711 Princess St. Information: https://www.visitalexandriava.com/event/japanese-garden-gala%3a-support-classical-movements-concerts-and-artists/18310/

OCTOBER 23

FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL Go all out for fall with 18th-century demonstrations at the farm at Mount Vernon. Activities include beer making, fish packing, spinning, textile-dying, cooking and more. Cost is included with the price of admission.

Time: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Location: 3600 Mount Vernon Memo-

rial Highway

Information: https://www.visitalexandriava.com/event/fall-harvest-festival/8685/

TRICK OR TREAT BY OLD TOWN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION Bring the little ghouls and goblins to historic Old Town for tricks and treats from a variety of boutiques and restaurants. Check the event website for more details and a trick or treat map.

Time: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Location: Throughout Old Town
Information: https://www.oldtownbusiness.org/event/old-town-trick-or-treat-2/

OCTOBER 24

DEL RAY HALLOWEEN PARADE The much-anticipated annual Del Ray Halloween Parade begins at Mount Vernon Avenue and continues down to the Mount Vernon Recreation Center play

fields. Children and pets are invited to show off their finest and scariest Halloween costumes. Awards will be given for Best Pet Costume, Best Decorated Business, Best Decorated Home and Best Decorated Stroller.

Time: 2 p.m.

Location: Mount Vernon Avenue, south

of E. Bellefonte Avenue

Information: https://www.visitalexandriava.com/event/del-ray-halloween-parade/18239/

OCTOBER 26

JEFF KINNEY BIG SHOT DRIVE-THRU

TOUR Come see life size scenes from author Jeff Kinney's newest book, "Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Big Shot," at this sports-themed drive-thru book tour. Socially distanced photos will be permitted, with fans remaining inside their cars and Jeff outside. All books will be pre-signed and available for purchase at the event. Tickets start at \$16.

Time: 5 p.m.

Location: 101 Callahan Drive **Information:** https://www.eventbrite.com/e/jeff-kinney-big-shot-drive-thrutour-tickets-173577925247

OCTOBER 27

ALEXANDRIA GHOST TOUR PUB

CRAWL Experience a haunting mixture of ghostly sights and pub crawling on this walking tour of historic Old Town. Listen to creepy stories of ghosts and local history. A costumed guide will take attendees in and out of several haunted pubs and other locations in Old Town. Hear about murder, death and tragic love stories and walk along historic streets. Tours last about two hours, cover approximately one mile and include plenty of time to calm nerves with a few strong spirits along the way. Attendees must be 21 and up for this tour.

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: Alexandria city hall, 301

King St.

Information: https://nightlyspirits.

com/old-town-tours/

OCTOBER 28

POEMS AND STORIES OF EDGAR AL-LEN POE Enjoy the Guillotine Theatre's spooky presentation of "Poe outside the Vault" at Ivy Hill Cemetery this weekend. Actors will read from the works of famed poet Edgar Allan Poe, known for his inclination toward the dark and mysterious. Seating is limited at the sell-out event.

Time: 7 to 8 p.m.

Location: 2823 King St.

Information: http://www.georgetownt-

heatre.org/current.html

OCTOBER 29

SPIRITS OF CARLYLE HOUSE Carlyle House's long and diverse history is full of truths, myths and rumors that makes it one of the most visited places

on Alexandria's ghost tours. Come and experience a uniquely haunting tour of the house and grounds by candlelight, perhaps encounter the departed spirits of notable residents and neighbors and hear their tales of sadness and triumph. Reservations are required. Tickets are \$10 and are available on the website. Tours are on the half hour.

Time: 6 to 8:30 p.m. Location: 121 N. Fairfax St.

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

OCTOBER 31

"BOO BAGS" This Halloween, Hooray for Books! is distributing free "boo bags" to trick-or-treaters filled with book-related swag. Stop by early before supplies run out!

Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Location: 1555 King St.

Information: https://www.visitalex-andriava.com/event/%e2%80%9c-boo-bags%e2%80%9d-at-hooray-for-

books!/18320/

TRICK OR TREAT Stop by the Carlyle House on All Hallow's Eve in your best costumes for some trick or treating. One of Alexandria's most haunted dwellings, the historic mansion will hand out candy in individual bags until it runs out. In case of inclement weather, call the museum for status updates. Time: 4 to 6 p.m.

Location: 121 N Fairfax St. **Information:** https://www.visitalexandriava.com/event/trick-ortreat/18327/

OCTOBER 30

CARLYLE HALLOWEEN BAR CRAWL

Enjoy a spooky afternoon crawling amongst four bars in Carlyle. There will be spooky themed drinks at each spot, along with live shucking at Whiskey & Oyster. Come show off those corn hole and giant Jenga skills at a patio party. Check into all four bars to enter into a raffle for a \$50 gift card.

Time: 2 to 6 p.m.

Location: Whiskey & Oyster, Sweet Fire Donna's, Tequila & Taco and Lost Boy Cider **Information:** https://www.

eventbrite.com/e/carlyle-halloween-bar-crawl-tickets-18493782300**7**

NOVEMBER 5

THE 2021 GEORGE WASHINGTON SYMPOSIUM Over the course of this

two-day symposium, Mount Vernon staff and historians will discuss the achievements, failures and tragedies that shaped George Washington. The event also includes a tour of the mansion and viewing of historic documents and objects. Tickets cost \$225 for the public and \$200 for members and donors.

Time: All day

Location: 3200 Mount Vernon Memo-

rial Highway

Information: https://www.mount-vernon.org/plan-your-visit/calendar/

events/becoming-george-washington-the-2021-george-washington-symposium/

NOVEMBER 6

WAIT UNTIL DARK Don't miss your last chance to see "Wait Until Dark" at the Little Theatre of Alexandria. The show which takes place on Wednesdays and Sundays - follows the thrilling story of Suzy, a blind woman who finds herself in the middle of a group of ex-convicts plotting a sinisterly deceptive scheme. All patrons are required to wear a mask during the performance.

Time: 8 p.m.

Location: 600 Wolfe St.

Information: http://thelittletheatre.com

UNDER THE SAME ROOF Learn about the enslaved and free African Americans who built, lived and worked in the Lee-Fendall House as domestic servants both before and after the Civil War. Tickets are \$10 per person. Face masks are required inside the museum.

Time: 2 to 3:15 p.m. Location: 614 Oronoco St.

Information: https://www.visitalexandriava.com/event/under-the-sameroof%3a-enslaved-and-free-workers-at-

the-lee-fendall/6621/

ASO PRESENTS: PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION In partnership with the Alexandria Film Festival, the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra presents "Homegrown: Stories in Music and Film" on Nov. 6 and 7. Original films that were commissioned by the ASO and produced by local artists will accompany music from the Americana tradition, including Higdon's "Blue Cathedral," Copland's "Our Town," John Henry Griffes' "Clouds," Ives' "Housatonic at Stockbridge" and Grant Still's "Manhattan Skyline." The program culminates with Mussorgsky's well-loved "Pictures at an Exhibition." The concert will be presented with no intermission. Masks are strongly recommended for non-vaccinated attendees by the CDC, the concert venues and the ASO.

Time: 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Location: Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center, 4915 E. Campus Drive

Information: https://alexsym.org/performance/pictures-at-an-exhibition/

NOVEMBER 9

HORNS OF PLENTY: MUSIC FOR HORN QUARTET A quartet of horn musicians from the National Symphony Orchestra will perform beloved staples of chamber repertoire in unexpected arrangements. They include Abel Pereira, Markus Osterlund, James Nickel and Robert Rearden. The event is part of Classical Movements' Sounds of Hope & Harmony series of outdoor, socially distanced concerts.

Time: 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Location: 711 Princess Street
Information: https://www.classicalmovements.com/secretgardenconcerts/

Our View —

An astonishing, shameful action

There are two victims in the Karla Dominguez murder saga: Dominguez herself, who tragically and needlessly lost her life last year when Virginia's criminal justice system failed her at every turn, and Elizabeth Fuller, the Alexandria magistrate who lost her job on Tuesday for attempting to put the public interest first.

It is interesting, but not surprising, that the victims are both women.

It is equally unsurprising that only men were involved in the release of Dominguez' alleged murderer, Ibrahim Bouaichi, last April: Bouaichi's defense attorneys, the assistant Alexandria Commonwealth's Attorney present at Bouaichi's April 9, 2020 bond hearing, and former Judge Nolan B. Dawkins, who at the hearing ordered Bouaichi released on bond without a GPS ankle bracelet.

The other main players in this case were the Alexandria Sheriff's Office, which at the time was responsible for pre-trial services but apparently didn't know Bouaichi's whereabouts, and the bondsman himself who worked with the Alexandria Magistrate's Office.

Man Nguyen, the bondsman who signed for Bouaichi's release, whether wittingly or not, actively enabled Bouaichi to violate the terms of his bond. Nguyen's gun and vehicle were used by Bouaichi to allegedly kill Dominguez and then himself.

One of the most astonishing facets of this tragic case is that, according to Fuller, the Alexandria Magistrate's Office, headed by Adam Willard, did not want anyone to file a motion to strip Nguyen of his bondsman's license.

The implications of this are staggering: the Virginia Magistrate's Office, which operates as part of the Supreme Court of Virginia and reports directly to the executive secretary of the Virginia Supreme Court, was seemingly so concerned about the potential for negative publicity that it was prepared to allow Nguyen to continue in his role as a bondsman after this unthinkable lapse.

Willard declined to comment for the Times' page one story, "Magistrate fired over comments to Times," so it is difficult to ascertain whether it was Willard's decision or an edict from a superior to eschew the potential negative publicity that filing a motion against Nguyen might generate.

It was a full year after Fuller filed her motion to strip Nguyen of his bondsman's

license that the story came to the Times' attention following a resident-filed Freedom of Information Act request. When the FOIAed document from Nguyen's hearing before the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services revealed Fuller's role, the Times reached out to her for our Oct. 7 story, "Bondsman in Karla Dominguez case charged."

In this story, Fuller did not reveal any information that wasn't already in the public domain as a result of the FOIA, she simply elaborated on her reasons for acting 14 months prior and expressed frustration with the system that failed Dominguez: "I do not know why [Maryland officials] didn't know he was out on bond; it's like living a bad lifetime movie," Fuller said. "... "Nobody responsible, really, is being held responsible. [Bouaichi] is dead; the judge is retired. How did everybody in this whole process drop the ball?"

We think Fuller's firing is a horrible injustice and believe it is wrong on multiple fronts:

First, it doesn't appear to us that Fuller even violated the "canons" that govern magistrate behavior, as she did not comment on an active case and she did not say anything that wasn't already in the public domain. The termination letter from Magistrate Regional Supervisor Elizabeth Edwards emphasized the embarrassment Fuller's comments caused the department, "You have demonstrated a flagrant disregard of your responsibility ... which has resulted in a public and wide-spread decimation [sic] of your inappropriate conclusory commentary," Edwards wrote.

Second, there is considerable question whether the canons that govern magistrate behavior are constitutional, per First Amendment experts consulted by the Times.

Third, Fuller's firing is a form of censorship by intimidation.

It appears that Virginia's Magistrate system, and by extension the Virginia Supreme Court, has forgotten that everyone within state government, regardless of the branch, works for the public. And that even state employees have the First Amendment right to free speech.

Elizabeth Fuller is the main person in the Karla Dominguez saga who acted in the public interest. Fuller should have been given a medal for heroically serving the residents of Virginia. Shamefully, instead she was fired.

Opinion

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

- Thomas Jefferson

Photo of the Week



PHOTO/DENISE DUNBAR

Spooky spiders on Prince Street await trick or treaters on Halloween in 10 days.

Your Views

This Dem strongly supports Nirenberg

To the editor:

I am a registered Democrat who has lived in the City of Alexandria for 27 years. And I write with a full-throated endorsement of Darryl Nirenberg for City Council.

I am hearing that some Alexandria City residents – apparently urged by Democratic City Council candidates – are speaking out in opposition to Nirenberg's candidacy because of his work experience with Jesse Helms, the former senator from North Carolina. This type of negative, knee-jerk politics makes me embarrassed for Democrats in this city.

Am I embarrassed because this type of smear campaign is mischaracterizing and stereotyping a good man? Yes. Am I embarrassed because Democrats are throwing stones at an accomplished, dedicated man while all the while ignoring the whole of his work history, pro bono activities and commitment to community? Yes. Is this the precise type of behavior we raise our children not to engage in, i.e., lashing out without all the facts? Yes.

My family has known the Nirenberg family for 20 years. Let me tell those nay-sayers a few things I guarantee you they do not know or are ignoring about Darryl. Early in his Capitol Hill career Darryl worked for Sen. Jacob Javits, a liberal Republican who supported much of Lyndon B. Johnson's Great Society programs and civil rights. Darryl worked for the Senate Foreign Relations Committee where he served senators from both sides of the aisle, and worked alongside Rep. Gerry Connolly and Sen. Chris VanHollen, both Democrats. Then, and now, Darryl knew the importance of reaching across the aisle, finding common ground to move forward com-

SEE **LUTZ**

| 47

Guilt by association

To the editor:

In your glowing profile of "common sense" City Council candidate Darryl Nirenberg, it's odd that you found the column inches to mention him working his way through college mowing lawns but couldn't find room for the fact that he was chief of staff to Sen. Jesse Helms, who the late David Broder called "the last prominent, unabashedly white racist politician in this country." Nirenberg was

the consigliere for years to a man who called Martin Luther King Jr. a "Communist and pervert," teased the first Black female U.S. Senator by singing "Dixie" on the elevator with her and turned his back on Nelson Mandela when the renowned leader visited Congress. I'm not usually a big fan of guilt by association, but Nirenberg was this guy's chief of staff.

-Patrick Smith, Alexandria

LUTZ FROM | 46

mon-sense legislation for the good of the people.

Later in his Hill career when Darryl had the opportunity to work for Sen. Jesse Helms, he called his father, affectionately known as Grandpa Duck, who was counsel for the local chapter of the NAACP in the 1960s. After hearing about the opportunity, and some reservations from Darryl, his dad told him, "You should take it. God may be putting you there for a reason. If Helms wants to hire a Jewish New Yorker to be his chief, maybe that tells you something." Darryl left the Hill after being recruited by Democratic powerhouse lawyer-lobbyist, Tom Boggs.

The fact that some attempt to define and discount Darryl Nirenberg by pointing to but one of his many stations on the Hill is juvenile. They ignore the fact that Darryl dedicates time and attention to important causes outside of his busy professional career. Darryl represented, pro bono, the Negro League Baseball Museum as well as the Humane Society. Darryl is also a founding member of the Mid-Atlantic chapter of the Positive Coaching Alliance, which brings youth sports to underserved communities.

What is it that Darryl proposes that Democrats are

so quick to run away from? Fixing storm drains to stop repeated flooding? Putting School Resource Officers back into our schools? Preserving green spaces and preventing condensed, adult housing co-located on elementary school grounds? These are common sense solutions to Alexandria's problems.

Darryl is a smart, compassionate, motivated man with the political experience we need to get things done in this city. I have seen Darryl as a neighbor, friend, husband and father and fellow attorney. He is the same guy in his back yard or on the ball field as he is on your doorstep reaching out to Alexandrians to learn what you care about and how he can help. Darryl has run a positive, issues-based campaign because he wants to be clear about his vision for our city. He wants to explain his practical approach to make things better for all of us. Unfortunately, as the election gets closer and there are more "Dems for Darryl" signs in yards, the Alexandria Democratic Committee is getting nervous and nasty.

Speaking for myself, I'll go with a straight talker with political experience and practical solutions. I'm voting for Darryl Nirenberg.

-Holley Thames Lutz, Alexandria



The arc of a law enforcement career

BRYAN PORTER

BY BRYAN PORTER

Later this month, I will celebrate my 20year anniversary in the Alexandria Commonwealth's Attorney's Office and am finishing up the last months of my second term as the city's elected prosecutor. The

confluence of these two milestones prompts me to write about the arc of my career.

Some may not know that I interned in the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney as a high school student. In those days, the office did not use a computer system to maintain records, and my job was to update – by hand – in-

dex cards with case data and then file them in the office card catalog. Some younger readers may have no idea what I am talking about.

Obviously, we use computers now, but we are in the process of replacing our generation-old case management system. When a new system is selected and operational, we should have vastly increased administrative and analytic capabilities.

I began my career as a prosecutor one month after 9/11, coming directly from the Alexandria Police Department, where I served as a police officer on the midnight shift while going to law school at night. There was a general tension to life in late 2001, and there seemed to be a cloud of fear and worry over the country that dampened the excitement I felt at beginning a new job. I was assigned to the traffic docket, and for the next 18 months I remained there, spending the majority of my time trying DWI cases in General District Court.

Traffic court was a great experience for a young trial attorney. Not only did I learn to think on my feet, I appeared in front of a quartet of local judicial legends: Judges Becky Moore, E. Robert Giammittorio, Daniel Fairfax O'Flaherty and Robert Colby, who kindly endured my many errors. I was later promoted to criminal misdemeanors, and soon thereafter to what I considered my "dream docket:" violent crimes and narcotics distribution cases.

My predecessor as Commonwealth's Attorney, Randy Sengel, showed considerable wisdom and patience to me during my salad days. Sengel is the paradigm of what a public servant should be, and he served our city

with distinction for more than 30 years.

For about a decade, I carried a significant caseload of grave matters. I was tasked with several difficult murder cases, and, with the help of the outstanding detectives at the Alexandria Police Department, investigated and prosecuted racketeering cases

involving human trafficking and complex drug trafficking organizations.

I personally tried dozens of jury trials, many involving deaths, shootings and stabbings. These cases stay with you; I still remember in vivid detail each murder case to which I was assigned, and I stay in contact with many of the

surviving family members of the victims.

In addition to trial work, I have frequently taught classes to varied audiences on constitutional law and investigative strategies. Just last month, I collaborated with Alfred Street Baptist Church, teaching a class on civil rights restoration and expungements in tandem with the church's social justice ministry. I also serve on the faculty of Virginia's Homicide School for Commonwealth's Attorneys, where I lecture on prosecutorial ethics, murder inves-

tigations and trial techniques.

In 2013, after Sengel's retirement, I won my first term as the elected Commonwealth's Attorney. Sengel left behind an office with a well-earned reputation for professionalism and adherence to the rules of ethics, which made my transition from line prosecutor to administrator far easier.

In early 2014, I was just settling into office when the city encountered one of the most grave criminal cases in its history: the serial murders of Charles Severance. That case and the ensuing trial – six weeks in duration – impacted me emphatically. While Severance's crimes shocked the conscience of our community, the incredible work of the law enforcement professionals who investigated the matter made my job to obtain convictions relatively straightforward.

I am humbled to continue serving my hometown. Next month, I will give some insights and observations about how the role of the prosecutor has changed – and continues to change.

The writer is Commonwealth's Attorney for Alexandria.

I support Nirenberg

To the editor:

In this political era of intense factionalism and heated partisan rhetoric, it is refreshing to find a candidate on any level who displays a calm, common sense approach to problem solving. Fortunately, Alexandria has such a candidate in Darryl Nirenberg, who is running for City Council this November.

Nirenberg brings a longtime resident's knowledge and understanding of the challenges faced by Alexandrians and a lawyer's logic to their resolution. In his campaign, he has emphasized not only the need to reach across the aisle to build consensus in problem solving, but also the need to have diversity of political thought in council's deliberations. For too long, our city has been governed by not just one party, but one narrow faction of that party. It is certainly time for Alexandria to readopt the system that has served the rest of America well for the last two centuries: a genuine two-party system.

We face challenges every day: flooding, the pandemic, increased crime, faltering schools. These challenges are colorblind and affect all of us, irrespective of race or ethnic background. To solve them, the widest diversity of views needs to be brought to bear in any deliberation or debate by city government, so that the best solutions are achieved.

Americans learned very early in our national experience that the surest way to reach an optimum decision was to have wide ranging and free discussion. Only by such methods can we be assured that all reasonable alternatives are thoroughly debated and fairly analyzed, and that the final decision is the best for the citizens. This is a lesson that Alexandria needs to re-learn.

That is why I support Darryl Nirenberg as the Republican candidate for City Council this Nov. 2, and I urge all Alexandrians to do the same.

> -Pete Benavage, Alexandria

All Republicans support the 'big lie'

To the editor:

I am a resident of Alexandria. I am sending this email to pose an opinion at the upcoming City Council election. To get to the point, I am concerned over those city voters that are choosing to place signs for Republican candidates. Specifically, those that are Democrats leaning specifically toward Darryl Nirenberg.

In looking at his bio information, Nirenberg is a Republican running on a presumed centrist agenda. That may well be good, yet he is a Republican and, well, to be frank, if you are a Republican, you are by default a supporter of Trump. Those that are Democrats and are parking signs indicating that they are supporting Nirenberg should consider a pause and rethink if they are really saying that they are supporters of Trump.

Yes, I said it. If you are inclined to support any Republican at the local level, by default you are supporting the larger Trump agenda. Sorry, there is no way around that thought. Why? Simply put, the Republican Party en mass has decided to support the "Big Lie" and its agenda to subvert the Democratic principles on which this country was founded. And, since Jan. 6, Trump and his allies have been working to subvert those principles at all levels of government.

Alexandria will be no exception. So, let's be absolutely clear: A vote for a Republican is a vote supporting the insurrection and subverting our Democratic principles. So, my fellow Democrats, are you sure you want to support such candidates to our City Council?

-Andrew A. Anderson, Alexandria

Is George Washington next?

To the editor:

A trip to Winchester, Virginia will illustrate the difference between that city and Alexandria. Winchester has chosen to embrace its Civil War history – the good the bad, Union and Confederate. That history is by no means that city's only asset, but it has been recognized as an attraction and significant asset.

Alexandria seems to have chosen a different path and seeks to "cleanse" itself of Civil War history. Considering that Alexandria was a city occupied for the duration of the war by Union forces, was a rail and hospital center and a Union foothold in the Confederacy, that is both difficult and foolish.

Christ Church, for some reason, has chosen to move

the Washington and Lee plaques from the front of the church to a less visible site, the contemplative soldier represented by the statue "Appomattox" previously located at Washington and Prince streets has been removed and the plaque noting where the first deaths in the Civil War occurred at Marshall House has disappeared. There may well be other examples, but these make the point.

Now we face an effort to change the name of Lee Street. Let us put aside, for the moment, Robert E. Lee. The Lees have been a prominent Virginia and Maryland family since mid-1640. Two Lees have been governor of Virginia and one governor of Maryland, one a U.S. senator, two members of the Continen-

tal Congress, one a signer of the Declaration of Independence and one a decorated officer who served in the War of Independence, "Light Horse Harry" Lee. The latter also wrote the eulogy delivered at President Washington's funeral by Chief Justice John Marshall, "First in War, First in Peace, and First in the Hearts of His Countrymen."

Before clamoring for the Lee Street name change, one should consider all of R.E. Lee's life. Many are aware of his Civil War military efforts, but little attention has been given to his actions immediately before, during and after Appomattox.

The surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia at Appomattox was not widely popular at the time. Confederate President Jefferson Davis and many in the Confederate Army preferred that the CSA fight on. Many urged guerrilla warfare even after surrender at Appomattox.

Lee, virtually single handedly, is responsible for that not happening. One morning in mid April after the surrender, a scout from Mosby's Raiders came to Richmond with a message from Mosby. What should the Raiders do? Surrender or fight on? "Go home," Lee responded. And he remained steadfast in that position for all Confederate soldiers. He promised "to make any sacrifice or perform any honorable act that would tend to the restoration of peace."

And committing to that principal, he reluctantly accepted an invitation to become the president

of Washington College in Lexington, Virginia, now known as Washington and Lee University. He did so in an effort to rebuild the South as a peaceful and productive part of the Union. During his five-year tenure, he transformed the school through careful administration, by raising money for the impoverished school and by accepting all comers as students, including, as time passed, students from the North.

Choosing to serve the Confederacy may well have been a mistake, but a lifetime must be considered before condemnation. Attempting to cleanse history is intellectually dishonest.

Is George Washington next?

-David A. Norcross, Alexandria

SROs do not make schools safer

To the editor:

Racial Justice Alexandria is a multi-racial, multi-generational abolitionist collective of individuals and groups working to implement the Movement for Black Lives policy platform. We call upon our legislators to develop proactive and preventative measures to uplift the rights, dignity and well-being of Black people. Racial injustice is violence and must be aggressively treated as such.

Thus far, however, the city has only offered platitudes, such as the "ALL Alexandria" resolution that acknowledges the necessity of acting "deliberately, thoughtfully and thoroughly to end racial inequities by frank examination," but fails to propose any action to resolve systemic inequities.

Initially, having taken them at their word, RJA met with each member of council to discuss the policy proposals developed by the Movement for Black Lives. It would be an understatement to say that we've been disappointed. Council members are unprepared and unfamiliar with the policy platform, and we've repeatedly been told that there must be more learning and discussion.

We're pointing you toward policies that have been developed by experts in the field of racial justice. Does council require more learning or discussion when considering flood mitigation proposals? Or do they, as we suspect, listen to the experts?

Nowhere is this lack of respect for ex-

perts and Black voices more obvious than the current effort to put SROs back in school after ending the program earlier this year. Over and over, researchers have found that SROs do not make schools safer or reduce school violence, gun violence or mass shootings.

Repeatedly, researchers find that the presence of SROs results in greater numbers of suspensions and expulsions and criminalizes school discipline matters. Additionally, students of color and students with disabilities are disproportionately referred to and arrested by police in schools. SROs do not make schools safer for anyone, but they do make schools measurably less safe for Black and brown students and students with disabilities.

Our current reliance on the police does little to reduce violence and harm and actually perpetuates systemic racial inequities. An adult with a gun and a badge cannot fix these issues any more than a carpet vac can prevent a basement from flooding. Their function is purely reactionary.

We hope you will show the same determination and patience to develop real solutions as you are with the flooding issues. Instead of more police, we ask that the council and citizens of Alexandria deconstruct harmful ideas of power, punishment and justice, and take tangible action, including keeping police out of schools.

-Adrienne Fikes, LaDonna Sanders, Lindsey Battaglia, Racial Justice Alexandria Collective

Indigenous people held slaves

To the editor:

Perhaps I should not have been surprised that this month the Times carried no articles about Indigenous Peoples Day. For many of us, we're not exactly sure how to commemorate this day any differently than Columbus Day. It's a day off and a three-day weekend. For those who have the time, I urge them to visit Virginia's newest state park: Machicomoco. The history of indigenous peoples in our state is masterfully described there.

I have studied our indigenous peoples and their rich history, visiting many of their sites, including Cahokia Mounds in Illinois, one of the largest cities in the world at the time. I acknowledge their failings as well as their achievements. So should our schools, libraries and our City Council.

Let's be clear: slavery did not arrive in America with the Spanish and later the English. Indigenous peoples had practiced slavery in a variety of forms for millennia. Whether it was debts due to gambling, hostage trading, war raids

among tribes, capturing for ritual sacrifice, this form of what might be considered non-racial, ethnic slavery was very common throughout the Americas.

Our local Algonquin-speaking tribes practiced slavery, while Chief Benge, a strong tribal leader here in Virginia, regularly raided plantations for African slaves to trade. When he battled the settlers in southwestern Virginia, he held Black, white and fellow tribal slaves. At the outbreak of the Civil War, indigenous peoples throughout the Confederate States held thousands of Black slaves and were forced to free them after the Union victory.

The truth, which the Times exhorts, can set you free. Let's face the truth that like so many humans and as recently as the Civil War, indigenous peoples held slaves. I suggest the members of City Council check our street names to ensure that none of those leaders held slaves. And our schools and libraries should teach the bad as well as the good.

-Jim Larocco, Alexandria

Free, more frequent Dash

To the editor:

Since Alexandria Transit's Dash bus service was restructured and became free on Sep. 5, the system has become easier to use. The routes my wife and I use most now run every 15 minutes instead of every 30. This means we don't have to consult a schedule before leaving home. Even better, it makes transfers reasonable.

Under the old route structure, a transfer between bus routes that each ran every half hour could mean a half hour wait between buses.

Walking was often faster. Service through Old Town had some routes using King Street, others using Duke Street. A bus to take us home might be coming soon, but we might have to go to another street to catch it, and we had to consult the Dash Ride Guide to find out where and when the next bus was coming. With routes 30 and 31 and the Old Town "Trolley" - sorry, but I'm used to real trolleys in Boston and Philadelphia – now running along King Street in Old Town, there's usually a bus coming

soon

Until Sep. 5, we could ride Dash for \$1, the senior citizen fare, but only during off-peak times. Metrobus was, and still is, \$1 at all times for seniors, though it doesn't go everywhere that Dash does, particularly Old Town. Speaking of Metrobus, the change of route 28A to go down North Howard, North Jordan and Duke streets was a huge benefit to us; previously, the part of Foxchase where we live had buses once an hour most of the time and no service at all on Sundays. I would be

happy to pay the \$1 senior fare on Dash, but the free service may be helping people who need it.

One thing Dash seems to have fixed is the on-board automated announcements. Often, they used to name the stops after the bus had passed them. A friend who also depends on transit told me that wrong announcements make it hard for him to use the bus. They sure didn't make it easier.

There's still room for improvement. The "real time" arrival signs at bus stops

still sometimes show buses as arriving "now" when the bus isn't even in sight. The sign stops showing the bus and begins displaying the time for the next one before the bus you're waiting for has even shown up. And on Dash buses you can see a sign suggesting that you ride Dash to check out a new coffee shop. But you might see a sign telling you, "Stay home." Let the signs and the quality of service say, "Ride Dash."

> -Steve Dunham, Alexandria

Respecting boundaries and the rights of parents

To the editor:

If you're a parent in Alexandria, you must wonder what rights you have left to guide your children's education. You also must have great concern over the further encroachment that could happen if certain candidates are elected at the state and local level on Nov. 2. You must wonder, in disbelief, if the boundaries of respecting your role as a parent no longer matter to some candidates who are currently elected officials.

The Democrat nominee for governor, Terry McAuliffe, said, "I don't think parents should be telling schools what they should teach." That is a direct quote from the last gubernatorial debate with GOP nominee Glenn Youngkin. Youngkin fully supports parents informing what's taught.

Alexandria Vice Mayor Elizabeth Bennett-Parker, who is

running against J.D. Maddox for the House of Delegates 45th District, supported the removal of school resource officers, also called SROs. Check the data – violence in Alexandria City Public Schools is up. Parents, understandably, are alarmed. GOP Mayoral candidate Annetta Catchings reports that parents and police officers routinely pull her aside and express their concerns for the future of Alexandria's youth, both their education and their safety.

There are many parents in Alexandria. Whether those parents are two moms or two dads, whether they are mixed marriages or mixed faiths, they are parents. And their voices should be heard, respected and honored.

Before you go to the polls, study the candidates. Discern who tramples the boundaries of parents. Pay attention to candidates who respect them – like ACPS School Board candidate Ish Boyle – and take note of the ACPS School Board chair and the ACPS superintendent and where their children go to school. You'll learn that it's not ACPS schools.

Can you imagine anyone in business not supporting or purchasing their own business's products? That's what you have with the ACPS School Board chair and ACPS superintendent.

They're saying that what's good enough for your children is not good enough for theirs.

As someone who has supported Alexandria nonprofit organizations focused on children for more than two decades, I encourage parents to stand up for your role in your children's lives and education this Nov. 2.

-Lindsay Hutter, Alexandria

Diversity needed on School Board

To the editor:

I am writing in response to the letter in the Oct. 7 Alexandria Times, "Don't ignore the School Board election." The writers seemed to be urging voters to disregard candidates who they claim are running on a single issue that's attracting media attention, or candidates using slogans that might divide voters, such as "Open the schools."

I disagree with this misguided contention. People can run for the School Board for any reason. If someone is upset with the status quo, if someone wants to retain the historic names of all of our schools, if someone wants to get a new superintendent, if someone is concerned about the SROs being pulled out of the schools, if someone is concerned with having night football games at Alexandria City High School, well then, they should have every right to run.

We have a lot of longstanding problems with our schools. No one person can be an expert on everything. Different people have different perceptions. It's called diversity. We need some diversity in Alexandria instead of this "go along to get along" mentality. Our school boards and our superintendents have been letting us down here in Alexandria for a long time.

> -Greg Paspatis, Alexandria

Address climate change head on in Alexandria

To the editor:

This summer we learned without a doubt that the world is facing a climate disaster. There have been droughts and fires across the United States and around the world. Flooding has become worse. When the temperature heats up, the atmosphere holds more moisture and tropical storms are worse as the decreased temperature difference in atmospheric streams makes storms move more slowly.

So, storms drop more water and stay longer. In Alexandria we are used to flooding and in the 2008 Waterfront Plan was a proposal for a \$33 million flood mitigation system that would be for a fourfoot storm surge. The city now says we can expect four to six flood storm surges and the flood mitigation has never been built.

In Germany, there are pic-

tures of cars being washed down river and into buildings. We have not reached that point here, but I have seen people climb into their cars that have a foot or two of water around them.

Yet, we have had waterfront development with underground garages, and we allow cars still to be the dominant mode of transportation near the water. I believe what we need is to rethink how our waterfront works and to fulfill the promise of the waterfront plan by creating a pedestrian zone with permeable surfaces that could absorb water from flooding, and where cars would not be in danger if it did flood and businesses would be protected.

But there is another connection, which is that we have to do our part to reduce emissions. Less driving and more walking can help achieve this. The trolley, which can also help reduce vehicle traffic, will now drop people off at city hall, which has always made sense to me. There could be trees planted down the middle of the street adding an additional cooling effect.

In June 2019, the Alexandria Democratic Committee issued a resolution on the climate crisis. The city soon followed suit with its own declaration. So, what has Alexandria done to act, and what visible signs of action do we see? The city did recently pass a five-cent plastic bag tax and "under the state legislation, localities may use tax revenue for environmental cleanup; educational programs to reduce environmental waste or address pollution and litter," so we may have some funding for improve-

Climate change is likely to have a particular impact on Alexandria as a coastal community on the banks of the Potomac River. Scientists predict a potential sea level rise of four to six feet and increased severity and frequency of flooding events by the end of this century. This means adapting to climate change will be key to Alexandria's environmental and economic future.

There is more the city can do. Eco-city in 2008 and the environmental action plan were a start, but there needs to be more than a collection of plans, awards and designations. We have a solar city designation but only 75 people have taken advantage of this program. For instance, the city has an "Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Readiness Strategy" but no visible charging stations. Why don't we have a charging station in front of city hall at Market Square or charging stations for city vehicles below city hall? It

is getting hot and the climate is changing, and we will have to adapt quickly.

It is not just time to make declarations and get awards, but time to put tangible improvements in place around the city, at a much faster pace, so that we are doing our part to avert disaster. We should have an idea bank so that this is a true dialogue and collaborative process with citizens, who may see things city officials don't, or have knowledge, knowhow and suggestions about how to fix things.

We are in an emergency because according to scientists we have less than 10 years until we cross the tipping point, where it will be impossible to reverse the planet's warming trend, and the catastrophic climate events that will follow. Alexandria should be doing its part.

-Boyd Walker, Alexandria

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Alexandria archaeology: A study in urban archaeology

BY EMMA RICHARDSON

The Virginia Department of Historic Resources celebrates Archaeology Month each October through special events and programs throughout the state. This year, Alexandria Archaeology is highlighting the many specializations that make up the discipline.

A11 scientists aren't chemists, all engineers don't build buildings and all archaeologists don't work with artifacts. Instead, the field of archaeology is filled with different experts that help us learn even more about the human past through their specialized skill sets. Some focus on specific time periods or places, such as the classical archaeology of Rome, some study specific materials like animal bones or soil and others concentrate on topics like battlefield or household archaeology.

Alexandria Archaeology is an example of urban archaeology. This subdiscipline studies the complicated and many-layered stratigraphy that is left behind as cities grow or change. The recent excavations along the waterfront demonstrate how experts from different specializations weave together the many threads of evidence that make up the history of this urban environment.

At the Hotel Indigo Site, archaeologists excavated, documented and preserved more than 250 years of Alexandria's



PHOTO/JUSTINE MCKNIGHT

Archaeobotanists recover plant remains from sites like Shuter's Hill in Alexandria to discover patterns in diet, agriculture and more.

urban history. The results of this work can be seen in the Hotel Indigo Report on Alexandria Archaeology's website: http://www.AlexandriaArchaeology.org.

The report details the many types of analysis completed by archaeology specialists. Wood analysis from archaeobotanists determined that the ship found at the site was built sometime after 1741. Faunal analysis from zooarchaeologists showed that early

Alexandrians ate a varied diet of domestic mammals,birds and wild fish likely from the Potomac River. Just in time for Halloween, archaeoparasitologists studied soil from privies and revealed whipworm and roundworm plagued early Alexandrians.

This month, Alexandria Archaeology's social media posts detail the contributions these specialists have made toward better understanding Alexandria's past. Learn more by following on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter. The Alexandria Archaeology Museum has hands-on activities that show how this specialty work is done. Visit the free museum and public lab on the third floor of the Torpedo Factory on Thursdays and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m.

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

Weekly Poll

Last Week

4% I'm not sure.

One issue that's received considerable attention during this local election is whether Alexandria should return to a ward-based system for City Council elections. What is your view?

63% I support a return to ward representation.26% I favor keeping the current all at-large system.7% What is a ward-based election system?

This Week

Take the poll at alextimes.com

Have you taken advantage of the King Street closure City Council recently made permanent?

- A) Yes, frequently.
- B) No.
- C) Not yet, but I plan to.
- D) King Street is closed?

Council amends, renames Transportation Master Plan

Amendment focuses on non-vehicle mobility

BY CODY MELLO-KLEIN

City Council approved an amendment to the Alexandria Transportation Master Plan during Saturday's public hearing that aimed to expand the city's focus on alternative modes of transit while addressing concerns such as congestion, accessibility and equity.

Despite mild pushback from Councilor Del Pepper, the amended plan was approved by a unanimous 7-0 vote.

Now called the Alexandria Mobility Plan, it is the first comprehensive update of the city-wide approach to transportation since 2008. According to Jennifer Slesinger, a city planner in the Department of Transportation and Environ-

mental Services, the aim of the plan is to make Alexandria's transportation network more accessible, connected, convenient, equitable, safe and sustainable.

In order to do that, Slesinger said residents need to have choices other than cars when it comes to how they navigate the city, from public transit such as buses to biking and walking.

"Choices are an integral part of this plan. We really want to provide more and better choices for Alexandrians, so they can decide what's best for them and not having a default option based off only having one thing that's a reasonable option," Slesinger said.

The plan involves implementing the DASH bus 2030 network, creating mobility hubs in strategic locations "to help with those first, last-mile challenges" and even expand-

ing ferry and water transportation options for residents, particularly commuters.

Slesinger pointed out that expanding transportation options will not help the city unless those options are made accessible and available to all residents. According to Slesinger, staff has evaluated fare policies and structures and the potential for adding even more frequent bus service, particularly in the West End. DASH rolled out its revised and expanded network in September, removing fares and providing more frequent service on specific high-use routes.

"We also want to create parking policies to support housing affordability and to ensure a greater access for persons with limited mobility," Slesinger said. "We have a curbside management framework that seeks to make sure that the curb is available for those who need it the most."

When tackling the issue of congestion on Alexandria's streets, Slesinger said staff adapted the plan to both create more efficiencies on the road while attempting to reduce the number of cars on the road by offering more transit options.

"One of the main drivers of improving traffic flow on roadways is to use smart and adaptive signal technology and expand that more throughout the city, but to manage congestion we also need to reduce the number of cars on the road," Slesinger said

Pepper raised concerns about how much the city valued the input of drivers when conducting community outreach for the revised plan. She also questioned the city's proposed approach to congestion, arguing that technology like smart signals is not a panacea for the city's clogged roadways.

"Not that we shouldn't do it, I'm just saying that I haven't seen such a great improvement anywhere that could be attributed to just technology," Pepper said. "Certainly, having our DASH bus free is really going to make a big difference, particularly as it catches on, but I just don't see that there's something out there that's going to help the cars and their congestion."

In response, Slesinger acknowledged that on-road technology will not solve all of the city's congestion-related woes on its own but that it could "make our networks more efficient."

"There's big gaps right now without having the ability to

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SEE TRANSIT

Give it a Shot!

Protect Yourself & Your Community. The Alexandria Times encourages all residents to get the COVID-19 vaccine when available.

TRANSIT

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be responsive to traffic flow, so I think there's improvements that can definitely be made there," Slesinger said.

Slesinger also responded to an argument raised by some residents that the city should just widen its roads.

"That tends to induce more traffic, so what you think are some of the ... easier solutions to congestion can end up causing additional traffic and being a greater problem," Slesinger said.

Councilor John Chapman raised the concept of shared parking between businesses, which would, for example, allow a business that operates until 5 p.m. to share parking with a neighboring restaurant that starts to hit busy hours after 5 p.m. Although the plan was aimed at stating priorities and not specific solutions, Chapman encouraged staff to work on

determining what a potential shared parking policy could look like.

"We all do want to see that happen. I think we do have to crystallize what that piece is that makes that actually happen," Chapman said. "... I'm not prescribing anything specific, but I'm saying we have the opportunity, we know the problem is there."

Mayor Justin Wilson agreed with Chapman's comments and emphasized that any such program would involve a holistic approach to policy.

"In a lot of cases, it's going to take us pulling back on a lot of regulation that we've had in place for a long time in order to make that happen, and that's the tricky part because it requires us to kind of say, 'Ok, we can take hands off on this and let it happen' as opposed to trying to over-prescribe what we're trying to do," Wilson said.

-cmelloklein@alextimes.com

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LEGAL NOTICE



BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW

LEGAL NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic emergency, the November 3, 2021 meeting of the Board of Architectural Review (BAR) is being held electronically pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2 3708.2(A)(3) and the Continuity of Government ordinance adopted by the City Council on June 20, 2020 to undertake essential business. All of the members of the public body 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.

Registration Link: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_rh664AIiSl-GQ465c_scvWQ

The Board of Architectural Review Hearing will start at 7:00 p.m., while the Zoom Webinar will become available to join at 6:30 p.m.

Zoom Audio Conference: Dial in: 301.715.8592 Webinar ID: 950 5706 5504 Password: 156474

Public comments will be received at the meeting. The public may submit comments in advance to Lia Niebauer at lia.niebauer@alexandriava. gov or make public comments on the day of the hearing.

For reasonable disability accommodation, contact Jackie Cato at jackie.cato@alexandriava.gov or 703.746.3810, Virginia Relay 711.

For further information, call the Department of Planning & Zoning at 703.746.4666 or visit alexandria-va.gov/dockets

BAR #2021-00524 OHAD Request for alterations at 419 Queen Street. Applicants: Kevin and Courtney Kramer

BAR #2021-00541 OHAD Request for alterations at 421 North Columbus Street. Applicants: George and Laura Best

BAR #2021-00559 OHAD Request for addition and alterations at 710 King Street. Applicant: King Alex LLC, Said

Wear a mask. Save a life.



You can proactively help rid Alexandria of the new coronavirus by wearing a facemask when you go out in public. By wearing a mask, you protect not only yourself, but the most vulnerable in our community.















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Oudghiri

BAR #2021-00560 OHAD Request for alterations (painting of unpainted masonry) at 426 South Lee Street.

Applicants: William R. Golden III and Leslie S. Golden Old and Historic Alexandria District (OHAD); Parker – Gray District (PG)

LEGAL NOTICE



ALEXANDRIA PLANNING COMMISSION & CITY COUNCIL

NOVEMBER 2021

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

ALEXANDRIA PLANNING COMMISSION

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2021 7:00 PM, CITY HALL CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER 301 KING STREET ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314

ALEXANDRIA CITY COUNCIL SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2021

9:30 AM, CITY HALL CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER 301 KING STREET ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314

If it is determined to not be safe enough to meet in person due to the COVID-19 Pandemic emergency, these meetings will be held electronically. If held electronically, the meetings are being held pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3708.2(A)(3) and the Continuity of Government ordinance adopted by the City Council on June 20, 2020 to undertake essential business and members of the public bodies and staff will be participating from remote locations through a Zoom Webinar.

Electronic access will be provided whether the meetings are in person or electronic. The Planning Commission and City Council Public Hearings can be accessed by the public through the live broadcast on the government Channel 70 and streaming on the City's website. Electronic participation is also available via Zoom by registering to attend the hearings via the following registration links:

Planning Commission (Public Hearing Webinar): The Webinar will open at 6:30 PM to allow individuals to join, while the Planning Commission hearing will begin at approximately 7:00 PM

Registration Link: https://zoom. us/webinar/register/WN_zw_ g2sPzT-SPepyyO3m79w

Zoom Audio Conference: Dial in: 301-715-8592 Webinar ID: 945 2638 3705 Password: 603085

City Council (Public Hearing Webinar):

Registration Link: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_K4ekPED-PS0a0SgbQdUSx_w

Zoom Audio Conference: Dial in: 301-715-8592 Webinar ID: 980 0293 3400 Password: 884342

Public comment will be received at the meetings. The public may submit comments in advance to Planning & Zoning staff at Plan-Comm@alexandriava.gov for the Planning Commission hearing, to the City Clerk at Gloria.Sitton@alexandriava.gov for the City Council hearing, or make public comments on the day of either hearing.

For reasonable disability accommo-

dation for the Planning Commission hearing, contact Jackie Cato at jackie.cato@alexandriava.gov or 703.746.3810, Virginia Relay 711. For reasonable disability accommodation for the City Council hearing, please call the City Clerk and Clerk of Council's Office at 703.746.4550 (TTY/TDD 838-5056). We request that you provide a 48-hour notice so that the proper arrangements may be made.

The following item description has been revised for consideration. All other previously advertised items for the above hearings remain the same:

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

Subdivision #2021-00006 514, 516 and 518 South Fairfax Street

Public Hearing and consideration of a request to re-subdivide three existing lots into two lots with variations; zoned: RM/Townhouse. Applicant: Ann Morton Habliston, Trustee under the Young Family Trust Agreement dated December 23, 2006, as amended, represented by Duncan W. Blair, attorney

LEGAL NOTICE



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

The Alexandria City Council is seeking applicants to fill the eight vacancies for the Independent Community Policing Review Board. These will be the inaugural appointments for this newly approved board.

The purpose of this Alexandria Independent Community Policing Review Board is to enhance policing legitimacy and to increase and maintain trust between and among the police department, city council, city manager, and the public.

City Council intends to take final

action on appointments to the inaugural Independent Community Policing Review Board at the December 18, 2021 City Council meeting.

All applicants must complete a Personal Data Record form electronically via the City's website at www.alexandriava.gov/Boards no later thank 5:00 p.m., November 12, 2021. Applications received after this deadline will not be forwarded to the City Council for consideration.

The following vacancies are available for the inaugural appointment for the Independent Community Policing Review Board:

- •Three members from historically, racially, or socially marginalized communities that have commonly experienced disparate policing in Alexandria or in the Commonwealth of Virginia, who will initially serve an 18-month term.
- •One member who represents an organization, office, or agency that seeks racial or social justice or that otherwise advocates on behalf of historically, racially, or socially marginalized communities, particularly communities that may have experienced disparate policing, who will serve a three-year term.
- •Three at-large members, who will serve a 3-year term.
- •One nonvoting, ex-officio member who shall have past experiences in law enforcement. This member shall not have been previously employed as a law enforcement officer within the City of Alexandria, shall not be a current employee of or an immediate family member of a current employee of a law enforcement agency and shall be at least three years honorably removed from service, who will serve a three-year term.

Applicants who meet the criteria for more than one seat on the Community Policing Review Board may indicate this on their application and will be considered for each seat for which they qualify. This is a volunteer board so its members do not receive compensation except for travel and training reimbursement.

The seven voting members of the Board shall be residents of the City of Alexandria and shall demonstrate fairness, integrity, and objectivity. Board members will be chosen on the basis of expertise and personal experience relevant to the performance of the duties of the Board, including lived experience.

Information on the inaugural Independent Community Policing Review Board can be found on the City's website. Community members interested in applying for the Board may direct questions to Debra Collins, Deputy City Manager, at debra.collins@alexandriava.gov.

Applicants must comply with City Ordinance No. 2452, which states that no appointee shall reside outside of the City of Alexandria unless a residency waiver is granted by Council, and City Ordinance No. 2641, which states that City employees may not apply for vacancies on boards, commissions, and committees that relate to the responsibilities of the department in which they are employed.

For further information or responsibilities of boards, commissions, and committees, contact Gloria Sitton, City Clerk and Clerk of Council (Executive Secretary of Boards and Commissions) at 703.746.4550.

Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk and Clerk of Council

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COIN SHOW/EVENT

CHARLOTTESVILLE COIN, CURRENCY & STAMP SHOW. Free Admission! Featuring ANACS representative Geoff Fults! Elks Lodge #389. 389 Elk Drive Charlottesville, VA. Saturday, October 23rd. 9am-5pm. Contact Jackie Dean (540) 832-0024, Debomb14@aol.com. www.monticellocoinclub.org.

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